

Explanatory Notes for Select Exercises

Exercise – 9

1. 'Often' which means 'in many instances' is the most appropriate adverb to be used in this context.
Choice (B)
2. When people speak they 'allow' others to read their mind because they express their thoughts.
Choice (D)
3. Owls can detect and 'catch' their prey in total darkness.
Choice (C)
4. To be 'well-versed' in something is to be knowledgeable or knowing a lot about something. 'Aware' is generally followed by 'of' and not 'in', and a person will be 'noted for' something.
Choice (B)
5. The animals and plants are in 'danger' of becoming extinct.
Choice (D)
6. Spiders are members of the arachnid family or they 'belong' to the group of arachnids.
Choice (C)
7. Novels have a main plot and 'within' this there are many minor stories.
Choice (B)
8. The sentence suggests that now he is not in 'excellent health'. But as far as 'nine months ago' he was in good health. Hence 'until' is the most appropriate conjunction to be used here.
Choice (A)
9. 'Assume' here means to adopt or put on. The Chinese 'assume' European names so that they can pretend to be Europeans.
Choice (D)
10. The reason for body odour is perspiration, or perspiration 'causes' body odour.
Choice (C)
11. Mental talents should be nurtured. If they are buried, they 'tend' to or they are inclined to deteriorate.
Choice (C)
12. The most appropriate preposition is 'at' as it shows a particular time in his life. 'At' the age of 15 . . .
Choice (B)
13. One has a 'strong' or 'deep' faith in something.
Choice (A)
14. Changing winds can cause, 'bring' or produce rain or result in a drought.
Choice (A)
15. He hated school and so he 'dropped' out of school. He was not given a choice (i.e) to continue or to drop out and so 'opted' is incorrect. 'Escaped' from school is incorrect. One can escape from jail or even from hostel but not from school.
Choice (D)
16. The clue is the adverb 'mostly' and hence 'generally' harmless is most appropriate.
Choice (D)
17. Computers cannot 'think' like people is the idea conveyed in this sentence.
Choice (A)
18. A tarpaulin is a waterproof canvas and so 'spread' is the most appropriate verb as a cloth is 'spread' to allow people to sit on it.
Choice (D)
19. 'Together' means in close association. Family helps people of a society to come 'together' or live in close association.
Choice (A)
20. There were good books written once, but now a days it is difficult to 'find' them. To 'track or to 'know' them are out of context.
Choice (C)
21. To 'equip' is to supply with the items needed for a particular purpose which is the most appropriate word to be used here as the teacher's quarters was 'equipped' with its own bathtub.
Choice (D)
22. The common phrase used in English is 'to throw a party' and hence 'thrown' is the most appropriate choice.
Choice (B)
23. Spiders 'help' us in many ways and pest control is just one among these.
Choice (B)
24. 'Lonely' and 'gregarious' are two opposite things. Hence the most appropriate adverb is 'both'. He is both 'lonely' and 'gregarious'. 'Simultaneously' is incorrect as the positioning of the blank is not ideal for the usage of this adverb. It would be correct to say 'Man is lonely and gregarious simultaneously'.
Choice (D)
25. Early this year a batch of students from India went to Japan and now this programme is in 'response' to that.
Choice (D)
26. The shop 'sells' or 'stocks' both medicines and cosmetics.
Choice (A)
27. The movie was interesting because of the songs which were picturised in the locales. So these scenes 'made the movie interesting'.
Choice (B)
28. You can 'share' your joys and sorrows only with your friends.
Choice (C)
29. 'Famous' and 'well known' is used for people. But contextually 'popular' is more appropriate as 'popular' means 'desired', 'well – liked' or 'favoured'. People buy it in large numbers as it is 'popular'. 'Widespread' is spread over a large area which is incorrect.
Choice (D)
30. The purpose of having jewellery shows is that they promote trade (i.e.) these shows 'serve' the purpose of promoting trade.
Choice (C)
31. The multi-function, printer, the sentence says, does the work of a normal printer, a fax machine, a scanner and a photo copier. Hence it 'combines' the work of all these various gadgets and works as a single machine.
Choice (B)
32. Jobs are becoming insufficient for the demand or they are becoming 'scarce'.
Choice (A)
33. You don't speak, but your personality can still be seen through your handwriting. Hence your handwriting is something that can 'reveal' your personality.
Choice (D)
34. 'Overtake' which means become greater or more successful than others is the most appropriate word as there is a comparison made here between January 1st and other Indian New Year days.
Choice (D)
35. This kind of damage can only be 'irreparable'. None of the other adjectives collocates well with damage in this context.
Choice (A)
36. We cannot 'invent' or 'discover' literature. We can write or create or 'generate' more of these in order to help children.
Choice (B)
37. 'It has not been the same' which says that something very bad must have happened which has changed the place. 'Ghastly' or macabre is the most appropriate word that can be used in this context. Just a 'serious' or 'severe' incident cannot change the place totally. It has to be a 'ghastly' incident.
Choice (C)
38. Issues concerning tribals do not receive much recognition or they receive 'scant' recognition.
Choice (B)
39. The political leaders are 'apathetic' or unconcerned or 'indifferent'. This leads to 'resentment' in the police department'.
Choice (A)
40. People of Ladakh should be given more autonomy. Giving more autonomy is a step towards meeting the 'aspirations' and desires of the people of Ladakh.
Choice (D)

Exercise – 10

1. The correct option is (D). 'Retaining' means not losing. When food is cooked in the oven it helps to retain the vitamins in the food. It also makes cooking faster. The other options are not appropriate. Choice (D)
2. The words 'cause' 'reason' 'dispute' and 'doubt' are inappropriate. The correct option is 1. Blind beliefs have to be 'erased' or wiped out and there can be no 'denial' about that. Choice (A)
3. 'Flaunt' is to 'show off'. 'Afford' is to have the capacity or be in a position to do something. The Romans generously sprinkled pepper on their food to show off their wealth as only the rich could afford to do it. Choice (B)
4. 'Robust' means strong and sturdy especially in physique or construction. The other options are not appropriate. Choice (C)
5. On view are works by various artists from different cities. The word 'assorted' fits the context appropriately. Choice (D)
6. 'Abide' means to 'act in accordance with rules..'. All the citizens must abide by the rules. Choice (D)
7. 'Access' means the right or opportunity to reach, use, or visit. 'Relevant' means to have reference to the matter in hand. The other options are not appropriate. Choice (A)
8. Information technology has the great ability to transform or change a teacher from an expert to a co-learner. The other words do not make sense. Choice (B)
9. The word 'beneficial' shows that the blank must be fitted with a word which is negative in context as the sentence draws a comparison among different species of birds. 'vicious' which means 'dangerous' is appropriate. Choice (D)
10. An 'accomplice' is someone who helps in crime or wrongdoing. The other options are not relevant. Choice (D)
11. 'Evoke' means raise. Mascots serve to evoke or raise or elicit enthusiasm in fans. Choice (C)
12. The option choice (D) is appropriate. The word 'distinguished' shows how 'kookaburra' is differentiated or noticed from other birds. 'Raucous' means harsh sounding, loud and hoarse. The other words do not bring out the meaning relevantly. Choice (D)
13. 'Renowned' means famous. 'Adorned' means to add beauty or lustre. Choice (A)
14. 'Emphatic' means forcefully expressive. Dr. Yamuna is expressing her opinion on parenting techniques. So 'emphatic' is appropriate in the context. Choice (B)
15. 'Renown' is fame. 'Profound' is intense or keen, or far-reaching. The other options are not appropriate. Choice (D)
16. The right options is (D). Calcutta witnessed one of the most turbulent periods of the state's political history. Choice (D)
17. 'Enchant' means charm, delight. Queen Victoria was delighted when she read 'Alice in wonderland'. She wrote a letter appreciating him. Choice (A)
18. 'Impeccable' means flawless or faultless. The highlight of the games was Jesse Owens' exemplary performance. Choice (C)
19. 'Voracious' means very eager in some activity. It is an apt word to describe the eagerness with which the hi-tech industry wants to hire workers. 'Spawned' means to produced in large quantities. The other options are not appropriate. Choice (A)
20. 'Impinge' means make an impact or encroach. It is the right option. Choice (D)
21. 'Antidote' is anything that counteracts something unpleasant or evil. To counteract stress the antidote is a well-balanced diet. Choice (C)
22. 'Extending' and 'innovative' are appropriate words to fill the blanks. 'Extending' means to lengthen or make larger in space. Choice (A)
23. The sentence speaks about low-quality products. The blank therefore will take a negative word. 'Adverse' which means 'unfortunate or unpleasant' is apt. Choice (B)
24. The correct option is (C). 'Ethics' means the moral principles; rules of conduct. The words 'new records in vulgarity' show that 'ethics' is a right word to fill the blank. Choice (C)
25. 'Postulate' means assume as a necessary condition especially as a basis for reasoning. Choice (D)
26. 'Purity' means cleanness. 'Dilute' means weaken or reduce the strength or forcefulness. The young artist maintains his style and does not weaken it to cater to the masses. Choice (D)
27. 'Inherent' which means built-in is the right option. Choice (D)
28. Parents must 'shed' their 'inhibitions' and help their children in building their character. 'Shed' means to get rid of. 'Inhibitions' are reservations or reluctance. Choice (B)
29. 'Crave' means 'long for'. The word is followed by the preposition 'for'. This is the right option. Choice (C)
30. 'Marriages' are generally performed. Choice (D)
31. 'Plight' means an unfortunate condition. This word is more relevant than the other words. Choice (D)
32. 'Paradox' means a contradictory statement. 'Incongruity' means out of keeping. The word 'glitter' means shine brightly with a reflected light. The word is usually followed by 'with'. Option (A) is not appropriate. Options (B) and (C) are not relevant. Option (D) is the correct choice. Choice (D)
33. Most women consume only half of the calcium they need so taking a calcium supplement is often a necessity. Choice (A)
34. The words 'snug' 'cosy' and 'homely' do not convey the right meaning. 'Confidence' is about feeling sure about oneself. Choice (C)
35. The context shows that 'recruitment' and 'evaluate' are apt words to fill the blanks. Choice (D)
36. The words in all the options are suitable to fill the first blanks. But the words 'grip' 'hold' 'clench' and manipulate are not suitable to fill in the second blank. 'Grasp' is appropriate. Choice (A)
37. The clue collocates with the word price. All the companies will try to produce the highest quality at the lowest price and will move to locations where they can do this. Choice (D)

38. The words 'for too long' suggest a negative connotation. Option (A) therefore is a right choice. Choice (A)
39. The sentence speaks about 'preventing' AIDS. 'Potent' means powerful. It is an apt choice to describe the word 'weapon' used in the sentence. Choice (D)
40. The word 'intertwined' suggests the link between the livelihood of the tribal communities and natural resources of the forests. Choice (C)

Exercise – 11

1. a. India and Russia share an excellent
b. share market in India
c. entitled for a share in the
d. its own share of problems.
(as the word 'share' fits into all four sentences. Choice (D)
2. c. receives an aid from
d. received an aid from Choice (B)
3. a. had a pretty face.
b. It is pretty obvious
c. He was sitting pretty on Choice (D)
4. a. He does not nurse any
b. A nurse was appointed
c. tried to nurse the
d. required to nurse an aged ... Choice (D)
5. a. The policeman on beat
b. I am dead beat.
c. had to beat the
d. none can beat him. Choice (B)
6. a. received a hard blow.
b. to blow his
c. as a hard blow Choice (C)
7. a. we had to break the
b. decided to break from
c. at the break of dawn. Choice (A)
8. a. through his evil design.
b. The intricate design on
c. to design his house. Choice (C)
9. a. it is entirely due to
b. The train is due to
c. he is due for a
d. which was due to me Choice (B)
10. a. the rate of interest
b. We can rate him as a
c. The rate of every Choice (B)
11. a. any money to spare for
b. during my spare time
c. to spare the
d. You should spare no effort Choice (D)
12. a. ill gotten wealth.
b. were taken ill after
c. The ill feeling
d. as an ill omen. Choice (C)
13. a. Hunting of game animals
b. by the rules of the game.
c. at his own game. Choice (A)
14. a. did not bear any
b. to bear in mind
c. do no bear any
d. Unable to bear the stress Choice (D)
15. a. able to produce
b. by selling his produce
c. also produce a few
d. to produce his Choice (B)
16. a. to his every wish.
b. Your wish is my
c. I wish you could Choice (C)
17. a. well ahead of time.
b. He is well off
c. he does not mean well.
d. She is well dressed Choice (C)
18. a. India was caught in a
b. he was finally caught by
c. was finally caught by the cops.
d. I was caught unaware Choice (D)
19. a. took no account of
b. was called to account for Choice (B)
20. a. decided to free some of
b. He decided to free himself
c. he is very free in
d. to students free of charge. Choice (D)
21. a. has bid ₹1,000,000 for
b. In a bid to rescue the
c. to bid good bye to
d. to bid a price by Choice (C)
22. a. He related many
b. to several related groups.
c. not related to me
d. are related to each other. Choice (B)
23. a. please ring the bell?
b. Still ring in my ears.
d. give you a ring after Choice (B)
24. a. Many students still hang around
b. should hang his head
c. for you to hang your
d. Hang the perpetrators Choice (C)
25. a. beyond a lay man's
b. to lay the table Choice (B)
26. a. in a depressed frame of mind.
b. to frame a new
c. the frame of
d. please frame this Choice (C)
27. a. he could never taste success
c. has the taste of mint.
d. The taste of mango Choice (A)
28. a. during his rule.
b. to rule the world
c. Better to rule in hell
d. to rule over oneself. Choice (C)
29. a. I do not rate him as a
b. The rate of interest
c. At any rate I shall Choice (C)
30. a. The prime accused
b. Prime time soap operas
c. should be the prime concern of Choice (A)
31. a. call off the picnic
b. call box
c. call a taxi
d. call me up at eight Choice (C)
32. a. play any musical
b. to play in the
c. to play in the park.....
d. to play for time..... Choice (D)

33. a. asleep over the
b. to get over her loss.....
c. who is over eighteen Choice (A)
34. a. on the bank of
b. in the bank locker.
c. bank on you Choice (A)
35. a. intellectual planes.
b. The planes taking off Choice (A)
36. a. book value
b. The book was released
c. to book rooms Choice (A)
37. a. at the pool side.
b. to pool their resources.
c. in a pool of blood.
d. The pool room Choice (C)
38. b. The date trees
c. the date today?
d. Do you date him Choice (B)
39. a. between themselves.
b. between France Choice (A)
40. a. Tickets for the show.....
b. show your ignorance.....
c. Show me your tickets Choice (B)
12. Flower is part of an inflorescence so also light is part of incandescence. Choice (A)
13. Pudding is a dessert just as soup is an appetizer. Choice (B)
14. Memory and amnesia are antithetical just like sleep and insomnia. Choice (A)
15. A pedagogue teaches just as a counsellor advises. Choice (D)
16. Global means relating to the world just as urban means relating to the city. Choice (C)
17. A rock is the medium for a sculptor just as a canvas is for the artist. Choice (C)
18. A troupe is a collection of actors just as a regiment is a collection of soldiers. Choice (B)
19. An elephant is a pachyderm just as a kangaroo is a marsupial. Choice (B)
20. The earth is a planet just as the moon is a satellite. Choice (B)
21. You cannot expect kindness from a butcher just as you cannot expect modesty from a braggart. Choice (C)
22. Ceramics are hardened in a kiln just as bread is baked in an oven. Choice (A)

Exercise – 12

1. Footpath is on either side of the road and running along its entire length. Similarly the river bank is on either side of the river and running along its length. Choice (B)
2. A carpenter uses a chisel. In all the five choices we have people and the things they use. In the case of the seamstress, the needle is a tool just as the chisel is a tool to work with. Choice (C)
3. The flower gives off fragrance just as the sun gives sunlight. In both cases they give something that they possess. Choice (C)
4. A thermometer is used to measure temperature. So also a hygrometer is used to measure humidity (A voltmeter is used to measure electric potential - not electricity). Choice (A)
5. A cycle is used by peddling just as a horse is used by riding. (A car is also used by driving but this is motorized where as in the case of a horse and bicycle, the physical energy is used). Choice (B)
6. The paise is a fraction of a rupee just as minute is a fraction of an hour. (The drop is also a part of the ocean but it is not countable / measurable). Choice (D)
7. Love and hatred are opposites just as the given words. Choice (A)
8. Sphere is the shape of the sun just as cube is the shape of the dice. Choice (B)
9. Books contain knowledge just as herbs contain medicines. Choice (A)
10. Colt is a young male horse whereas a mare is a fully grown female horse. The same aspects of age and gender is seen between Prince and Queen. Choice (D)
11. Cub is the young of a lion just as cygnet is the young of swan. Choice (B)
23. Numerator and denominator refer to what is above and below the line in a fraction. Dividend and divisor are also above and below the line in a mathematical problem. Choice (D)
24. An elevator goes through and is in a shaft just as water flows through and is in a conduit. (the shell goes through only a part of the rifle and is not always there in a rifle). Choice (B)
25. An archaeologist studies artefacts just as an ornithologist studies birds. Choice (D)
26. A psychiatrist deals with maladjustments just as a doctor deals with diseases. Choice (A)
27. The lawyer and the district attorney are on opposite sides of a litigation just like the plaintiff and defendant. Choice (D)
28. Liquor intoxicates just as morphine sedates. Choice (B)
29. Frequently and occasionally are opposites like often and rarely. Choice (D)
30. A plan may be used to deceive just as a trick may be used for a fraud. Choice (A)
31. The relationship between the main pair of words is antonymous. Similarly choice C denotes an antonymous relationship. Choice (C)
32. The word 'pack' is a collective noun for dogs (a group of dogs is called a pack of dogs) Similarly a group of pigeons is called a 'covey'. Choice (A)
33. Perfume is obtained from flowers while honey is obtained from nectar. Choice (D)
34. The intake of narcotics produces somnolence or 'drowsiness'. Similarly the intake of proteins provides 'nutrition'. Choice (B)

35. The relationship in the main pair of words is antonymous. ('flamboyant' means 'showy' its antonym is modest). Similarly indolent and industrious denote an antonymous relationship. Choice (A)
36. A 'tyrant' is despotic while an 'altruist' is selfless. Choice (D)
37. The antonym of doyen is tyro while the opposite of copiousness is scarcity. Choice (C)
38. Cymbal produces music while bulb produces light. Choice (A)
39. A scholar symbolises erudition or knowledge, while a child symbolises 'artlessness' or guilelessness. Choice (C)
40. Grass is produced on the turf while hair is produced on the scalp. Choice (A)
14. Terrestrial means relating to earth just as aquatic means relating to water and arboreal means relating to trees. 'Erudition' is related to knowledge. Choice (D) (stars shine) Choice (D)
15. A chef works in a kitchen just as a teacher works in a school, an astronomer in an observatory, a scientist in a laboratory. Choice (D) (deity is in a temple does not work there) Choice (D)
16. A kernel is inside a nut just as a seed is inside a fruit, a grain is inside a husk, yolk's inside an egg. Choice (D) (a house is made of bricks not inside it). Choice (D)
17. Epic deals with heroism just as tragedy deals with sorrow. Comedy deals with humour, satire with lampoon. Choice (D)
18. Practise leads to perfection just as piety leads to devotion, perseverance to success and skill leads to mastery. Choice (C)
19. Ornithology is the study of birds just as anthropology is the study of mankind, botany of plants and zoology of animals. Choice (D) (Taxonomy is not about tax) Choice (D)
20. We embroider on cloth, paint on canvas, carve on wood and write on paper and chisel on stone. Choice (B) (we don't garden on lawn – a lawn is a part of a garden) Choice (B)
21. The words in each pair are synonyms – proliferate reproduce, conspicuous – visible, evoke – summon, concoct – prepare. Fertile and sterile are opposites. Choice (D)
22. Epic is about heroic acts, soporific is lethargic, irony is sarcastic, comedy is hilarious but tragedy is not repulsive. Choice (C)
23. The words in each pair are antonyms masculine-feminine, optimistic-pessimistic, friendly-hostile, defendant-plaintiff, perfunctory and indifferent are synonyms. Choice (D)
24. Rising prices leads to inflation. Overpopulation leads to poverty, awards to recognition, laziness to failure. (Boil does not lead to freeze it is the antithesis of freeze) Choice (C)
25. We find words in dictionary, books in stationery, and chocolate at confectioneries and cakes in a bakery. Choice (B) (we don't find plants in zoology) Choice (B)
26. A doctor who treats ailments related to kidneys is a nephrologist, for heart is cardiologist, for blood haematologist and for nerves neurologist. Choice (D) (a gynaecologist doesn't treat the eye) Choice (D)
27. An ignoramus lacks knowledge, an infidel lacks loyalty, a miser lacks generosity and a spendthrift lacks frugality. A savant (a scholar) is not lacking in erudition. Choice (C)
28. In order to eat me must cook, in order to succeed me must work hard, in order to stay fit me must exercise and in order to avoid danger me must be cautious. Choice C is unrelated. Choice (C)
29. The words in each pair are closely connected – parsimonious is stingy, sumptuous is lavish, niggardly is miserly, puerile is juvenile. Indigent and wealthy are opposites. Choice (C)
30. A lecturer works in a college just as a teacher works in a school, a reader in a university and a chef in a kitchen. Choice (B) (a student does not work at a theatre) Choice (B)
31. A cardiologist treats heart ailments and not lungs. Hence, choice C is wrong. Choice (C)

Exercise – 13

1. Grammar is essential for a language. Notes are essential in music. Herbs are essential for medicine. Numbers are essential in mathematics. Choice (B) (Zoology is the study of animals) Choice (B)
2. An author is the source of literature. A brain is the source of ideas. (A) bank is the source of money. Movies offer entertainment. Choice (B) (Earth is a planet) Choice (B)
3. Hot is a greater degree of warm. Freeze is a greater degree of cold. Weep is a greater degree of sob. Laugh is a greater degree of smile. The right hand side words are a higher degree of the left hand side words. Choice (D) (laugh and cry are opposites) Choice (D)
4. Newspaper deals with journalism. Economics deals with currency. Geology deals with land. Bank deals with money. Choice (D) (Butter is a product of milk) Choice (D)
5. Practice is needed to avoid mistakes, rain to avoid drought, protect to avoid things becoming extinct, diligence to avoid error. Choice (B) (resentment leads to anger) Choice (B)
6. A secretary works in an office, a chef in a kitchen, a teacher in a school, a salesman in a store. Choice (B) (a musician uses or works with instruments) Choice (B)
7. Work leads to fatigue, poison leads to death and laziness to failure. Hard work leads to success. Choice (B) (love does not lead to hate) Choice (B)
8. Pills are to cure just as gum is to stick, brush is to paint, cake is to eat. Choice (D)
9. We sketch a diagram just as we draw a picture, print a book or paint a portrait. Choice (D)
10. Shirt is inside a coat, feet are inside socks, head inside helmet, and roots inside the earth. Choice (C) (coat gives warmth) Choice (C)
11. Permanent and transient are opposites just as boisterous-calm, sombre lively, wild-domesticated are opposites. Mirth and glee are similar. Choice (A)
12. Diagnosis leads to treatment ailment to medicine, investigation to report. (Interrogation does not lead to extermination, it could lead to judgment or unravelling the truth). Crime leads to arrest. Choice (C)
13. The words on the left are the names of the homes of the animals / human on the right. (Only the crib is not the home of a baby) Choice (C)

32. The relationship between the capitalised pair of words is antonymous. Choice B does not denote this relationship.
Choice (B)
33. The relationship between the capitalized pair of words is synonymous. Choice D represents an antonymous relationship.
Choice (D)
34. Dictator symbolises tyranny. Choice A is different because patriot does not symbolise rebelliousness.
Choice (A)
35. All the other pairs of choices represent the study of living beings. Only choice D is different.
Choice (D)
36. Choice A is different because bat is not an insect. It is a mammal.
Choice (A)
37. The young one of a goat is a kid not nanny. Hence, choice D is different.
Choice (D)
38. Gaol(prison) is not a dwelling place for the accused. Also, the order is reversed. Hence choice C is different.
Choice (C)
39. The duty of a teacher is to instruct while the duty of a judge is to dispense justice not govern unlike what is represented in choice D.
Choice (D)
40. The relationship between the capitalized pair of words is antonymous. Choice D does not denote an antonymous relationship while all other options express an antonymous relationship
Choice (D)
17. sunlight, sunshine, sun flower, sundial. Choice (D)
18. horse shoe, horse hoof, horse race, horse trading.
Choice (C)
19. church spire, church yard, church bell, church service.
Choice (D)
20. tennis court, courtship, law court, court martial.
Choice (C)
21. income, inward, injury, inset. Choice (D)
22. show down, show piece, show time, show room.
Choice (C)
23. nose ring, toe ring, car ring, ring finger. Choice (D)
24. credit card, identity card, ration card, yellow card.
Choice (C)
25. over awed, over whelmed, over joyed, over seas.
Choice (B)
26. old age, old fashioned, Old Testament, old man
Choice (C)
27. onslaught, on looker, onshore, online. Choice (D)
28. neophobia, neonatal, neolithic, neoclassical.
Choice (B)
29. needle point, needle work, needle woman, needle game.
Choice (B)
30. new age, new moon, new fangled, new comer.
Choice (C)
31. Countercharge, Countermine
Counter-productive, Counterbalance Choice (D)
32. noteworthy, notepaper
note book, footnote Choice (D)
33. keyhole, keyring
keystone, keyboard Choice (C)
34. fly past, fly leaf, fly trap fly blown Choice (D)
35. deep talk, deep thought
deep fry, deep-freeze Choice (D)
36. pass out, pass off, pass over, pass port
Choice (A)
37. double chin, double-edged
double cross, double check Choice (B)
38. take away take back
take home take effect Choice (C)
39. hardwood hardware
hardheart harddisc Choice (D)
40. standpoint, stand by
stand-up, stand in Choice (B)

Exercise – 14

1. Cloth cap, dish cloth, table cloth, curtain cloth.
Choice (B)
2. Wine bottle, ink bottle, water bottle, bottle neck.
Choice (C)
3. Wood pulp, wood land, wood work, wood craft.
Choice (D)
4. Call girl, call off, call letter, call box. Choice (B)
5. Down cast, down fall, down grade, down pour.
Choice (A)
6. Fast food, fast asleep, stick fast, fast passenger.
Choice (D)
7. Ground rent, ground work, ground floor, ground staff.
Choice (B)
8. Key hole, key note, key stone, key board.
Choice (D)
9. Love bird, love affair, lover letter, love sick.
Choice (C)
10. Order book, order form, tall order, order about.
Choice (D)
11. Road traffic, traffic signal, traffic cop, traffic jam.
Choice (B)
12. Flood gate, sluice gate, gate crash, gate man.
Choice (D)
13. mole hill, hill resort, hill fort, hill station. Choice (D)
14. pen knife, pen name, pen friend, pen holder.
Choice (C)
15. soap bubble, soap powder, soap box, soap opera.
Choice (D)
16. coffee cup, morning coffee, coffee bean, coffee table.
Choice (C)
1. The word 'lackadaisical' means lazy or unenthusiastic. Though the other options critical, rude, inquisitive (curious) do fit the context, they are not synonymous with lackadaisical. Choice (A)
2. Exacerbate is to 'make worse'. The other options do not fit. Choice (C)
3. Paranoia is a 'constant and often unreasonable mistrust of others'. Options other than (D) do not fit here. Intuitive feeling means gut feeling. Choice (D)

Exercise – 15

4. 'Bourgeois' is a French word which refers to the 'middle class' according to marxist thought. Only option (C) is correct. Choice (C)
5. 'Resounding' can be used to mean 'echoing' when used as a verb. But used as an adjective, as in the given statement it is closer to 'impressive' in meaning. Choice (D)
6. 'Rejuvenation' means 'restoring youth' as mentioned in option (C). Ministrations means 'assistance in times of difficulty' which does not fit the context. Choice (C)
7. 'Discrepancies' refers to disparities or differences. 'Lacunae' or shortcomings is different in meaning from 'disparity'. Contradiction is opposition which may fit the context but is not synonymous with 'discrepancy'. Choice (B)
8. 'Obfuscate' means confuse. Constrain (limit) and efface (wipe out) do not fit that meaning. Choice (A)
9. 'Compendium' is a collection of works or a 'summary of a larger work'. Exposition (interpretation of a topic), epilogue (speech or passage at the end of a play or book respectively) and composition (structure or essay) have meanings clearly different from compendium. Only (D) fits. Choice (D)
10. 'Loquacious' means talkative. Garrulous would be a synonym. Desolate (lonely or deserted), audible (able to hear) and humble have different meanings. Only (C) fits. Choice (C)
11. 'Perfunctory' means superficial or cursory. Agile (skilful), pleasing and useless are not synonymous. Choice (D)
12. 'Plagiarism' is the act of copying someone's efforts. None of the other words fit the context. Choice (B)
13. 'Pernicious' means harmful or destructive. Fastidious (with attention to detail), patriotic (loving one's country), and motivating are not synonyms. Choice (D)
14. 'Convuluted' means twisted or complex. Controversial (disputable), agitated (worked up) and lively (enthusiastic) do not fit here. Choice (D)
15. 'Conflagration' is a huge and destructive fire. Resolution (strong decision), civil war and evolution are not related in meaning to conflagration. Choice (B)
16. 'Confabulation' is a conversation between people. Commotion (a state of confused and noisy disturbance), celebration and performance are misfits here. Choice (A)
17. 'Vociferous' is 'tending to talk loudly' which is synonymous to 'clamorous'. Solemn (dignified), fickle (whimsical) and demanding are unrelated to it. Choice (D)
18. 'Voracious' means 'consuming in large amounts' and is closest in meaning to insatiable (unable to be satisfied). Lethargy (laziness), unenthusiastic and evasive (avoiding) do not fit here. Choice (A)
19. 'Dilettante' is someone who dabbles in a field without mastering it. Option (D) is closest in meaning. Choice (D)
20. 'Connivance' is a 'secret approval usually to someone's wrong doing. In that sense, collusion is closest in meaning to it. Cartelisation' would be a related business term. Pretension (faking), combination and keeping are misfits here. Choice (B)
21. A 'lacuna' is a shortcoming or a gap. Only option (C) fits. Choice (C)
22. 'Euphemism' is a milder or more politically correct version of an offensive statement. Option (A) is closest in meaning. Choice (A)
23. 'Innocuous' means harmless or inoffensive. Options (A) and (D) would be antonyms. Choice (B)
24. 'Cohesiveness' or 'cohesion' refers to unity or bonding. (A) would actually be an antonym. Choice (D)
25. 'Repercussions' refers to an indirect consequence of an action'. Benefits, joys and controversies (disputes) would not fit here. Choice (A)
26. 'Inept' means 'unskilled'. Adept (skillful) would be an antonym. Option (B) is a synonym for inept and is the answer. Choice (B)
27. 'Nebulous' means 'not clearly formed, vague or unclear. Option (C) is the answer. Choice (C)
28. 'Acquiescence' or 'consent' is passive acceptance. Support, participation and encouragement would be close in meaning but not synonyms. Choice (D)
29. 'Countenance' can refer to both 'appearance of a person's face' or 'formal approval'. In the latter meaning it is closest to option (D). Choice (D)
30. 'Insurgents' are rebels who oppose the established system. Miscreants (criminals), hoodlums (thieves) and people are not synonymous. Choice (B)
31. 'Propitious' means favourable or conducive. Though auspicious, lucky and fortunate are related terms, they have an element of fate in them unlike favourable. Choice (C)
32. 'Ephemeral' is temporary or short-lived as opposed to eternal. Transitory would be a synonym. Sporadic (irregular), harmless and remarkable do not fit here. Choice (D)
33. Unsavoury is tasteless or disagreeable. Coercive (forced), coaxing (cajoling) and bribing do not fit here. Choice (A)
34. 'Stonewall' means both to 'obstruct' or 'delay' proceedings or discussions. The closest in meaning here is delaying which also fits the context. Blocking is actively opposing attacks whereas obstruct means to just be a passive obstacle. Hence it does not fit. Choice (D)
35. Loopholes are ambiguities that make exploitation possible. Amendments (changes), vagaries (unexpected changes) and openings are misfits here. Choice (C)
36. To stoke is to incite or provoke. Fabricate (falsely create), generate, aggravate (make worse) are irrelevant to the context (B). Choice (B)
37. Hegemony refers to dominance or superiority of one group over others. Though edge and advantage are closely related, they are not perfect fits. Choice (A)
38. 'Horrendous' means horrifying. Explicit (clearly stated), implicit (unstated but implied) and clear do not fit the contest. Choice (D)
39. 'Machiavellian' is an eponymous word which means 'devious' or cunning or scheming. Choice (B)
40. Polemics are 'controversial debates'. None of the other words are related. Choice (C)

Exercise – 16

1. Here the clue is in the preceding adjective 'irrational'. Since it is irrational, it cannot be unintelligible (what cannot be understood) or unjustifiable (what cannot be justified) or un-maintainable (what cannot be maintained). Hence, it is indefensible (what cannot be defended). Choice (B)
2. The previous word is circumventing, that is, bypass or outwit. We cannot browbeat jurisdiction (the territory or area over which authority exists). It is not browbeating people or politicians. Hence, it is jurisprudence (the legal system) which should act against encroachers. Choice (A)
3. 'Religion is being increasingly _____', obviously it is 'used'. So, it is not redistributed disposed or even positioned. It is deployed (bring into effective action). Choice (D)
4. The quotation of George Bernard Shaw shows that we don't want religion to be used by scoundrels. So what do we do? We must ensure (make sure) that it does not happen. We cannot guarantee or certify or even confirm this. Choice (C)
5. We must ensure religion does not suffer a similar _____ what? It is not demotion (there is no promotion or demotion for religion). Depose means to give evidence. So, it cannot be deposition. Religion is not a thing to discard. Hence, it is degradation (causing severe loss of dignity or respect, demean). Choice (D)
6. 'Terms' is a way of expressing oneself. So how has Israel been expressing itself? The clue is in the words that follow '..... from a position of military strength'. From such a position one will only order or dictate. Choice (C)
7. The clue is in the words that follow the blank. The effects are _____ to anybody who does not deliberately shut his eyes. So, if you don't deliberately shut your eyes it will be 'obvious' (easily perceived). It is not palpable (able to be touched or felt) or trifling (unimportant) or conspicuous (what attracts attention in a crowd). Choice (D)
8. Here again the clue is in what precedes and what follows the blank. No sensible person would say that a terrorist response is justified. By dictating terms it has given an opportunity for people like Osama Bin Laden or Saddam Hussain to justifiably oppose it. Hence, the blank is not inefficacious (not producing the desired effect) or abortive (failing to produce result) or unsuccessful or rational. It is futile (pointless). Choice (A)
9. It is no _____. The blank must take a word that means 'chance' (happening by chance) not luck or fluke. Serendipity means a lucky chance. From the context, we can see that it is not lucky, hence only coincidence can fit in. Choice (D)
10. With a common enemy, the people have been brought together to oppose. Hence, the word is rally (bring together for concerted action). Group, band, assemble all refer to bringing people together but the implication of joint action is implicit only in rally. Choice (B)
11. The clue lies in the words that follow - 'to financial services'. You need an 'access' (the means or opportunity to approach) rather than gain admission or entry. Avenue means the same but does not suit in this context. Choice (D)
12. The words that follow are 'dignity and position'. The self-help groups have empowered women and what have they done to their dignity and position? They have definitely not flattered or decorated nor have they seized, they have enhanced (increased). Choice (D)
13. It has given women the confidence and power to _____ with banks. What do they do with banks? They negotiate (try to reach an agreement or compromise by discussion). They do not fulfil anything or orchestrate (direct to produce a desired effect) or contract (as a verb it means decrease or become shorter as a noun only it means an agreement). Choice (C)
14. In all these _____, the reference is to dealing with banks and local governments. These are not events, occurrences, places or even courses (lessons in a subject). They are programmes (a set of related measures or activities with a long term aim). Choice (B)
15. The purpose has been to make women _____ what? not energetic (these are not health measures); or moving (we are not talking of feelings); 'efficacious' is a very formal word and hence does not fit in this context; effective (producing a desired or intended result) is the right word here. Choice (C)
16. The words that follow 'have to play' indicate 'obligation'. 'Mandatorily' means 'required by law'. Since the order is issued by the government mandatorily is the right choice. Choice (A)
17. The words that precede 'this is the sort of' and the words that follow '..... that makes a mockery of' – indicate that what is done is not done in earnest. It is only a show. 'Tokenism' shows that it is only a symbolic move and hence appropriate. Choice (D)
18. We already have 'mockery of nationalism', so it is reduced to a mindless _____. Celebration or procedure cannot be mindless. Protocol is a formal word that does not fit here. Hence, ritual is the answer. Choice (D)
19. Nationalism is not something to be taught or implanted (inserted) or imbued (filled or saturated with). The author condemns the attempt to impose (or force or foist or thrust) nationalism. Choice (B)
20. 'Betrays' (unintentionally reveal) is better in this context than merely disclose (expose) or divulge (make known) or blurt out (say suddenly without careful consideration). Choice (C)
21. The words that follow the blank are-droughts, floods, oil price shocks, and other things including war. What have been the effect of these? The effect has been destructive but it is not plunder (forcibly steal) or demolition (deliberately destroy) or wreckages (associated with natural disaster or accident). Hence, it is ravages. Choice (D)
22. _____ of our prime ministers. The blank refers to the killing. The killing of political personalities is called assassination. Choice (A)
23. What is done to a satellite? It is launched. Choice (C)
24. The words that follow are poverty, disease, illiteracy, corruption etc. These are all scattered around. What can they be called? They are not havoc (wide-spread destruction) or mere fragments (small parts, pieces). It can be or debris because debris has the implicit meaning of 'scattered rubbish' (litter only means rubbish, or an untidy collection). Choice (A)
25. What kind of status did English have? It was official (of or relating to an authority) not licensed (getting an authorization) or certified (formally attested). Choice (D)
26. The British 'built' an empire, they did not create (bring into existence), discover (find in the course of a search) or invent (create or design something new). Choice (B)

27. The world has acquired (got or obtained). It cannot be appropriated (take without permission) or secured (fastened so as not to give way) or procured (obtain).
Choice (C)
28. That number is ____ obviously it is increasing. Soaring is the right word to denote it. Flying, leaping, jumping are not appropriate.
Choice (D)
29. 'You are heading for trouble (problem), not worry (which is a feeling) or bother or annoyance (fuss, became angry).
Choice (D)
30. People did not doubt the 'reality' of God. The other words cannot fit in this context.
Choice (D)
31. ____ their brains – the word is racking (searching) not harrowing, agonizing, stressing or excruciating which suggests pain.
Choice (B)
32. To answer every question Google ____, obviously it searches. So, the word should be sifts (examine thoroughly) rather than wanders (implying aimless movement) or strains (implying force to make great effort) or riddles (puzzles).
Choice (A)
33. Searching through the world wide web, Google 'downloads' (the technical word to copy data from one system to another). It does not comprehend (understand) abridge or paraphrase.
Choice (B)
34. It gives a score based on its importance (value), not urgency (requiring immediate attention) or gravity (seriousness). Momentousness does not fit in the context.
Choice (C)
35. We are comparing what Google does to calling every telephone number in the directory. Hence, comparable.
Choice (D)
36. The Oriental Pearl Tower has surpassed (be better or greater than) the Great Wall of China as a revenue earner. It is not supplanting (replacing) or outdoing (be superior in action) or bettering (more desirable).
Choice (D)
37. Compared to the weight of the Pearl Tower (120,000 tonnes) the Eiffel Tower (10,000 tonnes) is lighter in weight – the comparison worth their respective weights. It is not valueless, worthless (based on value or insubstantial (lacking strength).
Choice (C)
38. Since it opened – commenced refers to the beginning of an action, exposed is to show, inaugurated is formal and does not fit in the context.
Choice (D)
39. Hundreds of couples have participated (taken part). They have not joined or cooperated or engaged.
Choice (B)
40. The tower plays ____ since the verb is active, host fits in the blank. Venue, entertainer, auditorium make the tower passive.
Choice (B)
4. 'Unassailable' means not liable to attack hence 'impregnable', (unconquerable) invincible' or 'secure' or but not 'invisible' (not seen).
Choice (D)
5. 'Abjure' means to solemnly renounce. Hence, it can mean renounce, relinquish (give up) or discontinue. Embrace means adopt and is inapt.
Choice (D)
6. 'Despondent' means being in low spirits from loss of hope or courage. It can mean doleful (sorrowful), morose (sullen) or crestfallen (sad and disappointed) but not defiant (resistance or disobedient).
Choice (C)
7. 'Fitfully' means occurring intermittently, not regularly. Hence, it means intermittently, irregularly, discontinuously but it does not mean faintly which means 'barely perceptible'.
Choice (A)
8. 'Incredulous' means unwilling to believe. Hence, it can be cynical (distrustful), sceptical (doubtful) and disbelieving but not weary (tired).
Choice (C)
9. 'Misconstrued' means 'interpreted wrongly, hence it can mean miscalculated, misinterpreted or misconceived (wrongly understood) but not confused which means bewildered or lacking order.
Choice (C)
10. 'Embellished' means adorned or decorated and hence beautified but not beatified (sanctified).
Choice (D)
11. 'Paeon' means a song of praise hence it can mean panegyric (in praise of some one) accolade (special honour), eulogy (praise someone highly) but not anathema (something that one vehemently dislikes)
Choice (D)
12. 'Sprightly' means lively, energetic, hence it can mean vivacious (attractively lively), jaunty (lively and self confident manner) and perky (cheerful and lively) but not voracious which means greedy or insatiable.
Choice (A)
13. 'Ubiquitous' means found everywhere, hence it means pervasive (widespread), prevalent (widespread or existing) and extensive (covering a large area) but not dominating which means have a commanding or controlling influence over.
Choice (B)
14. 'Tyro' means a beginner or novice hence it can mean beginner novice or neophyte (a person who is new to a subject) but not veteran (a person who has long experience in a field) which is the opposite.
Choice (B)
15. 'Variegated' means exhibiting different colours hence colourful, kaleidoscopic (changing patterns, psychedelic (vivid colours and swirling abstract patterns) and many hued (many colours) but not diversified (enlarge the range).
Choice (D)
16. 'Zany' means amusingly unconventional or idiosyncratic, hence it can mean bizarre (strange), weird (uncanny), ludicrous (absurd, ridiculous) but not magnanimous (big-hearted or generous).
Choice (B)
17. 'Adjunct' means additional or supplementary, hence can mean complement, supplement and add on but not compliment (expression of praise).
Choice (C)
(Note: - complement means a thing that enhances or improves).
18. Lyrical means imaginative and poetic, songlike and hence can mean pleasant, melodious (tuneful) rhapsodic (enthusiastic expression of feeling), musical (of relating to, or accompanied by music) but not sumptuous (splendid and expensive looking).
Choice (D)
19. 'Proscribe' means to forbid, especially by law and hence can mean condemned, forbidden, prohibited (forbid by law), but not disbanded (to breakup an organized group).
Choice (B)

Exercise – 17

1. 'Venom' literally means poison and by extension hatred and bitterness. In this context it can mean rancour (bitterness) malice (hatred) and malevolence (ill-will). It cannot mean abhorrence which is disgust.
Choice (B)
2. 'Acquittal' means declared not guilty. Hence it can mean vindication (shown to be right or justified), exoneration (officially absolve from blame), and deliverance (the process of being set free), and exculpation but not dismissal (order or allow to leave).
Choice (A)
3. 'Presage' means a sign or warning. It also means predict. Hence, in the context it can be replaced by signalled (indicate a state) or prophesied (predicted) or portended (sign or warning) or threatened but not supported (bear the weight or give assistance).
Choice (A)
17. 'Adjunct' means additional or supplementary, hence can mean complement, supplement and add on but not compliment (expression of praise).
Choice (C)
(Note: - complement means a thing that enhances or improves).
18. Lyrical means imaginative and poetic, songlike and hence can mean pleasant, melodious (tuneful) rhapsodic (enthusiastic expression of feeling), musical (of relating to, or accompanied by music) but not sumptuous (splendid and expensive looking).
Choice (D)
19. 'Proscribe' means to forbid, especially by law and hence can mean condemned, forbidden, prohibited (forbid by law), but not disbanded (to breakup an organized group).
Choice (B)

20. 'Venal' means motivated by susceptibility to bribery and hence includes crooked, corrupt (act dishonestly in return for money), avaricious (extreme greed) but not pertinent (appropriate or suitable). Choice (C)
21. 'Vanity' means conceited, excessive pride also 'lack of real value, hollowness and hence can be pretension (claim or aspiration to something), ostentation (designed to impress) affectation (artificial and designed to impress) but not avant-garde (new and unusual, experimental). Choice (D)
22. 'Hemmed' means restricted and can mean confined (cramped), immured (confined), but not refrained (stopped oneself from doing something). Choice (B)
23. 'Exhortation' means urge strongly or encourage and so it means persuasion (cause to do something through reasoning), beseeching (ask fervently) and urging but not cajoling which means flattering or luring. Choice (A)
24. Manoeuvre means a carefully planned scheme or action. Hence it can mean scheme, plot, or plan but not skill. Choice (D)
25. 'Impinged' means encroached so it means infringed (violated/encroached on), intruded and trespassed (enter someone's property without permission) but not attacked (took aggressive action). Choice (C)
26. 'Moribund' means at the point of death or in terminal decline and so means waning, declining, atrophying (gradually decline in vigour), collapsing but not cloistered (continued or isolated). Choice (B)
27. 'Pander' means gratify or indulge and so it means indulging, accommodating (filling in helpfully with another's wishes), catering to (providing what is needed) but not following (coming after). Choice (D)
28. 'Audacity' means recklessly daring, impudent and hence can mean impudence (impertinent), insolence (disrespectful), effrontery (insolence), all are derogatory. It does not mean studiousness, which is learnedness. Choice (B)
29. 'Momentous' means of great importance and so it means far reaching (having important and extensive effect), pivotal (crucial) consequential (what has consequences). It does not mean transient (momentary passing) Choice (D)
30. 'Intangible' means what cannot be touched hence it is impalpable (what cannot be touched), abstract (what is not concrete), incorporeal (not composed of matter). It does not mean unfelt. The emphasis is on materiality not on feeling. Choice (B)
31. 'Rebuff' means an abrupt rejection and so it means snubbed, spurned (reject with disdain) cold shouldered (refuse to talk or notice some one). It does not mean 'pampered'. Choice (D)
32. 'Abrogation' means repeal or do away with. It can mean repudiation (refusal to accept), revocation (ending the validity of a decree) annulment (declare a contract invalid). It cannot mean desiccation (dry out). Choice (D)
33. 'Vestigial' means very small remnant of something and so lingering (reluctant to leave), residual (remaining part) it can mean remaining. It cannot mean flourishing (develop vigorously), which is almost the opposite. Choice (A)
34. 'Exacerbate' means make worse and hence in the context inflame (aggravate), augment (increase), aggravate (make worse) are same. It does not mean ameliorate (make better), which is the opposite. Choice (D)
35. 'Enjoins' means urges and hence can mean appeals to (requests), entreats (asks earnestly) implores (begs earnestly) but not forces (which implies compulsion). Choice (D)
36. 'Allaying' means diminishing or ending and so it means alleviate (make less severe), palliate (make less severe), dispel (remove). It cannot mean clarified (make clear). Choice (C)
37. 'Equitably' means fairly and impartially and so impartially, fairly and dispassionately (nationally, impartially). It does not necessarily have to be equally. Choice (D)
38. 'Imperative' means of vital importance. Hence, it can mean obligatory (compulsory), compulsory (cursive) and mandatory (required by law). It cannot mean perfunctory (hasty, uninterested or careless). Choice (C)
39. 'Embroiled' means involved deeply in a conflict. Hence, it means mired (meet with difficulties), ensnared (caught in a trap), involved (connected). It does not mean engulf (surrounded). Choice (C)
40. 'Moot' means subject to debate, and so it means contestable, debatable, disputable and unresolved (not yet solved). It does not mean dubious (doubtful). Choice (D)

Exercise – 18

- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'h'. 'b e' is the right combination 'f' matches 'c', thus, 'D' is the answer. Choice (D)
- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'f'. All choices begin with 'f'. 'bg' is the right combination. Thus, choices 'C' and 'D' can be ruled out 'h' matches 'c'. Thus, 'A' is the answer. Choice (A)
- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. Thus, options A and B can be ruled out. 'b e' is the right combination. 'f' matches 'c'. Thus 'D' is the answer. Choice (D)
- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'e'. A and D can be ruled out. 'h' matches 'b' 'cf' is the right combination. Thus, 'C' is the answer. Choice (C)
- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'h'. A and B can be ruled out 'be' is the right combination. 'f' matches 'c', thus, 'D' is the answer. Choice (D)
- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. 'bh' is the right combination. 'e' matches 'c'. Thus 'D' is the answer. Choice (D)
- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'h'. 'bf' is the right combination followed by 'cg'. Thus, 'C' is the answer. Choice (C)
- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'h'. 'bg' is the right combination 'e' matches 'c'. Thus 'B' is the answer. Choice (B)
- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'e'. B and D can be ruled out. 'bg' is the right combination; 'f' matches 'c'. Thus 'C' is the answer. Choice (C)
- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. 'bf' is the right combination. 'h' matches 'c', thus, 'D' is the answer. Choice (D)
- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'f'. B and D can be ruled out. 'bh' is the right combination. 'g' matches 'c', thus 'A' is the answer. Choice (A)
- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'f'. A and C can be ruled out 'bh' is the right combination. 'e' matches 'c' thus 'D' is the answer. Choice (D)
- The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'h'. 'bg' is the right combination. A and B can now be ruled out. 'f' matches 'c'. Thus, 'C' is the answer. Choice (C)

14. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'f'. 'bg' is the right combination. 'h' matches 'c', thus, 'A' is the answer.
Choice (A)
15. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. 'bh' is the right combination. A and B can thus be ruled out 'e' matches 'c'. Thus, 'D' is the answer.
Choice (D)
16. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. 'bh' is the right combination. 'e' matches 'c'. Thus, 'A' is the answer.
Choice (A)
17. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'f'. Thus, choices A and C can be ruled out. 'bg' followed by 'ch' is the right combination, thus, is the answer.
Choice (D)
18. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'e'. Thus, choices C and D can be ruled out 'bg' is the right combination. 'f' matches 'c'. Thus 'A' is the answer.
Choice (A)
19. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. Thus, choices A and D can be ruled out. 'bh' is the right combination. 'e' matches 'c'. Thus 'B' is the answer.
Choice (B)
20. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'f'. 'b e' is the right combination. Thus, choice A can be ruled out. 'ch' is the right combination. Thus 'D' is the answer.
Choice (D)
21. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. Thus, choices A, C and D can be ruled out. bh is the right combination.
Choice (B)
22. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. 'e' matches 'b', and 'h' matches 'c'. Thus, 'C' is the answer.
Choice (C)
23. The meaning implied in 'a' is started in 'f'. 'h' matches 'b', thus, choices A and B can be ruled out. 'g' matches 'c'. Thus 'D' is the answer.
Choice (D)
24. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'f'. 'e' matches 'b'. 'h' matches 'c'. Thus, 'D' is the answer.
Choice (D)
25. The meaning implied in 'a' is started in 'h'. 'g' matches 'b'. Choices C and D can be ruled out. 'f' matches 'c'. Thus 'A' is the answer.
Choice (A)
26. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. Thus 'A' and 'C' can be ruled out. 'b e' is the right combination so we need not consider 'B' now. 'h' matches 'c'. Thus 'D' is the answer.
Choice (D)
27. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. Thus, choices A, C and D can be ruled out. b matches with h.
Choice (B)
28. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'f'. Thus choices C and D can be ruled out. 'g' matches 'b', 'h' matches 'c', thus 'A' is the answer.
Choice (A)
29. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'f'. 'g' matches 'b' and 'ch' is the right combination. Thus, 'A' is the answer.
Choice (A)
30. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'e'. 'bh' is the right combination. 'g' matches 'c'. Thus, 'D' is the answer.
Choice (D)
31. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. Thus choices C and D can be eliminated. 'e' matches 'c', preceded by the 'bf' combination. Thus 'A' is the answer.
Choice (A)
32. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'e'. Thus, choices A and C can be eliminated. 'bg' is the right combination, 'f' matches 'c'. Thus, 'D' is the answer.
Choice (D)
33. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'f'. Thus, choices B and C can be ruled out. 'bg' is the right combination; 'e' matches 'c'. Thus, (D) is the answer.
Choice (D)
34. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'h'. 'bg' is the right combination. 'e' matches 'c'. Thus, the other choices can be ruled out. 'A' is the answer.
Choice (A)
35. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. 'h' matches 'b'. Thus, the other choices can be ruled out.
Choice (C)
36. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. 'h' matches 'b'. Thus, choices A and B can be ruled out. 'f' matches 'c'. Thus, D is the answer.
Choice (D)
37. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. Thus, choices C and D can be ruled out. 'bh' is the right combination. 'e' matches 'c'. Thus 'A' is the answer.
Choice (A)
38. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'h'. Thus choices A and D can be ruled out. 'e' matches 'b'. 'c' matches 'f'. Thus, 'D' is the answer.
Choice (D)
39. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'h'. 'be' is the right combination. 'f' matches 'c'. Thus, the other choices can be ruled out.
Choice (C)
40. The meaning implied in 'a' is stated in 'g'. Thus, choices A and B can be ruled out. 'h' matches 'b'. 'f' matches 'c'. Thus 'C' is the answer.
Choice (C)

Exercise – 19

- Choice (B) should read 'It is best' and not 'It is the best'
Choice (B)
- 'To break in somebody' means to 'train somebody'. Hence choice (A) is correct. Choice (C) should read 'broke down' and not 'broke out'.
Choice (C)
- Choice (B) should read 'off guard', which means 'unawares'.
Choice (B)
- Choice (C) should read 'root and branch' and not 'roots and branches' (i.e., completely).
Choice (C)
- Choice (D) should read 'in the right' (i.e. correct opinion). 'in one's own right' means 'by one's merit'.
Choice (D)
- 'Gone on a visit' is the correction in choice (C).
Choice (C)
- Choice (A) should read 'got wind of' (i.e. some indication) and not 'got a wind of'.
Choice (A)
- Choice (A) should read 'come to grips with' (i.e., to come to terms with a problem or situation).
Choice (A)
- Choice (C) should read 'gave the lie to...' (i.e., to expose something as false).
Choice (C)
- 'To pick at food' means to eat slowly because of a lack of appetite. Hence choice (D) is an illogical statement and hence is incorrect.
Choice (D)
- 'Playing with fire' and not 'playing with the fire' is the standard idiomatic expression.
Choice (D)
- Choice (B) is incorrect. It should read "he was marked out by his superiors....." 'mark somebody out' means to identify for special recognition.
Choice (B)
- 'Catch' and not 'catch on' is appropriate in choice (C). Sentence (A) is correct. 'Catch crops' refers to a 'crop grown between two staple crops' (in position or time).
Choice (C)
- The correct usage in choice (B) is 'it will stand you in good stead' (to be useful or helpful when needed).
Choice (B)
- The idiom in 'to have one's hands full'. Hence choice (D) is incorrect.
Choice (D)

16. 'Slipped into' and not 'slipped out into' is the correct usage in choice (B).
Choice (B)
17. 'Over the moon' and 'not over the blue moon' is correct in choice (C). 'Mooning' in (A) means 'behaving in a listless and aimless manner'. 'Many moons ago' in (B) means 'long time ago'.
Choice (C)
18. Choice (B) should read 'shore up' and not 'score up'. To 'shore up' means to 'support something that is weak and about to fall'.
Choice (B)
19. Choice (A) should read 'of the opinion' and not 'in the opinion'.
Choice (A)
20. Choice (D) should read 'beyond measure', and not 'beyond a measure'. Sentence (B) is right. 'For good measure' means something that is done in addition to a number of other things'. In sentence (C) 'measure' means 'estimate'.
Choice (D)
21. Choice (B) should read 'the means' and not 'enough means'.
Choice (B)
22. Choice (B) should read 'behind the times' (old-fashioned).
Choice (B)
23. 'Slap on the wrist' actually means a reprimand and not an appreciation. Hence choice (C) is incorrect.
Choice (C)
24. Choice (B) should read 'Fill him in on (to brief) and not 'fill him on'.
Choice (B)
25. Choice (B) should read 'clear out', not just 'clear'. Clear out means to leave the place, usually quickly.
Choice (B)
26. Statement (B) is erroneous. It is incorrect to say 'impose itself on'. Impose itself on would mean to create something in a harmful manner. The appropriate word is 'influence the subsequent.....'
Choice (B)
27. Choice (D) is incorrect. The appropriate structure is 'in the interest of your safety'.
Choice (D)
28. Statement (D) is incorrect. 'on the line for a promotion' is inappropriate in the context. The correction 'in line'.
Choice (D)
29. The word is inappropriately used in sentence (B). The appropriate word to be used is 'aggravate' i.e., "His illness was aggravating....."
Choice (B)
30. Statement (B) is incorrect because 'measure out' means 'to take the amount of something that you need from a larger amount'. Hence 'measure out' is not suitable in the context, it is measure.
Choice (B)
31. In statement (A), 'pressed round' means 'gathered or clustered'. In statement (B), the meaning of the phrasal verb 'pressing for' is 'try to persuade'. In 'C' the meaning conveyed is 'The dresses need to be pressed with an iron'. The error is in (D). The article is not required. Hence the correction is 'had its share of bad press'.
Choice (D)
32. Statement (D) is incorrect because 'appreciate' is an inappropriate word in the context. The correct word is 'increase'.
Choice (D)
33. 'Knocked out' is not the appropriate phrase in choice (C). 'Knocked out' means 'to make someone unconscious' which does not fit in the context. To 'knock off' is to steal.
Choice (C)
34. Choice (B) should read 'take a dim view of ...' To take a dim view means to disapprove of something.
Choice (B)
35. Statement (C) is incorrect. The correction is "she steadied her nerves".
Choice (C)
36. Choice (C) should read 'beside the point' and not 'besides the point'.
Choice (C)
37. Choice (A) should read 'leveled his pistol' and not 'leveled up his pistol'.
Choice (A)
38. Choice (B) should read '..... asked for a second....'
Choice (B)
39. Choice (C) should read 'He netted three goals' and not 'He netted with three goals.....'
Choice (C)
40. Choice (D) should read 'She turned pale on'
Choice (D)

Exercise – 20

1. 'Precocious' refers to a child developing abilities at a surprisingly young age indulges in. 'Precarious' means dangerous which suits the context. Hence (a).
To be 'pretentious' is to try to be more important and significant than one is. To have pretensions to something is to claim to be or to do that thing which suits the context. Hence (b).
'Minor' means not very serious. Miner is a person who works in mines. Hence (a).
'Emergent' means emerging or growing. Emigrant is a person who leaves his country to settle in another country. Hence (a).
'Behold' means to view or see. 'Behove' means it is right, necessary or useful to do something. Hence (a).
The answer is abaaa.
Choice (D)
2. Who's is short for 'who is' while whose is a personal pronoun and suits the context. Hence (b).
'Ran foul of' is an expression which means do something which gets one into trouble. 'Fowl' refers to poultry. Hence (b).
'Passed up' means let go or lose. 'Past' refers to time gone by. Hence (a).
'Boot' means to kick or start (as in computers). 'Boost' means cause something to improve or increase, and suits the context. Hence (b).
'Sign' is a signal. Here, 'signature' is appropriate. Hence (b).
The answer is bbabb.
Choice (C)
3. 'Quizzical' means puzzling and collocates with looks. 'Quixotic' on the other hand refers to something strange or odd. Hence (a).
'Moribund' refers to something that is close to death while 'morbid' refers to an interest in unpleasant things. Hence (b).
'Clip the wings' is the correct expression. Hence (a). It means reduce someone's freedom or influence.
Thatched is used with roof and refers to one made of grass, hay or leaves. Hatch is to plan. Hence (a).
'To blow one's trumpet' is the correct expression and it means 'make much of one's own achievements'. Hence (a).
The answer is abaaa.
Choice (A)
4. 'Lunge' is to move suddenly in a particular direction. Plunge is used to show movement in a particular direction, especially into water. Hence (a).
Hail is to call someone loudly. It can also mean small balls of ice that fall like rain. 'Hale and hearty' is to be in good health. Hence (b).
'Causality' refers to the cause and effect of something. 'Casualty' refers to people who are injured or killed. Hence (a).
Proxy means allowing someone for you. 'Proximity' refers to nearness and suits the context. Hence (a).
'Alley' is a narrow lane or passage while 'allay' means to set aside or stop and suits the context. Hence (a).
The answer is abaaa.
Choice (D)

5. 'Sever' means to cut off while 'severe' means extreme or an excess of something. The former suits the context. Hence (a).
'Suit' is a two or three piece clothing that is worn on formal occasions. 'Suite' refers to a set of rooms in a hotel. Hence (b).
'Exhort' is to persuade or to enthrall while 'extort' means to get by force blackmail or other means. Hence (a).
'Exterminate' is to kill while 'extenuate' means circumstances or factors that lessen the seriousness of a guilt or an offence. Hence (b).
'Pear' is a fruit like an apple while 'pare' means to cut down. Hence (a).
The answer is ababa. Choice (A)
6. 'Hurl' is to throw while 'herald' means to begin something new. Hence (b).
Forbidding is something that has a severe, unfriendly or threatening appearance. Foreboding is to have a strong feeling that something is about to happen. Hence (b).
'Declamatory' means to recite in a dramatic manner. Exclamatory is in the tone of an exclamation. Hence (a).
Augur means a sign of things to come. Argue is to speak angrily or debate. Hence (a).
'Exhumed' is to remove a body from where it is buried while 'exiled' means to live in a foreign country because one can't live in one's own country. Hence (a).
The answer is bbaaa. Choice (C)
7. 'Commensurate' means suited to while 'consummate' means skillful. The latter suits the context. Hence (a).
A 'millstone' is a heavy burden while 'milestone' means a landmark in terms of achievement. Hence (b).
'Decapitate' means to behead while 'incapacitate' means to make incapable. Hence (a).
'Proviso' is a precondition while 'provision' is something that is included in a law, or a statement. The context indicates that proviso is the suitable word. Hence (a).
'Aerobic' exercises are those that raise the heart beat. Since it is muscle building that is mentioned in the sentence, 'anaerobic' suits the context. Hence (a).
The answer is abaaa. Choice (D)
8. 'Collagen' is a rich protein used in creams. 'Collage' is a mixture or putting together of several things. The latter suits the context. Hence (b).
We cannot 'exercise' pain. 'Exorcise' which means remove from the mind is the apt word. Hence (b).
'Sentinel' is a guard while 'sentient' means capable of feeling which suits the context. Hence (a).
'Tacit' means implicit or implied while 'tactic' is a special action planned to achieve a specific purpose. Hence (b).
'Spectrum' is a range of colours or things while 'spectre' is the thought of an unpleasant happening. Hence (b).
The answer is bbabb. Choice (B)
9. 'Persevere' to persist at doing something. 'Perverse' is a person who deliberately does something wrong or unreasonable. Hence (b).
'Sedative' is something that calms while 'sedentary' means motionless. Hence (a).
'Singlet' is a vest while 'singly' means one at a time. Hence (b).
'Antagonized' is to annoy while tantalize means to excite and create hope or to tempt. Hence (a).
'Defuse' is to make a situation less tense or dangerous while 'diffuse' is to spread. The former is apt in the context. Hence (a).
The answer is babaa. Choice (A)
10. Emendation is to remove a specific piece from something while 'amendment' refers to corrections. Besides, amendment should be followed by 'to', not 'of'. Hence 'emendation' is apt. Hence (b).
'Obsolescent' which means useful but replaced by a better option is not used with language. Hence (b).
- 'Pretext' is an excuse while 'pretence' which is the noun form of pretend suits the context. Hence (b).
'Elapse' is to pass away, while lapse is to fall into disuse. Hence (a).
'Contemplative' is to think deeply about something while 'contemptuous' means to show lack of respect. Hence (a).
The answer is bbaaa. Choice (B)
11. The word docility is the pointer here. It means 'the willingness to accept control'. This is compatible with 'acquiesce' which means 'accept something without protest'. The word 'aqueous' means 'relating to or containing water'. So (b).
'Profusion' means 'an abundance'. 'Protrusion' means 'sticking out of an object beyond a surface'. Because we're talking about facts, 'profusion' is the apt word. So, (a).
The word 'execution' (the killing of a person) straight away leads to the word 'scaffold'. This means 'a raised platform for public executions'. 'Scabbard' means 'a cover, for the blade of a sword'. So, (a)
It is clearly understood that the required word in the 4th sentence should be a verb. 'Prude' is a noun which means 'a person who is easily shocked by matters relating to sex'. 'Prune' is a verb which means 'remove unwanted things'. So (b)
The last sentence talks about removing dirt from water. So, 'sieve' would be the right choice. It means 'put through a sieve that separates solids from liquids'. 'Seethe' means 'boil or churn'. So, (a)
So, the order is baaba. Choice (D)
12. 'Ordinance' is 'an official order' where as 'ordnance' means 'large guns mounted on wheels.'
'Ordnance' is the right word as it connects with attacks. So, b.
'Moribund' means 'at the point of death' and this word doesn't collocate with 'humour'. 'Mordant' means 'sharply sarcastic humour' and hence, is the right word. So, b.
'Economic' means 'relating to the subject of economics'. 'Economical' means 'returning good value to the money spent.' Because the required word is modifying the word price, it should be 'economical'. So, b.
'Possible' means 'capable of existing or happening' where as 'plausible' means 'seeming reasonable or probable'. The required word is modified by superficially and hence should be 'plausible' because 'superficially possible' is not the right usage. So, b.
'Griffon' means 'a small dog resembling a terrier' and it is called 'Brussels griffon' because of its place of origin.
'Griffin' is a mythological creature. So, a.
So, the order is bbbba. Choice (C)
13. The 1st sentence is talking about machines. So, the correct choice is 'mandrel' which is 'a shaft or spindle in a machine'.
'Mandril' is 'a kind of baboon'. So, b
Pick up the gauntlet is to accept a challenge. Hence, b is the right word. Gauntlet is a different word which means 'a section of double rail road tracks but is sometimes used as a variant of 'gauntlet' in American English.
The phrase 'lucidity in speech' which means 'clarity in speech' leads to the choice 'gibber' which means 'speak rapidly in a way that is difficult to understand'. Moreover, it is clear that the word should be a verb while 'gibbet' is a noun which means 'gallows'. So a.
'Heroin' is 'a highly addictive illegal drug'. 'Heroine' means 'the chief female character in a book or film'. So, 'heroin' collocates with the word 'addicted'. It is inapt to say 'addicted to heroine'. So, b.
'Blanch' means 'make or become white or pale'. 'Blench' means 'flinch suddenly through fear'. So, 'blench' is the apt word here. So, a.
The correct order is bbaba. Choice (A)
14. Lentil means 'a kind of pulse'. Lintel means 'a support across the top of a door'. The sentence talks about food, So 'lentil' would be the right word. So a.
The sentence says that Steve is shocked by his management's ignorance of a fact. The required word is modifying the noun 'ignorance'. Hence, it should be blithe

- which means, 'without thought or care'. Lithe means 'slim and supple' which is not suitable in this context. So, b.
The required word is modifying the word 'human being' and hence, should be an adjective. Of the two, callous is an adjective and it means 'insensitive and cruel'. 'Callus' is a noun which means 'an area of thickened skin'. So, a.
'Venial' means 'slight and pardonable'. (For example, venial sin). Venal means 'open to bribery'. So, venal suits the context. So, b.
'Consent' means 'to give permission' where as 'assent' means 'to agree'. In the sentence it is understood that the oil company has agreed to demands. So, the apt word is assent. So, b.
Hence the correct order is ababb. Choice (B)
15. 'Retort' means 'say something witty in answer to a remark'. 'Retaliate' means 'make an attack in return for a similar attack'. The word in the sentence refers to the police firing at people, which is an attack. Hence, retaliate is the right word. So, b.
'Sheath' means 'a cover for the blade of a sword'.
Sheathe is the verb form of this word and it means 'to put a sword into a sheath'. So, b.
Rumple means 'to make untidy'. Rumble means 'a continuous deep sound'. Because the sentence is about someone's voice, it can be concluded that 'rumble' is the right choice. So, b.
It is understood that the sentence is about the gland in human body. So, 'prostate' is correct. 'Prostrate' means 'lying stretched on the ground'. So, a.
'Gambit' means 'a remark made to start a conversation'. This suits the context as the sentence is about someone not being able to start conversations. 'Gamut' means 'the complete range of something' So, a.
The correct order is bbbba. Choice (D)
16. 'Demure' means 'reserved, modest and shy'. Demur means 'to raise objections'. Hence, demur is the right word here. So, a.
The required word has to modify the noun 'dialogues'. Hence, ribald, which means 'humorous in a coarse way' is apt here. 'Riband' means a ribbon, So, a.
'Slammer' means 'a prison'. 'Stammer' means 'speak with unwanted pauses and a tendency to repeat the first letters of words. So, stammer makes sense in this context. So, b.
'Tauten' means 'to stretch or pull tight'. 'Taunt' means 'provoke or hurt by making remarks and this suits the context well as the sentence is talking about 'an attempt to taunt resulting in riots'. So, b
'Biannual' means 'occurring twice in a year' 'Biennial' means 'taking place once in two years'. So, 'biennial' makes logical sense here. So, a
Hence the correct order is a a b b a. Choice (A)
17. 'Morrow' means 'the following day' and is inapt here. 'Marrow' means 'the choicest or essential part' and is suitable in this context. So, b
The sentence talks about the appearance of a person and hence, tartar, which means 'a hard deposit on teeth' is suitable here. So, b.
'Rusty' which means 'affected by rust' could not be used to describe a hotel. 'Rustic', meaning 'simple and charming in a way seen as typical of the country side', is apt here. So, b
Decrypt means 'convert a code into understandable language' and is unsuitable here. 'Decrepit' which means 'ruined because of age or neglect' is apt. So, b
'Combe' means 'a short valley'. 'comb' means 'the fleshy crest on the head of a domestic fowl.' Hence b is apt here.
Hence, the order is bbbbb. Choice (C)
18. Rind means 'a tough outer layer of some fruits'. Hence, 'rind of a lemon' makes sense here. Rink means 'an enclosed area of ice for sports'. Hence, a.
Crevice, which means 'a narrow opening in a wall', is apt in this context. Crevasse means 'a deep open crack in a glacier'. So, a.
Exigent means 'pressing or requiring immediate action'. Hence, it collocates with the word 'demands'.
- Exiguous, which means very small, is inapt here. So, a
Hermetic means 'a seal that is complete and airtight'. This word is not suitable for this context where the word is refers to a person. Heretic is a person whose opinion is greatly at odds with what is generally accepted'. Hence, b is apt.
Impute means 'ascribe or attribute something to someone'. This collocates with the context. Impugn means to express doubts about the truth of something. This is not apt for this sentence. Hence b.
The correct order is aaabb. Choice (A)
19. 'Veracious' means 'speaking or representing the truth'.
'Voracious' means 'eagerly consuming something'.
So, only b collocates with reading
Wraith means 'a ghost or ghostly image of someone, especially one seen after their death'. Wreath means 'an arrangement of flowers fastened in a ring'. So, only a is suitable in this context.
Infliction means 'an act of causing something unpleasant to be suffered by'. Inflection means 'a variation in tone of the voice'. So, only b is suitable for this context.
'Chime in' means 'to interrupt a conversation with a remark'. Hence, b is the correct word. 'Chine' is the backbone of an animal.
'Conceited' means 'excessively proud of oneself'. Conceive is to imagine. So, b is apt in this context.
Hence, the correct order is babbb. Choice (C)
20. Dinghy means 'a small boat'. Dingy means 'gloomy and drab'. 'Dinghy' is suitable for this sentence. So, b
'Fulminate' is 'to express strong protest' where as fumigate is 'to disinfect with the fumes of certain chemicals'. So the former is apt for the sentence. So, a
As the required word is used with voice, hoarse, which means rough and harsh, collocates well. Coarse means 'rough or harsh in texture' and it doesn't collocate with voice. So, a.
'Mantel' is 'a construction framing the opening of a fireplace in a decorative manner'. Mantle is 'a woman's loose cloak'. So, only b is suitable in this context.
'Martin' is a kind of bird whereas marten is a weasel - like animal. So, only b is correct because we're talking about birds in this situation.
The correct order is baabb. Choice (B)
21. Mote means 'a tiny spot or particle'. Moat is 'a wide ditch filled with water surrounding and protecting a castle'. So, the latter is correct in this context. So, b.
Noddle means 'a person's head'. Nodule means 'a small swelling or lump'. So, only b is apt for this sentence.
Pastille means 'a small sweet'. Pastiche means 'an artistic work in a style that imitates that of another work, artist or period'. So, only b is suitable because the sentence is talking about art.
Patois the 'local dialect of a region' whereas a patio is 'a paved outdoor area next to a house'. So, a is the right word for this sentence.
Shabby means 'worn out and untidy' whereas shaggy means 'long, thick and untidy' and collocates with 'hair'. So, b
The correct order is bbbab. Choice (D)
22. 'Abashed' means 'embarrassed' whereas 'abased' means 'to behave in a way that causes others to think less of one'. So, only b collocates well with the context.
Dissent means 'express disagreement with a view'. Descent means 'a downward slope'. So, a is suitable in this sentence.
Elicit means to produce or draw out' and collocates with the sentence. 'Illicit' means 'forbidden by law' or custom and doesn't fit in the given sentence. So, a. It is clearly understood that the word should be a verb. So, the right word is 'envelop' which means 'to surround completely. Envelope is the noun form which means a structure of layer that encloses something. So, b.
Appraise means 'to asses the quality, value or nature'. Apprise means 'to inform'. So, the latter is suitable in this sentence. So, b.
The correct order is baabb. Choice (A)

23. A 'paean' is 'a song of praise' and is apt in this sentence. Pagan is a person holding religious beliefs other than those of the main world religions. So, a. Puddle means a small pool of rain water. Muddle is a disorderly or confusing state. So, only a is suitable in this context. Putrefy means 'decay or rot and produce a foul smell'. Petrify means to paralyse with fear. The latter is suitable in the sentence. So, b. Burly means 'large and strong'. Surly means 'bad - tempered and unfriendly' and this suits the context because the word 'amiability' is opposite to this. So, b. Tope is 'to drink too much alcohol frequently'. Tote is to carry. Only a is apt in this context. So, the correct order is aabba Choice (B)
24. Immanent means inherent. Imminent means about to happen. So, b is suitable in this context. 'Fraught with' means 'filled with'. Wrought means 'beat out or shape metals by hammering'. So, the former collocates with the sentence. Hence a. Peccant means 'guilty of a sin' whereas peccable means 'liable to sin'. So, a is suitable in this sentence. Flare means a sudden brief burst of flame or light. Flair means stylishness and originality. So, the latter is apt for this sentence. Hence, b. The sentence talks about train and hence 'bogey' would be the right choice as it means 'a supporting frame with wheels, fitted beneath the end of a railway vehicle'. Bogey means 'an evil or mischievous spirit'. This is not related to the sentence. Hence b. The correct order is baabb. Choice (D)
25. The required word in this sentence modifies the noun 'evidence'. Hence, it should be an adjective. Scanty is an adjective and it means 'too little in quantity or amount'. Shanty is a noun which means a small, roughly built hut. So b collocates with 'evidence'. Pastel is a crayon made of powdered pigments. Pestle is a heavy tool with a rounded end, used for crushing and grinding. So, b is suitable in this sentence which talks about breaking a nut. The word turbid is usually used with liquids and it means 'cloudy or muddy'. Turgid means 'pompous and boring' and this is rightly used with the word 'autobiography' in the sentence. Hence, b. Complacent means 'uncritically satisfied with oneself'. Complaisant means 'willing to please others'. Only a is suitable in this context. Lumber means 'disused articles of furniture'. Lumbar means 'relating to the lower back'. The former is apt in this context. Hence, a. The correct order is bbbba Choice (A)
26. Council is 'an assembly of people meeting regularly to discuss or organize something'. Counsel is 'a barrister or legal adviser'. So, a is suitable for this sentence. Palate means 'the roof of the mouth'. Palette means 'a thin board on which an artist lays and mixes paints'. The latter is the correct word because the sentence talks about a painter and 'to start to use his palette again' connotes that he started painting again. So, b. Titillate is 'to arouse someone's interest'. Titivate is 'to spruce up'. The latter is apt for the context. So, b. Chafe is a verb which means 'make sore by rubbing against something'. So, 'chaff' is suitable here and it means 'hay and straw cut up as food for cattle'. Hence b. Blurb is 'a short description written to promote a book or film'. Blurt means 'to say suddenly and without thinking'. Hence, a is suitable in this sentence. The correct order is abbaa. Choice (A)
27. Fawn is 'a young deer' whereas faun is 'a mythical creature, part goat, part man'. The former is apt here, as we are talking about 'deer'. Hence, a. Connote means 'to imply or suggest something in addition to its primary meaning'. Denote means 'to mean directly'. In the sentence, it can be understood that 'unpaid overtime' is an implication of a job but not a direct meaning. Hence a is apt. Disinterested means 'impartial'. Uninterested means 'not interested or concerned'. In the context of the sentence, a collocates with the word judgment and hence is suitable. So, a. Emigrant means 'a person who leaves his own country to settle permanently in another'. Immigrant means 'a person who comes to live permanently in a foreign country'. The sentence talks in the reference of America and about an Italian who came to America to live permanently. Hence, immigrant is the right word. So, b. Crotch is 'the part of the body between the legs where they join the torso'. Crutch is 'a long stick used as a support by a lame person'. The latter is the apt word for the sentence as 'needs a crotch' is absurd and not the right usage. So, b. Hence the correct order is aaabb. Choice (B)
28. Jibe is an insulting remark where as jive is a particular dance form popular in 1940's. Hence, b is apt for this sentence. Marinade is the noun form of the verb marinate which means 'to soak in a marinade'. Marinade means 'a mixture in which food is soaked before cooking'. It can be understood from the sentence that we need a noun for the blank. Hence a. Perpetuate is to cause to continue for a long time. Perpetrate is to carry out a bad or illegal action. The latter is the suitable word because the sentence is talking about carrying out a bad action. Hence b. Perquisite is 'a special privilege enjoyed as a result of one's position'. Prerequisite is 'a thing that must happen before something else can happen'. Hence, b is the correct word. Flu means influenza, which is a disease that affects respiratory passages. Flue is 'a passage for conveying smoke, heat or waste gases. It is clear that we are talking about the disease. Hence, b. The correct order is babbb. Choice (D)
29. A Trembler is 'a person who trembles' and this word is rarely and informally used to mean 'an earth-quake'. Hence can be ruled out. Temblor is 'an earth-quake. Hence, a is the apt word. Interment means 'the burial of a dead body'. Internment means 'an act of confining people as prisoners'. Hence, b is more suitable for the context. Prescribe is 'to recommend and permit the use of'. Proscribe is 'to officially forbid'. It can be understood that drug usage is to be proscribed but not prescribed. Hence a. Perspicacious refers to persons and it means 'quickly achieving an insight into things'. Perspicuous means 'clearly expressed and easily understood'. Because the required word is referring to prose and poetry, 'perspicuous' is the right word. Hence, a. Fearsome means 'frightening'. Fearful means 'filled with fear'. Hence, b is the right word here. The correct order is abaab. Choice (C)
30. Pinnacle is 'a small boat forming part of the equipment of a large vessel'. Pinnate is 'having leaflets arranged on either side of a stem'. Hence, a is apt for this sentence. Braise is 'to fry food lightly and then stew slowly in a closed container'. Braze is 'to solder with an alloy of copper and zinc'. The sentence is talking about food and hence 'braise' is the right word. So, a. Arcane means 'mysterious'. Archaic means 'old-fashioned'. The word antiquated, which also means old-fashioned points to archaic. Hence, b. Ethereal means 'extremely delicate and light'. Ephemeral means 'lasting for a short time'. Only b is suitable as 'short - living interest' is what is meant in the sentence. Hence b. Bemuse is to 'confuse or bewilder'. Amuse is to 'make someone laugh or smile'. Only a is suitable because the contradiction mentioned in the sentence can only confuse. Hence, a. The correct order is aabba. Choice (D)