

WORD USAGE

Type - 1

Directions (1-10): In the sentences below, a word or phrase has been highlighted above and used in the sentences following it. You have to identify the sentence in which the given word has been properly used and conveys the same meaning.

Question 1:

Insipid

a. She brought a/ an **insipid** energy to the classroom, transforming dry material into something vivid and memorable.

b. Despite the vibrant plating, the dish turned out to be **insipid**, lacking both flavour and imagination.

c. He delivered a/ an **insipid** speech, filled with platitudes and cliches, that failed to inspire or provoke thought.

- (a) Only b
- (b) Both a and b
- (c) Both b and c
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Question 2:

Fomenting

- a. The therapy focused on **fomenting** intrusive thoughts through cognitive restructuring and mindfulness.
- b. The government deployed additional forces with the aim of **fomenting** the protests before they spread to rural areas.
- c. The historian argued that economic disparity played a larger role in **fomenting** revolution than political ideology alone.

- (a) Only c
- (b) Both a and c
- (c) Both b and c
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Question 3:

Vigil

- a. The nurse kept a constant **vigil** at the patient's bedside, monitoring every sign of improvement.
- b. In the hours before dawn, the soldiers stood **vigil** on the hilltop, watching for any movement.
- c. Years of administrative **vigil** had left the public school system underfunded and understaffed.

- (a) Both b and c
- (b) Only a
- (c) Both a and b
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Question 4:

Bristling

a. The forest was **bristling** with activity, as birds, insects, and animals stirred with the morning light.

b. The software was launched prematurely and was **bristling** in basic security features.

c. He entered the room **bristling** with confidence, exuding an energy that commanded attention.

- (a) Only a
- (b) Both a and c
- (c) Both a and b
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Question 5:

Consonance

a. The proposal was accepted because it was in **consonance** with the organization's core values.

b. The architecture of the building stands in **consonance** with its natural surroundings, blending elegance with sustainability.

c. The symphony achieved emotional depth through the **consonance** of melody and rhythm, creating a sense of unity.

- (a) Both a and b
- (b) Only b
- (c) Both a and c
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Question 6:

Demoting

- a. The book succeeded in **demoting** a personal narrative into a universal message of resilience.
- b. His research is credited with **demoting** the discourse around climate policy to a more evidence-driven level.
- c. The company faced backlash after **demoting** an employee who had spoken out against unethical practices.

- (a) Only b
- (b) Both a and c
- (c) Both b and c
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Question 7:

Acrimonious

a. A/ An **acrimonious** settlement was preferable to a protracted legal battle that would drain resources on both sides.

b. Despite years of collaboration, the breakup of the partnership was **acrimonious**, marked by accusations and legal threats.

c. What began as a negotiation ended in a/ an **acrimonious** standoff, with neither party willing to compromise.

- (a) Only c
- (b) Both a and b
- (c) Both b and c
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Question 8:

Sceptical

a. Investors were **sceptical** about the startup's projections, given its lack of a proven business model.

b. The spokesperson **sceptical** the public that the situation was under control and safety measures were in place.

c. His **sceptical** nature made him question even widely accepted assumptions, often leading to deeper insights.

- (a) Both a and c
- (b) Only c
- (c) Both b and c
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Question 9:

Sporadic

- a. The internet connection was **sporadic**, disrupting the flow of the virtual conference.
- b. Success in any field demands **sporadic** improvement, not just initial talent.
- c. The company experienced **sporadic** growth over five consecutive quarters, defying market expectations.

- (a) Only a
- (b) Both b and c
- (c) Both a and b
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Question 10:

Precarious

a. She balanced her academic and personal life in a/ an **precarious** equilibrium, always on the verge of burnout.

b. The climber found himself in a/ an **precarious** position, with one misstep threatening a deadly fall.

c. The company needs a/ an **precarious** source of revenue before expanding into new markets.

- (a) Only a
- (b) Both b and c
- (c) Both a and b
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Type - 2

Directions (11-20): In the sentences below, a word or phrase has been highlighted above and used in the sentences following it. You have to identify the sentence in which the given word has not been used properly.

Question 11:

Repatriation

a. His outspoken views led to his **repatriation** from the royal court, where dissent was not tolerated.

b. In ancient times, **repatriation** was a common punishment for crimes seen as threats to social harmony.

c. The government arranged for the **repatriation** of stranded citizens following the natural disaster.

- (a) Only b
- (b) Both a and b
- (c) Both b and c
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Question 12:

Obfuscate

- a. The company's vague response seemed designed to **obfuscate** the real cause of the data breach.
- b. The spokesperson held a press conference to **obfuscate** the company's position on the merger.
- c. The dense writing style tended to **obfuscate** rather than illuminate the central argument.

- (a) Only a
- (b) Only b
- (c) Both a and c
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Question 13:

Malevolent

a. A/ an **malevolent** force seemed to linger in the abandoned house, unsettling everyone who entered.

b. Despite his polished image, his actions revealed a deeply **malevolent** agenda.

c. The foundation is funded by a/ an **malevolent** philanthropist who wishes to remain anonymous.

- (a) Both b and c
- (b) Only a
- (c) Only c
- (d) Both a and b
- (e) None of the above

Question 14:

Draconian

a. The climate in that region is **draconian** year-round, attracting retirees and tourists alike.

b. The protesters condemned the **draconian** laws, calling them a threat to civil liberties.

c. His management style was so **draconian** that employees feared speaking up, even with valid concerns.

- (a) Only a
- (b) Both b and c
- (c) Only c
- (d) All of a, b and c
- (e) None of the above

Question 15:

Repercussions

- a. Social media posts, once public, can carry unintended **repercussions** for years.
- b. Emotional distress was one of the primary **repercussions** for his withdrawal from the competition.
- c. The decision to cut funding had far-reaching **repercussions** on public health services.

- (a) Only a
- (b) Only b
- (c) Only c
- (d) Both a and b
- (e) None of the above