

## Grammar and Vocabulary based on NMAT and IIFT

**Number of Questions : 35**

**CEX-0502/18**

**Directions for questions 1 to 3:** Select the most suitable synonym for the underlined word in the sentences.

1. It is better to discuss things, to argue and engage in polemics than make perfidious plans of mutual destruction.  
(a) straightforward (b) iniquitous  
(c) virtuous (d) credulous
2. Economics has been criticized for its reliance on unrealistic, unobservable, or unverifiable assumptions.  
(a) didactic (b) disjunctive  
(c) nebulous (d) meretricious
3. Bullying means aggression persistently directed against a particular target, or victim, typically one who is weak, vulnerable, and defenseless.  
(a) slander (b) antagonism  
(c) intervention (d) alacrity
4. Identify the synonym of the following word.  
Pecuniary  
(a) Monetary (b) Playful  
(c) Articulate (d) Frail  
(e) Paucity
5. Identify the synonym of the following word.  
Parsimonious  
(a) Depreciating (b) Fallacious  
(c) Resentful (d) Doleful  
(e) Stingy

**Directions for questions 6 to 8:** Pick the word with the correct spelling

6. (a) Exorbitant (b) Exhorbitant  
(c) Exhobitant (d) Exxorhbitant

7. (a) Acqueisence (b) Acquiescence  
(c) Acaueiscence (d) Acquescence
8. (a) Septaganarian (b) Septagenarian  
(c) Septagenurian (d) Septuagenarian

**Directions for questions 9 and 10:** In each of the following questions, there is a certain relation between two given words on one side of :: and one word is given on another side of :: \_\_\_\_\_. Choose the suitable word to be put on the other side from the given alternatives.

9. Ostentatious : Pretentious :: Authentic : ?  
(a) Perturbed (b) Unfeigned  
(c) Pompous (d) Valiant
10. Garrulous : Silent :: Audacious : ?  
(a) Timid (b) Vulgar  
(c) Tedious (d) Rash

**Directions for questions 11 and 12:** From the choices provided, identify the pair of words with a relationship similar to that of the given word pair.

11. INDEFATIGABLE : INVETERATE ::  
(a) Tireless : Tired  
(b) Tired : Habitual  
(c) Tireless : Habitual  
(d) Impoverished : Habitual
12. MISANTHROPE : HUMANITY ::  
(a) Chauvinist : Patriot  
(b) Misogynist : Women  
(c) Agnostic : God  
(d) Witch : Magic

**Direction for question 13:** In the following sentence, part of the sentence is underlined. The answer-choices offer four ways of phrasing the underlined part. If you think the original sentence is better than the alternatives, choose (a), which merely repeats the underlined part; otherwise choose one of the alternatives.

13. The English masters possessed the power in regulating their own trade, and for giving liberty to every slave in their dominions; and yet they were entirely unmindful of their duty on this subject.
- (a) in regulating their own trade, and for giving liberty to every slave in their dominions; and yet they were
  - (b) to regulate their own trade, and of giving liberty to every slave in their dominions; and yet they were
  - (c) into regulating their own trade, and of giving liberty to every slave in their dominions; and yet they were
  - (d) of regulating their own trade, and of giving liberty to every slave in their dominions; and yet they were

**Directions for questions 14 to 16:** Choose the appropriate preposition to fill the blank in the sentences given below.

14. The objective of the Act \_\_\_\_\_ the private individual still remains in the dark.
- (a) onto
  - (b) concerning
  - (c) from
  - (d) following
  - (e) through
15. The prompt retreat of my father bestowed \_\_\_\_\_ me a very incomplete experience.
- (a) in
  - (b) with
  - (c) into
  - (d) to
  - (e) upon
16. Mr. Smith implored Howard to come \_\_\_\_\_ and join his party.
- (a) to
  - (b) up to
  - (c) off
  - (d) against
  - (e) over

**Directions for questions 17 to 20:** There are two blanks in each of the following sentences. From the pairs of words given, choose the one that fills the blanks most appropriately. The first word in the pair should fill the first blank.

17. It is difficult to \_\_\_\_\_ the suffering of South East Asians in the US in terms of the number of dead, but tens of thousands are going through \_\_\_\_\_ in a society hit by paranoia after the WTC bombings.
- (a) estimate, ordeal
  - (b) quantify, trauma
  - (c) calculate, distrust
  - (d) understand, shock
18. The fact that Mr. B's most recent film is a hit at the box office is ample proof for the megastar's \_\_\_\_\_ power, and not for the reviews which were nothing more than \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) continuing, indifferent
  - (b) drawing, terrible
  - (c) growing, ordinary
  - (d) declining, ordinary
19. It started with a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ cigarette in college, but by her late twenties, Lilly was an \_\_\_\_\_ smoker.
- (a) casual, acute
  - (b) customary, habitual
  - (c) special, invertebrate
  - (d) occasional, inveterate
20. Ayn Rand's book attracted a \_\_\_\_\_ of fans, some of them being top corporate executives, who dared not speak of its impact except in \_\_\_\_\_.
- (a) group, loneliness
  - (b) series, public
  - (c) coterie, private
  - (d) variety, circle

**Directions for questions 21 and 22:** Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate option.

21. The \_\_\_\_\_ preaching at the \_\_\_\_\_ is \_\_\_\_\_ by the jury, for he \_\_\_\_\_ a blasphemous story.  
(a) parson, altar, indicted, indited  
(b) person, alter, indicted, indited  
(c) parson, altar, indited, indicted  
(d) parson, alter, indicted, indited  
(e) altar, parson, indicted, indited
22. In 2011, zilla panchayat had \_\_\_\_\_ a plan to develop the road at a cost of Rs. 20 lakh. H. Rudrappa, president of Janginakoppa Gramabhivrudhi Samiti, a citizens' forum, said the work didn't \_\_\_\_\_ owing to "absurd reasons". Some potholes \_\_\_\_\_ this road were more than a foot deep. During the monsoon, rainwater got accumulated in potholes \_\_\_\_\_ the road unmotorable, he said.  
(a) suggested, begin, throughout, retaining  
(b) berated, arise, into, altercating  
(c) designed, commence, along, rendering  
(d) elevated, upbraid, beyond, faltering  
(e) described, subside, cropped, making

**Directions for questions 23 and 24:** Identify the part of the sentence that is erroneous. If there is no error, mark (d) as your answer.

23. Neither the executive (a) / nor the manager (b)/ are suitable for the task. (c) / No error (d)
24. There is a famous (a) / girl's school (b)/ near the Airport. (c) / No error (d)
25. In the following sentence choose the erroneous segment/s:  
The present education system (A) / in India mainly comprises of primary, (B)/ secondary and senior secondary education (C).  
(a) error in segment A and C  
(b) error in segment A  
(c) error in segment C  
(d) error in segment B

**Directions for questions 26 and 27:** Each sentence below has four underlined words or phrases, marked (a), (b), (c) and (d). Identify the underlined part that must be changed to make the sentence *correct*.

26. Neither the examiner (a) nor his assistant (b) were informed (c) about the cancellation of the examination. No Error (d).
27. Being (a) a short holiday (b) we had to return (c) without visiting many of the places (d).

**Directions for questions 28 and 29:** In the question below, there are two sentences containing underlined homonyms, which may either be *mis-spelt* or *inappropriately used* in the context of the sentence. Select the appropriate answer from the options given below:

28. I. A vote of censur was passed against the Chairman.  
II. Before release, every film is passed by the Censor Board.  
(a) only sentence I is correct  
(b) only sentence II is correct  
(c) both sentence I and II are correct  
(d) both sentences I and II are incorrect
29. I. This behaviour does not compliment his position.  
II. He thanked his boss for the complement.  
(a) only sentence I is correct  
(b) only sentence II is correct  
(c) both sentences I and II are correct  
(d) both sentences I and II are incorrect

**Directions for questions 30 and 31:** For each of the following sentences, choose the most appropriate "one word" for the given expressions.

30. One who is unrelenting and cannot be moved by entreaties:  
(a) Inexorable (b) Infallible  
(c) Impregnable (d) Inexplicable

31. The art of cutting trees and bushes into ornamental shapes:

- (a) Horticulture (b) Bonsai  
(c) Pruning (d) Topiary

**Directions for questions 32 and 33:** Each question below consists of a word, followed by four words. Choose the word that is most nearly **OPPOSITE** in meaning to the word in the question. Since some of the questions require you to distinguish fine shades of meaning, be sure to consider all the choices before deciding which one is the best.

32. Punctilious  
(a) Conscientious (b) Unceremonious  
(c) Punctual (d) Despot

33. Ravenous  
(a) Abstemious (b) Excessive  
(c) Satiated (d) Apostle

34. Identify the antonym of the following word.

- Tacit  
(a) Implied (b) Low  
(c) Explicit (d) Pragmatic  
(e) Repressive

35. Identify the antonym of the following word.

- Tout  
(a) Promote (b) Suffice  
(c) Condemn (d) Destroy  
(e) Annihilate

# Answers and Explanations

1	b	2	c	3	b	4	a	5	e	6	a	7	b	8	d	9	b	10	a
11	c	12	b	13	d	14	b	15	e	16	e	17	b	18	c	19	d	20	c
21	a	22	c	23	c	24	b	25	d	26	c	27	a	28	b	29	d	30	a
31	d	32	b	33	c	34	c	35	c										

1. b 'Perfidious' means treacherous. 'Iniquitous' is the most appropriate synonym.
2. c 'Unobservable' means not accessible to direct observation, 'nebulous' is its synonym. 'Disjunctive' means serving or tending to divide or separate. 'Meretricious' is superficially or garishly attractive.
3. b 'Aggression' means any offensive action, option (b) is most appropriate. 'Antagonism' means hostility. 'Alacrity' is eagerness.
4. a The word 'pecuniary' means something financial or related to money. Hence, option (a) is the most appropriate synonym. The word 'frail' refers to weakness, while 'paucity' refers to the shortness or lack of something. Thus, options (d) and (e) can be negated. The word 'articulate' means well-spoken or expressive. Hence, option (c) is incorrect.
5. e The word 'parsimonious' refers to a person who is money-minded or miserly. The word 'stingy' has the same connotation. Thus, option (e) is the correct answer. Option (b) is incorrect because the word 'fallacious' means something faulty. The word 'resentful' means full of complaints or anger. The word 'doleful' means something depressing or saddening, while 'depreciating' implies anything that is decreasing. Hence, both options (d) and (a) are incorrect.
6. a The correct spelling is 'exorbitant'. It means *exceeding the customary or appropriate limits in intensity, quality, amount, or size*.
7. b The correct spelling is 'acquiescence'. It means *acceptance without protest*.
8. d The correct spelling is 'septuagenarian'. It means a person between the age of 70-79.
9. b A synonymous relationship is presented in the analogy. Just as 'ostentatious' is a synonym of 'Pretentious,' 'authentic' is synonymous to 'unfeigned.' Hence, option (b) is the correct choice. 'Perturbed' (means disturbed) and 'valiant' (means courageous) do not fit in the given relationship. 'pompous' is synonymous to 'ostentatious' and 'pretentious.'
10. a An antonymous relationship is presented in the analogy. Just as 'garrulous' (means talkative) is the opposite of 'silent,' 'audacious' (means bold) is the opposite of 'timid.' Therefore, option (a) is the correct choice. 'Vulgar' and 'tedious' do not fit into the given relationship and 'rash' is synonymous to 'audacious.'
11. c 'Indefatigable' means incapable of being fatigued. Tireless is the correct synonym. Inveterate means to be confirmed in a habit. Habitual is the correct synonym. Hence, option (c) is the correct choice.
12. b 'Misanthrope' is a person who hates or distrusts humankind, one who is against humanity. A misogynist is a person who hates women. Thus, option (b) gives the correct analogy.
13. d 'Of', as a preposition, means belonging to, relating to or connected with something. The sentence says that the English masters possessed power relating to their own trade. So, option (d) is the correct answer.
14. b The sentence gives the sense of a particular Act that is being talked about and the 'private individual' seems to be the subject of it. The correct answer should be option (b) as the preposition 'concerning' is used to comment on a subject or make a connection of the subject with the rest of the sentence.
15. e Option (e) is the correct answer as the preposition 'upon' has been used in the sense of 'on' in the given sentence. 'On' has been used here to indicate that the object (me) is affected by a figurative action (bestowed).
16. e Option (e) is the most suitable answer because the preposition 'over' is used to specify movement to a particular place, that is to say, an offer to visit a particular place. 'Over' is also used to specify a position above something else.
17. b The phrase used is 'in terms of the number of dead', hence only 'quantify' is possible in this blank.
18. c Since the movie is a hit, we can infer that the first blank will take 'growing'. The second blank will take 'ordinary' since 'not for' suggests that for the reviews were not exceptional.

19. d 'but' suggests that the blank will take words that suggest opposite meaning. 'Inveterate' means often doing something specified, and 'occasional' is its antonym. So, option (d) is the answer.
20. c The correct answer is option (c) as 'coterie' refers to an exclusive group of people which is suitable with the given word 'fans'.
21. a 'Parson' means a priest. 'Altar' is an elevated place in a church from where a priest preaches. 'Indict' is to hold someone blameworthy and 'indite' is to write. Obviously the last two blanks will be filled by indicted and indited in the same order. The second blank must be filled by altar (not alter). Therefore, the correct sequence of words to fit in the blanks is "parson, altar, indicted, indited".
22. c The words 'suggested' and 'designed' fit into the first blank because the panchayat could have suggested or designed a plan. All the other words are inept in this context because a plan could not have been 'berated' (to criticize or speak angrily to somebody because you do not approve of something they have done), 'elevated' (to lift something up or put something in a higher position) or 'described' (to say what somebody/ something is like in terms of shape). So, we can safely eliminate options (b), (d) and (e). Both 'commence', which means 'to begin to happen', and 'begin', in options (a) and (c) respectively, fit into the second blank because the statement suggests that the work of developing the roads didn't start. Out of options (a) and (c), (c) is the correct answer because both 'along' and 'rendering' fit into the third and fourth blank respectively. The statement would then mean that the potholes were seen along (from one end to the other end of the road) and the water that accumulates in them 'makes' or 'renders' the roads 'unmotorable' (which cannot be traversed by motor vehicles). The word 'throughout' is inept for the third blank since 'throughout' means 'in or into every part of something', so it does not go with the phrase 'some potholes'. The word 'retaining' which means 'preserving' is logically inappropriate for the fourth blank as potholes cannot 'retain' the road unmotorable.
23. c According to subject verb agreement when two singular subjects are joined by either-or / neither-nor, singular form of the verb is used. Hence, 'are' will be replaced by 'is'.
24. b It should be "girls' school". The plural form should be used.
25. d 'Comprises is never followed by the preposition 'of'.
26. c According to subject verb agreement when two singular subjects are joined by either-or / neither-nor, singular form of the verb is used. Hence, 'was informed' is the right usage.
27. a It is a case of dangling modifier. The correct sentence should have been "It being a short holiday.....".
28. b Only sentence II is correct. The word used in sentence I should be 'censure' instead of 'censur' which means strong criticism.
29. d Both the sentences are incorrect. 'Compliment' means "a remark that expresses praise or admiration of somebody" and 'complement' means "to add to something in a way that improves it or makes it more attractive".
30. a 'Inexorable' means that which cannot be stopped or changed. So, option (a) is the correct answer. 'Infallible' means never wrong or never making mistakes. 'Impregnable' means strong and impossible to defeat. 'Inexplicable' means that which cannot be understood or explained.
31. d 'Horticulture' is "the study or practice of growing flowers, fruits and vegetables". 'Bonsai' is "a small tree that is grown in a pot and prevented from reaching its normal size". 'Pruning' means "to cut off or remove dead or living parts of a plant to improve shape or growth". 'Topiary' is "the art of cutting bushes into shapes such as birds or animals".
32. b 'Punctilious' means strictly observant of the rules or forms prescribed by law or custom. Option (b) means happening or done very suddenly or quickly with no effort to be careful or polite. 'Despot' is an autocratic or oppressive ruler.
33. c 'Ravenous' means somebody who is extremely hungry, option (a), which means feeling full after eating, is the opposite.
34. c The word 'tacit' refers to something that is implied or indicated but not actually expressed. Thus, option (a) is clearly a synonym and, hence, incorrect. Option (b) is again incorrect as it does not come anywhere close to the given word in terms of being opposite to it in meaning. The word 'repressive' means something that is prohibitive, while being 'pragmatic' means being practical. The correct answer is 'explicit' as this means something which is stated or clearly spoken.
35. c The word 'tout' means to praise or promote something. Option (a) is a synonym and, therefore, incorrect. The word 'suffice' stands for summarizing or putting in brief something. Thus, option (b) is also incorrect. The word 'annihilate' implies destroying something, and so, options (d) and (e) are incorrect. 'Condemning' someone means deeming someone or something at fault or wrong. Hence, this has opposite implications to the word 'tout' and option (c) is therefore, the correct answer.