**V. Decide which answer (A, B, C or D) best fits each gap:**

1. Now, it seems, anyone remotely connected with a celebrity can reap financial rewards.

A. barely B. virtually C. remotely D. roughly

1. Her brief encounter with the Sun had evidently had a bad influence on her.

A. ephemeral B. small C. short D. brief

1. There I saw state-of-the-art diving equipment that made mine appear positively ancient.

A. positively B. extremely C. very D. exceptionally

1. Manufacturers need to anticipate the ebb and flow of consumer demand.

A. flow B. run C. go D. wane

1. This young woman seems a prime candidate for a transfer to our company.

A. prime B. lead C. top D. major

1. Advertising rates are set according to the popularity of the programme in which the commercial is shown.

A. ratios B. rates C. proportions D. levels

1. The TV networks have to attract viewers by providing them with smash hits.

A. top B. best C. smash D. leading

1. When the popularity of a show fades, it is likely to be scrapped.

A. slows B. dims C. weakens D. fades

1. The thought of him touching me just makes my skin crawl.

A. wrinkle B. creep C. crawl D. tingle

1. And he was the one who helped her make decisions about how to respond to the deadly disease.

A. grave B. lethal C. mortal D. deadly

1. She not only deceived him but, to add insult to injury, allowed him to pay for her meal.

A. insult B. provocation C. damage D. harm

1. Inspectors gave the factory a clean bill of health.

A. new B. clean C. pure D. fresh

1. They want to get married? Have they taken leave of their senses?

A. minds B. brains C. feelings D. senses

1. And so I decided to climb up the ladder of City College, starting at the lowest rung.

A. rung B. step C. pace D. stage

1. When young people experiment with drugs, they're dicing with death.

A. dabbling B. toying C. risking D. dicing

1. There is known to have been a problem with one of the engines.

A. It B. There C. This D. That

1. Slowly, but surely, her career is taking off.

A. going up B. getting up C. carrying away D. taking off

1. The report puts the blame squarely on the government.

A. squarely B. forcefully C. totally D. heavily

1. Evolution had reached its peak and was going backwards.

A. apex B. peak C. crest D. summit

1. The present situation of diminishing global water supplies may be further exacerbated by global warming.

A. reducing B. diminishing C. eroding D. deteriorating

1. To the untrained eye, the two flowers look remarkably similar.

A. uneducated B. untrained C. illiterate D. uninformed

1. At the meeting Mark made some cutting remarks about Sally, who wasn't there to defend herself.

A. cutting B. splitting C. piercing D. throbbing

1. Soon, hypothermia sets in and the lungs fill with water, making the body appear lifeless.

A. comes up B. takes over C. sets in D. brings round

1. Doctors then thought that application of strong antiseptic solutions could prevent or ward off infection.

A. ward B. put C. fend D. send

1. Drawing, like writing, can be a vehicle for exploring your feelings.

A. method B. means C. vehicle D. drive

1. None of her books really lends itself to being made into a film.

A. helps B. lends C. offers D. provides

1. A punctual man himself by nature, he detested the thought of any untoward delays.

A. improper B. unfounded C. groundless D. untoward

1. Peter handed over his passport and ticket and hoisted his bags onto the conveyor belt.

A. settled B. hoisted C. elevated D. handed

1. Assessments should not be affected by any personal biases such as the writer’s race, religion and age.

A. biases B. predispositions C. partialities D. suppositions.

1. I laid the glass down in the space she had cleared amongst the junk that cluttered the table.

A. cluttered B. disordered C. jumbled D. muddled

1. As I turned to leave she put a gnarled hand on my shoulder.

A. distorted B. gnarled C. knotted D. warped

1. The original platoon of 30 men had dwindled to 12.

A. ebbed B. dwindled C. reduced D. lowered

1. Many bar owners flout the laws on under-age drinking.

A. taunt B. sneer C. flout D. spurn

1. Moving schools frequently can disrupt a child's education.

A. disrupt B. interrupt C. derail D. eradicate

1. Many people in the U.S. give scant attention to European affairs.

A. scarce B. scant C. small D. slim

1. It had vanished as silently as if it had been only a figment of her imagination.

A. flight B. figure C. figment D. form

1. The disease had left her weak and prone to all sorts of diseases.

A. prone B. subject C. liable D. probable

1. There were two unconfirmed sightings of UFOs in the area.

A. sightings B. signs C. spectacles D. views

1. I didn't like the way he made derogatory comments about his colleagues.

A. depleting B. detrimental C. derogatory D. deteriorating

1. She was beguiled by his smooth talk.

A. possessed B. obsessed C. addicted D. beguiled

1. I could feel my courage ebbing away.

A. dwindling B. ebbing C. falling D. sliding

1. The bill would tighten existing gun-control regulations.

A. control B. stiffen C. tighten D. impose

1. Publicity has heightened awareness of the threats to the environment.

A. improved B. risen C. sharpened D. heightened

1. Bad working conditions might take a heavy toll on staff morale.

A. damage B. toll C. effect D. wreck

1. Mieno is pouring cold water on the report before she's even seen it.

A. throwing B. casting C. drenching D. pouring

1. He embarked on a new career as a teacher.

A. embarked B. launched C. undertook D. boarded

1. Kelly was outstanding and outshone every other player on the field.

A. bettered B. outshone C. overcome D. excelled

1. A basic grounding in math is essential for the economics course.

A. tuition B. teaching C. instruction D. grounding

1. It was a bad cut, but he'd shrugged it off.

A. carried B. threw C. shrugged D. put

1. Churning out pamphlets and booklets is ineffective if consumers cannot understand the message.

A. pouring B. spilling C. ladling D. churning

1. She's always looked at life through rose-coloured glasses.

A. glasses B. lenses C. shades D. panes

1. Employers shouldn’t try to pry into what a person does in the privacy of their own home.

A. prod B. pry C. prowl D. proceed

1. The bus company is operating a skeleton service on Christmas Day.

A. limited B. reduced C. skeleton D. bare

1. Tom’s besetting sin was pride.

A. overriding B. redeeming C. overwhelming D. besetting

1. When the stunt man heard what he had to do, he didn’t turn a hair!

A. hair B. heel C. finger D. head

1. The school takes a very hard line on drugs.

A. line B. path C. rule D. lane

1. The lady behind the counter looked daggers at me.

A. blades B. daggers C. knives D. swords

1. Sometimes we should avoid looking the proverbial gift horse in the mouth and rejoice in the moment.

A. cheer B. relish C. rejoice D. enjoy

1. He was so drunk he could hardly string two words together.

A. rope B. pleat C. string D. line

1. His nerves were torn to shreds.

A. shreds B. strips C. slits D. parts

1. I put on some nice soothing music.

A. soothing B. seething C. sustaining D. slanting

1. Let's see if she's at Fiona's house. It's a shot in the dark, but we've got to start looking somewhere.

A. jump B. shot C. leap D. slap

1. Take the leaflets home and read them at your leisure.

A. relaxation B. leisure C. comfort D. ease

1. He proved himself to be a cut above the rest.

A. beyond B. over C. above D. away

1. Diplomats say NATO is clearly at fault, and that officials there are trying to pass the buck.

A. buck B. burden C. fault D. problem

1. Won't he kick up a fuss when he discovers they're missing?

A. make B. take C. beat D. kick

1. Sarah thinks she can set the world to rights all by herself.

A. justice B. fairness C. principle D. rights

1. I didn’t expect them to come so I had to cobble lunch together.

A. put up B. knock up C. cobble together D. patch up

1. Eventually, all the members of the team chimed in with the manager’s proposals.

A. went down with B. chimed in with C. came up with D. came down with

1. When the series was first shown, the media lavished praise on its creator, David Lynch.

A. lavished B. poured C. rained D. cast

1. I’m pretty sure someone has squealed on us, otherwise we wouldn’t have got caught.

A. told on B. squealed on C. notified on D. brought on

1. I’ve started avoiding my new neighbour for he talks a blue streak and I can’t understand a thing.

A. blue B. grey C. green D. red

1. They are blowing trumpets, singing up a storm and waving as they walk past us.

A. sun B. thunder C. storm D. wind

1. They expect the bill to move through Congress like greased lightning.

A. thunder B. lightning C. storm D. hurricane

1. You should keep a weather eye on your finances.

A. sun B. thunder C. weather D. drought

1. The little boy squirmed in his seat, anxious to get up and leave the table.

A. squirted B. squirmed C. squatted D. squabbled

1. This initiative is not the answer to what ails our educational system.

A. allays B. alludes C. ails D. allures

1. He had entertained thoughts of marrying Alice and raising a family, but he entered the Society instead.

A. entwined B. entertained C. bundled D. gathered

1. When he refused to join the strike, Joe's mates sent him to Coventry for three weeks.

A. London B. Bath C. Coventry D. Newcastle

1. Just copy the disk, and Bob‘s your uncle!

A. Harry B. Bob C. Tom D. Jack

1. It's difficult to put a price tag on such a project.

A. slip B. label C. marker D. tag

1. We're just beginning to reap the benefits of all our hard work.

A. harvest B. gather C. reap D. plough

1. This scandal could topple the government.

A. push B. topple C. totter D. shove

1. Babies acquire language by listening to those around them.

A. obtain B. get C. acquire D. gain

1. Most psychologists are of the mind that the definition of your job by others can affect your performance.

A. idea B. mind C. concept D. notion

1. Britain is lagging behind the rest of Europe.

A. loitering B. lingering C. dallying D. lagging

1. He was a late starter but soon caught up with the rest.

A. late B. delayed C. belated D. slowed

1. "You did amazingly well to get the ball in." "Oh, it was more by luck than judgment."

A. chance B. accident C. fortune D. luck

1. Many people, fearing a military coup, are leaving the country while the going is good.

A. fine B. well C. good D. fair

1. TV Game shows have been my pet aversion for some time now.

A. favourite B. chosen C. pet D. preferred

1. He'd have to have a much more compelling reason than that.

A. prevailing B. compelling C. forceful D. commanding

1. Puddings are the jewel in the crown of British cookery.

A. brooch B. jewel C. necklace D. Feather

1. It is now known that many plants grow at temperatures as low as 0°C, albeit slowly.

A. even though B. nevertheless C. albeit D. all the same

1. She was struck by an uncanny feeling of déjà vu.

A. supernatural B. unwieldy C. mystic D. uncanny

1. Today's climate of difficulties and problems, stresses and strains, inevitably affects our lives.

A. strains B. sprains C. straits D. scraps

1. Andy's going through a bit of a rough patch at the moment - his wife wants a divorce.

A. course B. spot C. patch D. hole

1. Paris and Milan vie with each other for the title of world fashion capital.

A. combat B. contest C. conflict D. vie

1. Basically, if you believe the law of averages, we should win at least once.

A. norm B. rule C. code D. law

1. Women seek out ways to look different while men choose clothes which are as nondescript as possible.

A. indescribable B. nondescript C. obscure D. nonexistent

1. She noted that he exuded an almost tangible air of self-assurance.

A. absorbed B. attracted C. exuded D. retained

1. I remember my father standing over her sickbed wringing his hands so afraid of losing another child.

A. wrapping B. shaking C. wringing D. clasping

1. Then he saw her face and stopped dead in his tracks.

A. steps B. tracks C. place D. feet

1. Why did it happen now, just when he was about to embark on his PhD?

A. endeavour B. embark C. depart D. undertake

1. Tom didn't mince words and told me straight away that I had failed.

A. dice B. blend C. mince D. chop

1. On registering , copies of proof of citizenship and identity must be provided in duplicate.

A. receipt B. statement C. testimony D. proof

1. Social workers are still trying to find the victim's next of kin.

A. family B. kin C. clan D. relation

1. The candle tipped over and the hay caught fire.

A. out B. down C. over D. off

1. She seems disillusioned with her lot in life.

A. plot B. load C. lot D. haul

1. At his grandmother’s death, he forged signatures to obtain his entire inheritance.

A. heritage B. heirloom C. dowry D. inheritance