

VERBAL ABILITY HANDOUT

(Note on Idioms & Phrases, Ologies & Ographies)

Ref: VAHO3501506

Ologies and Ographies:

The suffix-ology is a combining form in nouns denoting

- (1) a subject of study or interest as in 'psychology';
- (2) a characteristic of speech or language as in 'enology'; and
- (3) a type of discourse as in 'trilogy' (a group of three related novels, plays, films etc.)

The suffix-ography is a combining form in nouns denoting

- (1) a descriptive science as in 'geography';
- (2) a technique of producing images as, in 'radiography';
- (3) a style or method of writing as, in 'calligraphy';
- (4) writing about a subject as, in 'hagiography' (the writhings on the lives of saints); and
- (5) a written or printed list as in 'filmography' (a list of films of a director or actor or on one subject).

Directions for questions 1 to 25: Each sentence is followed by four alternatives. Identify the right option.

1. The study of the origin and development of the universe
(A) Cartography *maps* (B) Cosmology
(C) Ethology *animal human behaviour* (D) Topography
2. The study of the origin, surface and composition of rocks
(A) Entomology (B) Palaeontology
(C) Trichology (D) Petrology
3. The study of hair and scalp
(A) Trichology (B) Osteology *bones*
(C) Ethology (D) Dermatology
4. The study of geometrical properties and spatial relations which remain unaffected by smooth changes in shape or size of figure
(A) Seismology (B) Cosmology
(C) Topology (D) Cryptology
5. The study of fish
(A) Ichthyology (B) Osteology
(C) Haematology (D) Paedology
6. The study of the sequence of steps and movements in dance
(A) Etiology (B) Genealogy
(C) Philology (D) Choreography
7. The study of the characteristics of different people and the differences and relationships between them
(A) Haematology (B) Ethnology
(C) Entomology (D) Philology
8. The arrangement of the natural and artificial physical features of an area
(A) Cosmology (B) Paedology
(C) Topography (D) Cryptology
9. The study of fossil plants and animals
(A) Palaeontology (B) Osteology
(C) Genealogy (D) Lexicology
10. The study of interpretation of ancient inscriptions
(A) Philology (B) Epigraphy
(C) Ornithology (D) Chronology
11. The study of insects
(A) Trichology (B) Ichthyology
(C) Gerontology (D) Entomology
12. The study of the diseases and abnormalities of the heart
(A) Psephology (B) Haematology
(C) Petrology (D) Cardiology
13. The science or practice of drawing maps
(A) Genealogy (B) Cartography
(C) Etiology (D) Topology
14. The study of codes or the art of writing and solving them
(A) Cryptology (B) Seismology
(C) Cosmology (D) Philology
15. The branch of medicine concerned with skin disorders
(A) Ethology (B) Osteology
(C) Dermatology (D) Gerontology
16. The study of ancestry
(A) Palaeontology (B) Lexicology
(C) Genealogy (D) Ethnology
17. The study of old age
(A) Ichthyology (B) Gerontology
(C) Entomology (D) Paedology
18. The study of the physiology of blood
(A) Haematology (B) Trichology
(C) Epigraphy (D) Etiology

19. The practice of compiling dictionaries
(A) Cartography (B) Cryptology
(C) Chronology (D) Lexicography
20. The study of form, meaning and behaviour of words
(A) Trichology (B) Philology
(C) Lexicology (D) Gerontology
21. The study of the atmosphere for weather forecasting
(A) Meteorology (B) Philology
(C) Lexicology (D) Gerontology
22. The study of the causes and effects of diseases
(A) Palaeontology (B) Pathology
(C) Trichology (D) Philology
23. The scientific study of birds
(A) Paedology (B) Osteology
(C) Gerontology (D) Ornithology
24. The statistical study of elections and trends in voting
(A) Cosmology (B) Psephology
(C) Ichthyology (D) Statistics
25. The study of the structure and historical development of languages
(A) Epigraphy (B) Ethology
(C) Philology (D) Chronology

Directions for questions 26 to 30: In each of the following questions, one phrase is underlined followed by four options. Identify the word which explains the phrase better.

26. I think our Chairman will come round to our legitimate proposals.
(A) oppose (B) agree
(C) misunderstand (D) object
27. Our teacher was laid up with fever for over a month.
(A) teaching about
(B) burdened on
(C) taking advantage of
(D) suffering from
28. He was a very hardworking person but he drew a blank in life.
(A) was criticised
(B) was unsuccessful
(C) was cheerful
(D) was revengeful

29. In spite of repeated failures, the candidate chooses to go over another attempt.
(A) consider (B) abandon
(C) withhold (D) fail
30. The Chief Engineer was a perfectionist and seldom let pass the negligence of his staff.
(A) tolerated (B) encouraged
(C) criticised (D) overlooked

Directions for questions 31 to 35: In the following questions some idiomatic expressions are given. Each word is followed by four options, choose the option that explains the expression better.

31. Prick the bubble
(A) to deflate something
(B) to destroy an illusion
(C) to be on time
(D) to protest about somebody
32. To warm the cockles of somebody's heart
(A) to insult somebody
(B) to be optimistic about somebody
(C) to please or cheer somebody
(D) to woo somebody
33. Know the score
(A) have an inkling of the future
(B) know the true state affairs
(C) be aware of what will bring advantage or gain
(D) learn how something is done or organized
34. Lone wolf
(A) someone who is despised by people
(B) someone who is cantankerous
(C) someone who prefers to be alone
(D) a trickster
35. Hang fire
(A) demand vociferously
(B) abuse
(C) wait, delay
(D) be unexplored