

HCL Verbal Ability — 200 Practice Questions (Exam-based Question) By — Durgesh StudyHub

🧠 Verbal Ability — 20 Real Exam Questions

Topic 1: Spotting Errors (Q1–Q10)

Q1. Identify the part that contains an error

If he (A) will work hard, (B) he will surely succeed (C) No error (D)

- A) A
- B) B
- C) C
- D) D

Answer: A

Explanation: After *if*, simple present is used → **If he works hard**

Q2. Find the error

Each of the students (A) have submitted (B) the assignment (C) No error (D)

Answer: B

Explanation: *Each* takes singular verb → **has submitted**

Q3

The furniture in the house **were** very expensive.

- A) The
- B) furniture
- C) were
- D) expensive

Answer: C

Correct: furniture **was** (Furniture = uncountable → singular verb)

Q4

Neither the principal nor the teachers **is** willing to attend the meeting.

Correct?

- A) No error
- B) is should be are

Answer: B

Explanation: verb agrees with nearer subject → teachers → are

Q5

She is senior **than** me in experience.

- A) She
- B) senior
- C) than
- D) me

Answer: C

Correct: senior to

Q6

The news **are** shocking.

Answer: Error in are → should be is
(news is singular)

Q7

Neither of the two boys **have** arrived yet.

Answer: have → has

Q8

The team **are** playing very well.

Answer: are → is (Team = collective noun)

Q9

He explained the problem **in** details.

Answer: in details → **in detail**

Q10

I look forward **to meet** you soon.

Answer: to meet → **to meeting**

Topic 2: Reading Comprehension (Q11–Q15)

Passage

Technology has drastically changed the way students learn. Today, information is available instantly through digital platforms. However, excessive use of digital devices often reduces attention span and leads to distraction. The challenge is to balance technology and traditional learning methods.

Q11. According to the passage, what is the major challenge?

- A) Lack of teachers
- B) Balancing technology with traditional learning
- C) High cost of education
- D) Maintaining discipline

Answer: B

Q12. Excessive use of digital devices leads to:

- A) Better thinking
- B) Increased attention
- C) Distraction
- D) More creativity

Answer: C

Q13. The tone of the passage is:

- A) Critical
- B) Informative
- C) Humorous
- D) Aggressive

Answer: B

Q14. "Drastically" means:

- A) Gently
- B) Slightly
- C) Suddenly and greatly
- D) Normally

Answer: C

Q15. Why is balancing learning methods important?

- A) To reduce teacher workload
- B) To improve learning efficiency
- C) To reduce exam pressure
- D) To increase fees

Answer: B

Topic 3: Para Jumbles (Q16–Q18)

Q16. Arrange the sentences

- A. People read books for knowledge
- B. Books are the best source of learning
- C. They help us understand life
- D. Reading makes one intelligent

Correct order?

- A) ABCD
- B) BACD
- C) BCAD
- D) BDCA

Answer: C (BCAD)

Q17

- A. Online classes are very flexible
- B. Students can learn from anywhere
- C. They save time and travel
- D. Technology has made online learning possible

Correct order?

Answer: DABC

Q18

- A. Discipline is important for success
- B. Without discipline nothing great can be achieved
- C. It teaches us self-control
- D. Every successful person follows it

Correct order?

Answer: ACD B

Topic 4: Synonyms / Antonyms (Q19–Q20)

Q19. Synonym of “Enormous”

- A) Tiny
- B) Huge
- C) Narrow
- D) Weak

Answer: B

Q20. Antonym of “Optimistic”

- A) Positive
- B) Cheerful
- C) Hopeful
- D) Pessimistic

Answer: D

Grammar Fill in the Blanks (50 Questions)

(With options + answer + explanation)

Q1.

If she _____ earlier, she would have caught the bus.

- A) arrives
- B) arrived
- C) had arrived
- D) was arriving

Answer: C – had arrived

Explanation: *Conditional perfect structure → If + past perfect + would have*

Q2.

I am looking forward to _____ you soon.

- A) meet
- B) meeting
- C) be meeting
- D) met

Answer: B – meeting

Explanation: *look forward to + V-ing*

Q3.

Neither of the boys _____ present today.

- A) are
- B) were
- C) is
- D) have

Answer: C – is

Q4.

The news _____ shocking.

- A) are
- B) were
- C) have
- D) is

Answer: D – is

(news = singular uncountable)

Q5.

Each student must submit _____ assignment by tomorrow.

- A) their
- B) his/her
- C) our
- D) your

Answer: B – his/her

Q6.

He has been working here _____ 2018.

- A) since
- B) for
- C) from
- D) by

Answer: A – since

Q7.

We will start the project when the manager _____.

- A) arrives
- B) will arrive
- C) arrived
- D) has arrived

Answer: A – arrives

(In future clause, simple present)

Q8.

She is good _____ mathematics.

- A) at
- B) in
- C) on
- D) for

Answer: A – at

Q9

He prevented me _____ going outside.

- A) to
- B) for
- C) from
- D) against

Answer: C – from

Q10

This is the best movie I _____ ever watched.

- A) had
- B) have
- C) was
- D) would

Answer: B – have watched

Q11

I prefer tea _____ coffee.

- A) to
- B) than
- C) over
- D) for

Answer: A – to

Q12

She succeeded _____ her efforts.

- A) with
- B) by
- C) through
- D) in

Answer: D – in

Q13

It depends _____ your choice.

- A) of
- B) on
- C) with
- D) for

Answer: B – on

Q14

There isn't _____ milk left in the fridge.

- A) some
- B) any
- C) few
- D) many

Answer: B – any

Q15

He is _____ honest man.

- A) a
- B) an
- C) the
- D) none

Answer: B – an (h honest → vowel sound)

Q16

The train has _____ arrived.

- A) yet
- B) still
- C) already
- D) always

Answer: C – already

Q17

By the time you reach, I _____ my work.

- A) finish
- B) will finish
- C) will have finished
- D) finished

Answer: C – will have finished

Q18

If I _____ a bird, I would fly.

- A) were
- B) was
- C) be
- D) am

Answer: A – were (*subjunctive form*)

Q19

The boy was punished _____ making noise.

- A) of
- B) for
- C) about
- D) on

Answer: B – for

Q20

_____ you like some tea?

- A) Do
- B) Would
- C) Shall
- D) Will

Answer: B – polite request

Q21

I have not seen him _____ two years.

- A) since
- B) for
- C) from
- D) over

Answer: B – for

Q22

There are _____ apples in the basket.

- A) a little
- B) little
- C) a few
- D) few

Answer: C – a few (*countable*)

Q23

He works very _____ so everyone likes him.

- A) hardly
- B) hard
- C) harder
- D) hardest

Answer: B – hard

Q24

She is _____ than her sister.

- A) intelligent
- B) more intelligent
- C) most intelligent
- D) intelligently

Answer: B

Q25

They _____ here yesterday.

- A) came
- B) come
- C) had come
- D) comes

Answer: A

✦ Para Completion (20 Questions)

Q1.

Online learning has become extremely popular in recent years. Students can access lectures from anywhere and learn at their own pace. However, one major challenge is that many students lack self-discipline and struggle to stay focused.

- A) Therefore, online courses are completely useless.
- B) So, students need to develop strong time-management skills to succeed.
- C) Hence, traditional classroom learning should be removed.
- D) This is the reason students always fail online courses.

Answer: B

Explanation: Logical continuation → need for time management.

Q2.

Reading books improves knowledge and vocabulary. It also enhances imagination and creativity.

- A) Therefore, students should read regularly.
- B) Hence, libraries should be closed.
- C) But reading is a waste of time.
- D) So nobody prefers reading today.

Answer: A

Q3.

Mobile phones are useful for communication and accessing information instantly. But excessive use of mobile phones affects mental health and causes distraction.

- A) So, using mobile phones is always harmful.
- B) Therefore, they should never be used in schools.
- C) Hence, it is important to use them wisely and with control.
- D) Thus, students are not allowed to use them anywhere.

Answer: C

Q4.

Healthy food keeps our body fit and improves immunity. It helps us stay energetic throughout the day.

- A) Hence, eating junk food should be encouraged.
- B) So, we must include fruits and vegetables in our daily diet.
- C) Therefore, exercise is not needed.
- D) Thus, everyone must stop drinking water.

Answer: B

Q5.

Technology has changed the job market drastically. Many repetitive tasks are now automated by machines.

- A) So employees must upgrade their skills to remain employable.
- B) Machines have completely replaced humans.
- C) People should stop working immediately.
- D) Automation is dangerous and illegal.

Answer: A

Q6.

Teamwork plays an important role in achieving success. It allows people to share ideas and solve problems faster.

- A) Therefore, working alone is always better.
- B) So collaboration improves performance and productivity.
- C) Hence, teamwork should be avoided.
- D) Thus, leaders must give more work to one person.

Answer: B

Q7.

The internet provides unlimited access to information. Students can learn new skills from online courses and tutorials.

- A) So the internet has become an essential learning tool.
- B) Therefore, books are useless now.
- C) Thus, internet should be banned.
- D) Hence, students should stop studying.

Answer: A

Q8.

Global warming is increasing rapidly due to pollution and deforestation. Ice caps are melting and sea levels are rising.

- A) So, protecting the environment is no longer important.
- B) Hence, industries should increase production.

- C) Therefore, urgent action is needed to reduce carbon emissions.
- D) Thus, everyone must migrate to other planets.

Answer: C

Q9.

Sports help students stay physically fit and mentally active. It also teaches discipline and teamwork.

- A) So schools must encourage students to participate in sports.
- B) Therefore, students should avoid playing.
- C) Hence, sports are a waste of time.
- D) Thus, studies should be stopped.

Answer: A

Q10.

Social media helps people stay connected with friends and family across the world. However, excessive usage can cause addiction and stress.

- A) Hence, social media must be used responsibly.
- B) Therefore, delete every account immediately.
- C) So, nobody uses social media now.
- D) Thus, social media is completely useless.

Answer: A

Q11.

Education plays a vital role in shaping a person's career. It opens opportunities for better jobs and financial stability.

- A) So, every child must have access to quality education.
- B) Therefore, studying is a waste of time.
- C) Hence, schools should be closed.
- D) Thus, education is unnecessary.

Answer: A

Q12.

Online payments have made transactions easier and faster. People can transfer money instantly without visiting banks.

- A) So digital payments are becoming increasingly popular.
- B) Therefore, cash should be completely banned.
- C) Hence, banks are shutting down.
- D) Thus, online transactions are unsafe.

Answer: A

Q13.

Regular exercise improves blood circulation and strengthens muscles. It also reduces stress and anxiety.

- A) Hence, exercise must be avoided.
- B) So physical fitness is important for a healthy life.

- C) Therefore, all sports should be banned.
- D) Thus, people stop doing work.

Answer: B

Q14.

Traveling exposes individuals to new cultures and ideas. It helps people see the world from different perspectives.

- A) So travelling limits knowledge.
- B) Hence travelling is a great way to learn and grow.
- C) Therefore, travelling should be avoided.
- D) Thus, travelling is expensive.

Answer: B

Q15.

Books have always been a major source of knowledge. They contain valuable information and experiences shared by great thinkers.

- A) Therefore, reading books enhances wisdom.
- B) So books have no importance today.
- C) Thus, books should be banned.
- D) Hence, people should stop reading.

Answer: A

Q16.

Digital technology has made communication faster and more effective. People can connect instantly regardless of distance.

- A) So communication has become more convenient than ever.
- B) Hence, nobody communicates now.
- C) Therefore technology creates problems.
- D) Thus digital tools are useless.

Answer: A

Q17.

Pollution is increasing due to vehicle emissions and industrial waste. Air quality is becoming harmful for health.

- A) So immediate steps must be taken to control pollution.
- B) Therefore people should avoid breathing.
- C) Hence vehicles should run faster.
- D) Thus cities should be closed.

Answer: A

Q18.

Many students prefer studying abroad as it offers better career opportunities and exposure to international standards.

- A) Therefore, global education is developing rapidly.
- B) So studying abroad is unnecessary.

- C) Hence, foreign countries should stop education.
- D) Thus students should stay at home.

Answer: A

Q19.

Customer satisfaction is the key to business success. Companies that provide excellent service attract more customers.

- A) So businesses must focus on quality and customer support.
- B) Therefore, service is not important.
- C) Hence, customer opinions do not matter.
- D) Thus, customers are always wrong.

Answer: A

Q20.

Artificial Intelligence is transforming industries by automating complex tasks and reducing human effort.

- A) Therefore, AI is expected to create new opportunities in the future.
- B) Hence, AI should not be used anywhere.
- C) So technology is completely dangerous.
- D) Thus humans will stop thinking.

Answer: A

Sentence Improvement Practice – Set 1 (20 Questions)

Q1. He **do not** know how to drive a car.

- A) does not
- B) did not
- C) have not
- D) do not

Answer: A – does not

Explanation: With singular subject *he*, we use *does not*.

Q2. Neither of the students **have** submitted the assignment.

- A) has
- B) have been
- C) had
- D) is

Answer: A – has

Explanation: "Neither" is singular, so we use **has**.

Q3. She is **good in** mathematics.

- A) good at
- B) good for
- C) good to
- D) good into

Answer: A – good at

Explanation: Correct preposition is **at** with subject expertise.

Q4. I am looking forward **to meet** you.

- A) to meeting
- B) for meeting
- C) meeting
- D) to met

Answer: A – to meeting

Explanation: Look forward to + *ing form*

Q5. Each of the boys **were** given a prize.

- A) was
- B) were being
- C) are
- D) had

Answer: A – was

Explanation: “Each” is singular.

Q6. He is senior **than** me.

- A) to
- B) from
- C) of
- D) than

Answer: A – to

Explanation: Senior / junior / superior / inferior take *to*.

Q7. She prefers tea **than** coffee.

- A) to
- B) over
- C) instead
- D) rather

Answer: A – to

Explanation: Prefer X **to** Y.

Q8. The police **has** arrested the thief.

- A) have

- B) having
- C) had
- D) is

Answer: A – have

Explanation: Police = plural noun.

Q9. I have lived here **since two years**.

- A) for two years
- B) since two year
- C) for two year
- D) from two years

Answer: A – for two years

Q10. He is the man **which** helped me.

- A) who
- B) whom
- C) whose
- D) that

Answer: A – who

Q11. She said me the story.

- A) told me
- B) said to me
- C) told to me
- D) told

Answer: A – told me

Q12. I can't cope **in** this pressure.

- A) with

- B) on
- C) at
- D) in

Answer: A – cope with

Q13. The teacher asked that who was laughing.

- A) asked who was
- B) asked whom was
- C) ask who were
- D) asked who were

Answer: A

Q14. He is **living** in Mumbai since 2010.

- A) has been living
- B) lived
- C) is lived
- D) was lived

Answer: A

Q15. The news **are** good.

- A) is
- B) were
- C) be
- D) have

Answer: A – news is singular

Q16. She was angry **upon** me.

- A) with
- B) to

C) on

D) at

Answer: A

Q17. I saw a stranger, **who's** bike was stolen.

A) whose

B) who is

C) who

D) whom

Answer: A

Q18. The scenery of Kashmir **are** beautiful.

A) is

B) was

C) were

D) has

Answer: A

Q19. No less than ten students **was** absent.

A) were

B) have

C) is

D) had

Answer: A

Q20. The furniture **are** made of wood.

A) is

B) were

C) had

D) have

Answer: A

Close Test – Passage 1

Read the passage carefully and fill in the blanks selecting the correct option.

Teamwork is essential in every organization. When people work together, they can achieve goals more efficiently. A good leader always encourages his team members to share ideas and solve problems collectively. Without teamwork, the organization may face delays and performance issues. Therefore, it is necessary to build a positive environment where everyone feels respected and supported.

Q1. Teamwork is essential in every organization because it helps to _____ goals.

A) break

B) achieve

C) separate

D) destroy

Correct Answer: B) achieve

Q2. A good leader always _____ his team members.

A) discourages

B) forces

C) encourages

D) ignores

Correct Answer: C) encourages

Q3. Team members must _____ ideas with each other.

A) hide

- B) share
- C) collect
- D) demand

Correct Answer: B) share

Q4. Without teamwork, organizations may face _____.

- A) success
- B) delays
- C) celebrations
- D) growth

Correct Answer: B) delays

Q5. It is necessary to build a _____ environment.

- A) negative
- B) temporary
- C) positive
- D) dull

Correct Answer: C) positive

Close Test – Passage 2

Education is one of the most important tools for personal and social growth. It helps people to gain knowledge, develop skills, and improve their quality of life. In today's competitive world, education plays a crucial role in shaping careers. However, education must also teach values like discipline, honesty, and responsibility. Without values, education loses its true purpose.

Q6. Education helps people to gain _____.

- A) noise
- B) knowledge
- C) food
- D) money

Correct Answer: B) knowledge

Q7. Education improves the _____ of life.

- A) quality
- B) number
- C) price
- D) shape

Correct Answer: A) quality

Q8. Education plays a _____ role in shaping careers.

- A) useless
- B) harmful
- C) crucial
- D) small

Correct Answer: C) crucial

Q9. Education must teach _____.

- A) pollution
- B) values
- C) problems
- D) mistakes

Correct Answer: B) values

Q10. Without values, education loses its true _____.

- A) purpose
- B) speed
- C) height
- D) weight

Correct Answer: A) purpose

Close Test – Passage 3

Good health is the most valuable asset in life. A person who is healthy can work efficiently and stay happy. To maintain good health, one must exercise regularly, eat nutritious food, and sleep well. Unhealthy habits like smoking and excessive stress can damage the body. Therefore, health should always be treated as a priority.

Q11. Good health is the most valuable _____.

- A) asset
- B) problem
- C) fault
- D) gift

Correct Answer: A) asset

Q12. A healthy person can work _____.

- A) slowly
- B) badly
- C) efficiently
- D) carelessly

Correct Answer: C) efficiently

Q13. To maintain health, one must _____ regularly.

- A) shout
- B) sleep
- C) exercise
- D) fight

Correct Answer: C) exercise

Q14. Unhealthy habits can _____ the body.

- A) repair
- B) damage
- C) improve
- D) decorate

Correct Answer: B) damage

Q15. Health should be treated as a _____.

- A) priority
- B) secret
- C) punishment
- D) confusion

Correct Answer: A) priority

Technology has changed the world in many ways. It has made communication faster and easier. With the internet, people can connect across the world within seconds. Technology has helped businesses grow and education improve. However, using technology too much may cause problems such as addiction and lack of physical activity.

Q16. Technology has made communication _____.

- A) slower
- B) weaker
- C) faster
- D) useless

Correct Answer: C) faster

Q17. People can connect across the world within _____.

- A) seconds
- B) years
- C) months
- D) weeks

Correct Answer: A) seconds

Q18. Technology has helped businesses _____.

- A) close
- B) grow
- C) fail
- D) pause

Correct Answer: B) grow

Q19. Too much technology may cause _____.

- A) addiction
- B) celebration
- C) happiness
- D) improvement

Correct Answer: A) addiction

Q20. Technology may reduce _____ activity.

- A) physical
- B) mental
- C) useful

D) digital

Correct Answer: A) physical

Word	Meaning	Example Sentence
1	Acquire	To gain or obtain
2	Allocate	To distribute
3	Adequate	Enough, sufficient
4	Anticipate	Expect / Predict
5	Assess	Evaluate / Judge
6	Assist	Help
7	Assume	Suppose without proof
8	Assertive	Confident / Bold
9	Beneficial	Helpful
10	Brief	Short
11	Candid	Honest
12	Chronicle	Record events
13	Collaborate	Work together
14	Commence	Begin / Start
15	Comprehend	Understand
16	Conclude	End / Finish
17	Confident	Sure about oneself
18	Consensus	General agreement
19	Contribute	Give or add support
20	Convince	Persuade
21	Crucial	Very important
22	Decline	Reduce / Reject
23	Diverse	Different / Varied
24	Diligent	Hard-working
25	Dominant	Most powerful
26	Empathy	Understanding others' feelings

Word	Meaning	Example Sentence
27	Enhance	Improve
28	Eliminate	Remove
29	Evaluate	Judge quality
30	Evident	Clear / Obvious
31	Flexible	Adjustable
32	Fluctuate	Vary / Change often
33	Forbidden	Not allowed
34	Gratitude	Thankfulness
35	Generate	Produce / Create
36	Hinder	Delay or obstruct
37	Humiliate	Insult
38	Ignorance	Lack of knowledge
39	Illustrate	Explain with examples
40	Implement	Put into action
41	Improvise	Improve without preparation
42	Incredible	Amazing
43	Inspire	Motivate
44	Interpret	Explain meaning
45	Legitimate	Legal / Genuine
46	Lucrative	Profitable
47	Neglect	Ignore
48	Obsolete	Outdated
49	Perceive	Understand / View
50	Persist	Continue firmly

FULL MOCK TEST – Verbal Ability (20 Questions)

Instructions

- Each question has **4 options**
- Try answering yourself, then check **Answer Key + Explanation** at the end

Q1. Choose the correct form:

He _____ waiting for the bus for two hours.

- A) is
- B) has been
- C) had been
- D) have been

Q2. Select the correctly spelled word:

- A) Commitee
- B) Committee
- C) Commite
- D) Committe

Q3. Fill in the blank:

The teacher asked the students to _____ the project by Friday.

- A) complete
- B) completion
- C) completed
- D) completing

Q4. Sentence improvement:

He do not know how to operate the machine.

- A) He does not
- B) He did not
- C) He don't
- D) No improvement

Q5. One word substitution:

A person who loves books

- A) Translator
 - B) Bibliophile
 - C) Lecturer
 - D) Philanthropist
-

Q6. Antonym of “Expand”

- A) Increase
 - B) Enlarge
 - C) Shrink
 - D) Supply
-

Q7. Synonym of “Generous”

- A) Kind
 - B) Cruel
 - C) Rude
 - D) Weak
-

Q8. Para completion:

Hard work is necessary to achieve success. Without dedication and discipline, no goal can be achieved. _____

- A) Success always comes overnight.
- B) Therefore, we must stay consistent towards our goals.
- C) People should stop studying.
- D) Nothing is more important than money.

Q9. Choose the correct article:

She is _____ honest woman.

- A) a
 - B) an
 - C) the
 - D) no article
-

Q10. Correct preposition:

He was accused _____ theft.

- A) with
 - B) for
 - C) on
 - D) of
-

Q11. Error spotting:

Each of the boys **have completed** their work.

- A) Each
 - B) of the boys
 - C) have completed
 - D) their work
-

Q12. Fill in the blank (close test style):

We should _____ the rules of the organization.

- A) obey
- B) disobey

- C) deny
 - D) refuse
-

Q13. Sentence improvement:

The food was so hot that I cannot eat it.

- A) could not eat
 - B) could not ate
 - C) cannot eating
 - D) no improvement
-

Q14. Vocabulary usage:

The soldier showed great _____ during the war.

- A) courage
 - B) curious
 - C) currency
 - D) coverage
-

Q15. Rearrangement:

P: must always

Q: We

R: speak the

S: truth

Correct sequence:

- A) Q R S P
 - B) Q P S R
 - C) Q P R S
 - D) P S Q R
-

Q16. Choose correct tense:

By next year, she _____ her degree.

- A) completed
 - B) will completed
 - C) will have completed
 - D) has completed
-

Q17. Indirect speech:

He said, "I am tired."

- A) He said that he is tired.
 - B) He said that he was tired.
 - C) He said he will tired.
 - D) He said he tired.
-

Q18. Choose correct word:

This work is beyond my _____.

- A) capacity
 - B) capable
 - C) capacities
 - D) capably
-

Q19. Find the meaning:

“Reluctant”

- A) Willing
- B) Unwilling
- C) Excited
- D) Confident

Q20. Fill in the blank:

She prefers coffee _____ tea.

- A) to
- B) than
- C) over
- D) for