

PREFACE

As a prospective JAMB candidate concerned with gaining admission into a higher institution, you should know the importance of using good books for your studies and relying on a solid and well researched past questions and answers. This NEW JAMB PAST QUESTION contains the fruits of our close study of JAMB questions in the last 35 years from 1978-2017. We have scrutinized thousands of actual JAMB questions, traced most (if not all) of them back to their respective topics, analyzed questions into topics first and secondly into subsets that are based on the JAMB expected objectives. We have gone through all the topics in the JAMB syllabus and have ensured that we eliminate all the wrong answers that are seen in other past questions you may have used. This book will also take you through the CBT training guide, detailing with pictures the exact experience you will have on the day of your examination. In the process, we have come up with the following features which should make this NEW JAMB PAST QUESTION particularly very Helpful to you:

Typical JAMB Past Question Analyzed:

This NEW JAMB PAST QUESTION takes you topic by topic through more than 1,800 past questions that are included in the current JAMB syllabus in a way that stimulate your actual reading/studying habit. It shows you how to solve each problem and hoe to avoid being wrong.

Review of all the Answers

We have seen firsthand the damage wrong information can cause to any candidate, which is why this book contains in every way new answers to questions you may already think you have answers to.

More Questions from JAMB Database

The NEW JAMB PAST QUESTION will introduce you to new questions you have never seen but which form part of the questions in JAMB database, familiarizing you with the range of questions and giving you helpful tips on what you are likely to see in the exam hall.

CBT Training Guide

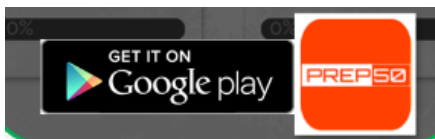
The NEW JAMB PAST QUESTION introduces you to Computer Based Testing training guide and along with the accompanying prep50 mobile App (available in Google Playstore) it explains everything you need to know about how to take the JAMB UTME with a computer. Practical usage experience on daily, weekly and monthly basis is available for you through the mobile application.

PREP50

This NEW JAMB PAST QUESTION is best studied with the Prep50 application (available in Android for mobile and also downloadable for desktop from www.prep50.ng). The application follows the same structure as the booklet and in addition has a detailed review notes of all the topics in the JAMB syllabus that you need to cover. This is essentially valuable to all candidates especially those who have finished their secondary school. It also offers you a **Weekly diagnostic quiz** geared towards the current syllabus; A test that will enable you to pinpoint your areas of weakness right away and concentrate your review on topics in which you need the most work. Two additional Mock JAMB EXAMS are available on the application with full answers and explanations to aid your final preparation before the exams.

Download the Prep50 mobile app now to get the best from this past question.

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Comprehension Passages

Introduction

Reading comprehension questions test your ability to understand what you read - both content and technique. In the next UTME, you will be expected to attempt five questions from one passage though in the past two to four passages are provided accounting for five questions each. A passage may deal with the sciences (including medicine, botany, zoology, chemistry, physics, geology, astronomy); the humanities (including art, literature, music, philosophy, folklore); or the social sciences (including history, economics, politics, government). Some passages are strictly objective, explaining or describing a phenomenon or process neutrally. Others reflect a particular bias or point of view; the author is trying to convince the reader to share his or her opinion about the subject being discussed.

JAMB tends to take its reading passages from government publications, daily newspapers, text books and from scholarly journals. Often the test-makers hit academically ["hot" topics - like Robotics, Economic Recession, democracy, deregulation]- that have aroused controversy over the past several decades. Frequently they edit these passages to make them more demanding both in vocabulary level and in grammatical complexity.

Some of the reading comprehension questions on JAMB are factual, asking you about specific details in the passages. Others ask you to interpret the passages, to make judgments about them. Still others ask you to recognize various techniques used by the authors or possible applications of their ideas to other circumstances. Some questions include lengthy and complex statements, as lengthy and complex as any sentences in the passage. Read the questions closely, as closely as you read the text. Be sure, in answering reading comprehension questions, that you read all the answer choices before deciding which is correct. These days there are logical reasoning questions in the reading comprehension portions of the test. These new logical reasoning questions ask you to determine the logical conclusion of an argument, to analyze the function and relationship of individual statements within an argument, to isolate the assumptions underlying an argument or to draw inferences from the arguments in the passage and lastly to distinguish what strengthens an argument from what weakens it.

Tip 1: Read the question first! Know what info you're seeking before you start your search. You can achieve this by mastering how to spot the major reading question types which are discussed below.

Major Reading Question Types

If you can recognize just what a given question is asking for, you will be better able to tell which reading tactic to apply. Here are six categories of reading questions you are likely to face in JAMB UTME exams:

1. **Suitable Title:** Questions that test your ability to find the central thought of a passage or to judge its significance often take one of the following forms:
 - The chief theme of the passage can best be described as...
 - Which of the following titles best states the central idea of the passage?
 - Which of the following statements best expresses the main idea of the passage?
2. **Tone/Attitude:** Questions that test your ability to sense an author's emotional state often take the form:
 - The author's attitude toward the problem can best be described as
 - The author regards that idea thatwith
 - The author's tone in the passage is that of a person attempting to
 - Which of the following best describes the author's tone in the passage?
3. **Finding Specific Details:** Questions that test your ability to understand what the author states explicitly are often worded:
 - According to the author
 - The author states all of the following EXCEPT
 - According to the passage, which of the following is true of the
 - The passage supplies information that would answer which of the following questions?
 - Which of the following statements is (are) best supported by the passage? Which of the following is NOT cited in the passage as evidence of?
4. **Implied Meaning:** Questions that test your ability to go beyond the authors explicit statements and see what these statements imply may be worded:
 - It can be inferred from the passage that
 - The author implies that
 - The passage suggests that
 - Which of the following statements aboutcan be inferred from the passage?
5. **Determining the Meaning of Words from Their Context:** Questions that test your ability to work out the meaning of unfamiliar words from their context often are worded:
 - As it is used in the passage, the termcan best be described as
 - The phraseis used in the passage to mean that
 - As used by the author, the termrefers to
 - The author uses the phraseto describe

6. Logical Reasoning Questions: Questions that test your ability to recognize how the author's ideas might apply to other situations often are worded:

- With which of the following statements would the author of the passage be most likely to agree?
- With which of the following aphorisms would the author be in strongest agreement?
- The author's argument would be most weakened by the discovery of which of the following?
- The authors contention would be most clearly strengthened if which of the following were found to be true?
- Which of the following examples could best be substituted for the author's example of...?
- Which of the following statements would be most likely to begin the paragraph immediately following the passage?
- The author is most probably addressing which of the following audiences?

You must look at the question before you look at the passage. Rather than jumping in blindly and analyzing each and every aspect of the passage – do no more work than necessary. Look at the question stem. Then examine the passage to know what aspect of the passage you are to concentrate on and focus on it. You will save time and effort.

Caution: Before reading the passage, READ ONLY THE QUESTIONS. Do not read the answer choices because doing so will confuse you and waste your time.

MAIN IDEA & TITLE OF A PASSAGE

Finding the Main Idea of a Passage: In finding the main idea, bear in mind that the topic is not the main idea rather the main idea is what the author is saying about the topic.

Example: Let's use the paragraph below as an example. First find the topic, and then look for the main idea.

Summer is a wonderful time to spend at West Beach. It is a beach with light- colored, soft sand. The coastline goes on for a long way and many people enjoy walking along it. Children like to play in the surf and walk along the rocks that are visible at low tide. This is a fun beach for people of all ages.

In this paragraph:

The topic is West Beach. The main idea (what the writer is saying about the topic) is that summer is a wonderful time at West Beach.

Read the following passages and locate the main idea. Check the correct option to know if you got it right.

Sample 1

Sometimes too much of a good thing can become a very bad thing indeed. In an earnest attempt to consume a healthy diet, dietary supplement enthusiasts have been known to overdose. Vitamin C, for example, long thought to help people ward off cold viruses, is currently being studied for its possible role in warding off cancer and other diseases that cause tissue degeneration. Unfortunately, an overdose of vitamin C – more than 10,000 mg. – on a daily basis can cause nausea and diarrhea. Calcium supplements, commonly taken by women, are helpful in warding off osteoporosis. More than just a few grams a day, however, can lead to stomach upset and even kidney or bladder stones. Niacin, proven useful in reducing cholesterol levels, can be dangerous in large doses to those who suffer from heart problems, asthma, or ulcers.

The main idea expressed in this paragraph is

- A. supplements taken in excess can be a bad thing indeed.
- B. dietary supplement enthusiasts have been known to overdose.
- C. vitamins can cause nausea, diarrhea, and kidney or bladder stones.
- D. people who take supplements are preoccupied with their health.

Sample 2

Most children have an interest in learning to play a musical instrument at one point or another during their growing-up years. Parents need to take advantage of that urge to play when it appears. Some very small children become intrigued with music because they see their parents or their older siblings play. The Suzuki method of instruction capitalizes on that early willingness to learn by involving the parent and the child in the child's instructions. Elementary-aged youngsters often are exposed to stringed instruments or band instruments in their school music classes. Because kids like to do what other kids do, parents who are not musicians themselves can take advantage of both instruction and enthusiasm. It is at the middle school level, however, that peer pressure can really work to the benefit of parents who want to hear the sound of music around the house.

The most accurate expression of the central or controlling idea of this paragraph is

- A. most children have an interest in learning to play a musical instrument during their growing-up years.
- B. some very small children become intrigued with music because they see their parents or siblings play.
- C. at various points, parents can take advantage of their children's desire to play a musical instrument.

- D. middle-school children take delight at selecting and learning to play an instrument along with their friends.

Sample 3

Malcolm X occupied himself in jail by reading the dictionary, a pursuit resulting in his acquisition of a tremendous amount of knowledge embodied in an enormous vocabulary. One has only to turn to the pages of a dictionary to see why this is the case. For example, on page 317 of the American Heritage Dictionary, we find everything from continental code (which is defined as a form of Morse Code, minus dots and dashes, used outside North America) to contract (which is defined in numerous ways depending on whether it is used as a noun or verb). In between, we discover that continents, having shifted over time, contain geographical features including elevations from which their river systems originate, and slopes that become submerged, first gradually and then precipitously, at that point where the continent meets the ocean and then drops to meet the ocean floor. On just one page, the same page, we also learn something about math, education, morphology, music, birth control – and on and on. As a source of knowledge, the dictionary is invaluable.

The main idea expressed in this paragraph is

- A. Malcolm X occupied himself in jail by reading the dictionary.
- B. The dictionary is an invaluable source of knowledge.
- C. Dictionaries contain many definitions of each word.
- D. The American Heritage Dictionary was the source of Malcolm X's knowledge.

Sample 4

Impressionism was “born” in 1874 when an art critic reviewed the exhibition of several artists at Nader’s photography studio in Paris. Very unimpressed with Monet’s 1872 printing entitled “Impression Sunrise,” the critic used the term impression and later the word impressionist derogatorily. The name stuck and was worn almost as a badge of honor by the artists who used methods and style similar to Monet’s, and Monet became known as the Father of Impressionism. One might think that this radical departure from the accepted norm rose full blown in Monet and that his comrades merely followed his lead. This oversimplification is natural for laypersons, but it is akin to saying Darwin discovered evolution, or Freud discovered the unconscious mind. While all three men are indisputably tied to the concepts with which we identify them, their true genius and claim to being discovered or “Father of . . .” lies more in their ability to synthesize rather than to create.

Which statement best expresses the central idea of this paragraph?

- A. Monet became known as the Father of Impressionism after a critic reviewed an 1874 exhibition in Paris.
- B. Monet’s genius, like that of Darwin or Freud, lies more in the ability to synthesize than in the ability to create.
- C. Oversimplification is natural for the layperson viewing Monet’s art.
- D. A derogatory name can sometimes be worn as a badge of honor as it was for Monet and his fellow artists.

Answers 1.A. 2.C. 3.B. 4.B.

NOTE: When you are asked to determine a passage’s main idea, always check the opening and summary sentences of each paragraph as they are key sentences for you to read. Authors typically provide readers with a sentence that expresses a paragraph’s main idea succinctly.

JAMB QUESTIONS ON MAIN IDEA OF A PASSAGE.

Passage 1

All over the world till lately, and in most of the world still today, mankind has been following the course of nature, that is to say, it has been breeding up to the maximum. To let nature take her extravagant course in the reproduction of the human race may have made sense in an age in which we were also letting her take her course in decimating mankind by the casualties of war, pestilence, and famine. Being human, we have at last revolted against that senseless waste. We have started to impose on nature’s heartless play a *humane* new order of our own. But, when once man has begun to interfere with nature, he cannot afford to stop half way. We cannot, with impunity, cut down the death-rate and at the same time allow the birth-rate to go on taking nature’s course. *We must consciously try to establish an equilibrium* or, sooner or later, famine will stalk abroad again. **[1978]**

The main idea of this passage is that

- A. nature is heartless. B. man should control the birth rate. C. mankind will soon perish of starvation.
- D. pestilence causes more deaths than war.

Passage 2

So far I have been speaking of science in its universality, viewed from the perspective of the world at large. For in the context of our own country and our *sister developing countries*, many of the factors mentioned earlier are not very important. For example, pollution, deterioration of the environment and population explosion are not yet serious problems for us in this country.

Let me now turn to a more specific area, namely the question of scientific choice for developing countries. There is no doubt that the role which science and technology have played in the upliftment of the material and economic

well-being of the developed nations will, and does, influence the criteria that the Third World nations must choose in order to establish their science policies and priorities.

But the criteria to be used by these nations do not have to be the same as those which have brought the developed countries to their present stage of evolution. For while human beings have the same problems, their solutions, to be meaningful will have to be sought within some relevant *frame of reference*, such as the available resources and expertise, social values, place and time in the historical scale. **[1978]**

The main idea of this passage is that

- A. there is a yawning gap between the haves and the have - nots.
- B. there is need to rid his countrymen from the scourges of hunger, disease, ignorance and want.
- C. there could be atmospheric pollution and population explosion.
- D. each nation must plan its development according to its needs and resources.

Passage 3

The evidence given so far demonstrates that a nuclear exchange in the Northern Hemisphere would have an unavoidable global aftermath making the continued existence of mankind impossible anywhere. It is also very improbable that a nuclear exchange would be confined exclusively to the vicinity of the industrialized states. Current developments indicate that a nuclear disaster would be carried into the territories of the developing countries in Asia, Africa and Latin America. These developments include the preparations being made by aggressive forces for the armed seizure of the Middle East oil fields, the nuclear missile deployment in the south of Western Europe, the establishment of military bases for the Rapid Deployment of Forces in North Africa and the Indian Ocean, and the tensions in the South Atlantic and the Caribbean. **[1989]**

The central point being stressed in the passage is that

- A. nuclear war is inevitable in the Third World countries.
- B. nuclear war is imminent in the Third World countries.
- C. a country does not have to be industrialized before being concerned with nuclear matters.
- D. the aggressive forces of the world are ready to carry the nuclear battle into the developing nations.

Passage 4

Our planet is at risk. Our environment is under threat. The air we breathe, the water we drink, the seas we fish in, the soil we farm, the forests, animals and plants which surround us are in danger. New terms and words describe these problems ----- acid rain, the greenhouse effect, global warming, and holes in the ozone layer, desertification and industrial pollution. We are changing our environment. More and more gases and wastes escape from our factories. Rubbish, oil spillage and detergents damage our rivers and seas. Forests give us timber and paper, but their loss results in soil erosion and also endangers wildlife.

The richer countries of the world are mainly responsible for industrial pollution. This is where most of all the commercial energy is produced. In developing countries, poverty causes people to change their environment —to overgraze grasslands, to cut down trees for new land and firewood, to farm poor soil for food.

The United Nations Environmental Protection Agency says that an area of forest the size of Sierra Leone disappears every year. Trees are cut down for timber which is used for building, furniture, paper and fuel. They are also destroyed to provide land on which to graze animals and build new villages and towns. But trees have many other important uses. Trees protect the land from heavy downpour of rain and their roots help to hold the soil together. Forests are also the home of many living things. The Amazon forest contains one fifth of all the species of birds in the world. In our forests, there may be plants and animals which could help in the discovery of new medicines or crops.

To rescue and conserve our beautiful world, we must act cooperatively. Individuals, communities, nations and international associations, all have a responsibility. By learning to protect the natural environment, we can manage the earth's resources for generations to come. **[1992]**

The message of the writer is the

- A. need for the developed countries to assist the poorer ones.
- B. grave dangers of global warming.
- C. urgent need to protect the natural environment.
- D. need to research into other uses of the trees in our forest.

Answers 1.B. 2.D. 3.C. 4.C.

FINDING THE TITLE OF A PASSAGE

From the Past questions, JAMB has consistently picked one question on this objective every year in the last 15 years.

The question comes in the form of:

An appropriate title for this passage is ...

A suitable title for this passage is...

If you have identified the main idea of the passage, it is easy to get the title of the passage as its usually what the main idea explains. An appropriate title for a paragraph, therefore, must express this central theme that each of the sentences in the paragraph develops. It should be neither too broad nor too narrow in scope; it should be specific and yet comprehensive enough to include all the essential ideas presented by the sentences. A good title for a passage of two or more paragraphs should express the thoughts of ALL the paragraphs. When you are trying to select the best title for a passage, watch out for words that come straight out of the passage. After you've read the passage, summarize it in one sentence that includes the gist of every idea from the paragraph. A good way to do this is to pretend you have just ten words to tell someone what the passage was about. You'd have to think broadly, so you could include every detail in just a short statement

There are many Questions from JAMB on the suitable title for a passage, we shall first of all identify them and then try to answer such questions based on the technique we have learnt which is :

- Find the main idea of the topic first.
- Then, choose a suitable title based on the idea expressed in the passage.

Read the following passages and locate the title of the passage. Check the correct option to know if you got it right.

JAMB questions on Title of a Passage

Passage 1

‘Foreign Language Learning’

The learning of a foreign language should be an integral part of every university student’s education. As a *discipline*, it affords the mind excellent training. It utilizes skills needed in so many other subjects; the concentration required for memorizing music (not to mention developing the ear for tone and pitch), the logical thinking for resolving mathematical problems, even the deductive reasoning capabilities needed to comprehend philosophical concepts. The mind is stretched through the simple act of learning the grammatical patterns, vocabulary and phonological system of a language. At the same time, the student of a foreign language is acquiring a useful tool. This tool has a double advantage, for while most people (especially teachers) expound on the rewards of being able to communicate in a second, third, or fourth language. Perhaps the more promising of the two, is being able to understand and hopefully appreciate another cultural group through their literature, their music and customs----- all of which are best assimilated through the medium of their language. **[1979]**

An appropriate title for the article from which this passage is taken could be:

- The need for foreign language learning in universities.
- An apology for the study of foreign languages in Nigerian universities.
- The need for studying French and Kiswahili in our colleges and universities.
- Why a foreign language should be studied by all who study music, mathematics or philosophy.

Passage 2

To listen properly is hard job, and probably one of the toughest skills in the art of communication. Good listening has nothing to do with proper functioning of one’s auditory organs, which is assumed to be inevitable. Good listening, in the sense we are interested in, is not a biological factor, but a psychological one. Your auditory organs may be in perfect order, when actually you cannot use them creatively. Creative listening implies your being efficient in the art of concentration; in other words, you concentrate on what one is saying so as to make sure that you hear all that is said. At the same time you are concentrating to her all that is being said, you are also thinking fast, digesting what is being said, allowing your mental faculties and your memory to accept that which you understand, and to reject that which you do not understand, sorting out what you do not understand and storing them somewhere in your brain for future discussion, and , all at the same time, rationalizing what you hear, accepting that which you find rational and rejecting that which you do not find rational.

After you must have listened creatively to what you have been told, then you can respond if the need arises. It is quite proper that you respond, because the process of response enhances the art of communication. But your response ought to be only a necessary response; a response that will improve your understanding. This response should involve your mentioning some of those things you have been told but which you do not understand, or politely questioning the rationality of some of the speaker’s argument. But your response must be constructive; must enhance the communicative worth. It should not be an unnecessary argument, or an opportunity for you to express dissatisfaction or disaffection. The ability to listen properly aids communication and understanding. **[1988]**

A most suitable title for the passage is

- Communication skills.
- How to listen attentively.
- Listening in Communication.
- Listening argument and understanding.

Passage 3

In the past, learning English as a separate subject seemed relatively easy. The textbook selected and graded items of language which were put into context and then practiced intensively. New items were carefully controlled so that the student could cope quite easily. Now that English is used as a medium of instruction, however, all this has changed. Unknown items of grammar and vocabulary appear in texts which attempt to explain new and often difficult information. Difficulties with the language interact with difficulties as regards the subject matter. The student's reading in his own subject slows down, and his comprehension becomes less secure. He expresses himself slowly and often fails to convey his ideas exactly. He is disappointed to find that under pressure he makes a lot of unnecessary mistakes in areas where he knows the correct language forms. His social relations are difficult as he cannot find the right phrase quickly enough to keep a conversation going; so his language often betrays him into dullness, coldness, or worst of all, rudeness. Instead of the students being in control of the language, the language seems now to be in control of the student.

All of this can be very depressing and the student can start to feel very anxious. Working in a foreign language is also very tiring, and the concentration and self-discipline required to correct one's mistakes is very great indeed.

[1988]

Select the most appropriate title for this passage

- A. Problems of learning a new language.
- B. Problems of learning English as a separate subject.
- C. Problems of working, in English as a foreign language.
- D. Difficulties with interacting in English.

Answers 1.A. 2.C. 3.C.

TONE OF A PASSAGE

Identifying the Tone/Attitude of the writer in a passage

Every passage has a central theme or title. What the author says about the theme is the main idea and how he/she says it is considered as the tone. Hence, tone is the manner in which a writer approaches the theme and subject. The tone can be formal, informal, serious, comic, sarcastic, sad, and cheerful or it may be any other existing attitudes. Consider the following examples of tone:

"I want to ask the authorities, what is the big deal? Why do they not control the epidemic? It is eating up lives like a monster."

and

"I want to draw the attention of the concerned authorities toward the damage caused by an epidemic. If steps are not taken to curb it, it will further injure our community"

The theme of both tone examples is the same. The only way we can differentiate between them is their separate tone. The tone in the first example is casual or informal while, it is more formal in the second.

TONE EXAMPLES

We adopt variety of tones in our day-to-day speech. This intonation of our speech determines what message we desire to convey. Read a few examples below.

Example 1

Father: "We are going on a vacation."

Son: "That's great!!!"

– The tone of son's response is very cheerful.

Example 2

Father: "We can't go on vacation this summer."

Son: "Ok. Great! That's what I expected."

– The son's tone is sarcastic in the given response.

Example 3

"You will not get good grades like in the previous exams"

– The tone is pessimistic in this example.

Example 4

"Can someone tell me what the hell is going on here?"

–This has an aggressive tone.

Culled from: <http://literarydevices.net/tone/>

Let's look at some more examples

Read the passages below and then answer questions regarding the author's purpose, organizational pattern and tone.

Sample 1

Anyone can understand the confusion ancient traders experienced trying to market their goods without a common standard of measurement. Imagine trying to sell grain in Egypt by the basket without having any comparison to make as to the basket's weight or volume. Such were the problems in early times when weight had to be guessed or measured against a standard of the weight of stones, seashells, seeds, or grain.

Problems also existed in terms of measurement of lengths. One of the earliest linear measurements was the foot which first took its standard from the length of a human foot and later used the length of a king's foot as the standard. Archaeologists have traced people's attempts to grapple with standard units of measurement from the ancient Egyptians' attempts to reset precise property lines after flooding of the Nile River to biblical times when a cubit was the standard unit of length. The cubit took its standard from the distance between the end of the elbow to the end of the middle finger -- usually about 18 inches. The Romans defined the inch as the width of the thumb, and the mile as 311,000 paces. The problems involved in using such measurements are obvious. Imagine trying to set new, more accurate standards among people who hung on tenaciously to existing standards. When the Romans conquered ancient Britain, they brought their standards of measurement along and imposed them on the people. Consequently, some of these standards have survived to the 20th century. The British Imperial System of weights and measures evolved from many sources and became fairly well standardized by the 19th century. The standard yard and pound were kept in the Houses of Parliament. However, when the Parliament building burned in 1834, the standards were destroyed. British scientists then began to press for a more uniform standard for the gallon, the pound, and the yard which could be used in the entire British Empire. This made trading, buying, and selling much more uniform.

The tone of this passage can be described as

A. Angry. B. confused. C. Formal. D. informative.

Passage 2

One of the industrial giants who changed American society was Henry Ford. Born on a farm in Michigan in 1863, he grew up to bring forth some of the most revolutionary improvements in automotive technology in the early 20th century. His outstanding mechanical ability led him to become interested in the new automobiles in the early 1900s. Though he did not invent the automobile, he improved upon everyone else's designs.

He was a person who believed in inexpensive, efficient production, so he established standards for his plant and workers. He also standardized and produced many new auto parts for his Ford Motor Company cars. Then he studied the workers' problems and built an assembly line -- the first of its kind in America. This ingenious improvement led to mass production of thousands of automobiles per year. In fact, his plants had produced 15 million Model Ts by 1927.

Ford's personality was not all thrift, efficiency, and ingenuity, however. He was a man who was cold and who could not keep pace with the competition due to his own rigidity. His company suffered because of his desire to maintain the status quo instead of meeting and beating the competition by changing his product. Finally, he saw that he must change or lose out; therefore, he introduced the eight-cylinder engine and once again took over the automobile market. Ford left a legacy of millions of dollars, millions of jobs for American workers, and millions of satisfied customers.

The tone of this passage can be described as

A. Optimistic. B. Formal. C. Serious. D. Critical.

Answers 1.D. 2.C.

You can find the 155 words that describes the tone and attitude of writers from this webpage on: [Writers Write: 155-words-to-describe-an-authors-tone"](#)

JAMB questions on Tone

Passage 1

There are one or two things this country can teach others, one of which is the art of writing obituaries. One suspects that the reason why some of our newspapers still manage to break even is because of the great amount of revenue they derive from obituaries. It is not unusual for about one quarter of the volume of an average daily to be constituted of obituaries and *In memoriam* alone. One possible explanation for this, it has been argued, is that Nigerians value their dead greatly. And there is a saying amongst us that you do not say evil things against the dead. This is obviously the philosophy behind the large dose of encomiums with which our dead are bestowed. From the evidences of these obituaries and *In memoriam*, every dead Nigerian must have been something of a saint while alive. This would explain why the death of most Nigerians is attributed to the evil machinations of the wicked. Only very few people in our country die natural death, and even when they do, the obituaries, etc. always give the impression that such deaths constitute the saddest loss to befall the deceased's family. And, that is why writers of these obituaries and their allied advertisements are experts on 'mortuary stylistics' This 'mortuary stylistics,' the study in the art of eulogizing the dead and making their loss sound so heart breaking, is one of the commodities we can export to other countries. [1987]

The tone of this passage is

A. angry. B. satirical. C. non-committal. D. pleasant

Passage 2

To listen properly is hard job, and probably one of the toughest skills in the art of communication. Good listening has nothing to do with proper functioning of one's auditory organs, which is assumed to be inevitable. Good listening, in the sense we are interested in, is not a biological factor, but a psychological one. Your auditory organs may be in perfect order, when actually you cannot use them creatively. Creative listening implies your being efficient in the art of concentration; in other words, you concentrate on what one is saying so as to make sure that you hear all that is said. At the same time you are concentrating to her all that is being said, you are also thinking fast, digesting what is being said, allowing your mental faculties and your memory to accept that which you understand, and to reject that which you do not understand, sorting out what you do not understand and storing them somewhere in your brain for future discussion, and , all at the same time, rationalizing what you hear, accepting that which you find rational and rejecting that which you do not find rational.

After you must have listened creatively to what you have been told, then you can respond if the need arises. It is quite proper that you respond, because the process of response enhances the art of communication. But your response ought to be only a necessary response; a response that will improve your understanding. This response should involve your mentioning some of those things you have been told but which you do not understand, or politely questioning the rationality of some of the speaker's argument. But your response must be constructive; must enhance the communicative worth. It should not be an unnecessary argument, or an opportunity for you to express dissatisfaction or disaffection. The ability to listen properly aids communication and understanding. [1988]

The tone of the passage is

A. sermonizing. **B.** pleading. **C.** analytical. **D.** argumentative.

Passage 3

When I set out for London, little did I suspect that I was not on a journey to God's own city where harmony reigned supreme? So used to the frenzied life of Lagos was I that I had come to associate that city with everything that was chaotic, and there was no doubt in my mind that Lagos was one giant symbol of our backwardness. As the plane taxied its way out of the tarmac of our national airport, I heaved a sigh of relief, not so much because I was; leaving my own country as that I was being relieved of the tension that had possessed me during those tense hours in the untidy lounge. I had felt so uneasy, my thoughts racing from one uncertainty to another. But I was at last air-borne, moving away from the whole uncertainty, from the whole load of fear, towards a place which I supposed would be an *El Dorado*.

Everything that happened in the plane passed through my eyes like pictures on the screen. The white air hostess who instructed me on how to use the safety belt was an angel, what with her beauty, her pretty blue dress, and her ever-smiling face. The same lady of the air served me snacks and supper. Another angel, whose queenly voice through an invisible public address system, dished out occasional information on the progress of our journey. I had never felt so relaxed, and my jolted heartbeats each time the plane took what appeared like a sudden brief descent, did not matter. When eventually we were set for landing, the anxiety that came over me was almost thrilling. What was the wonderland going to be like? So overwhelmed was I that I almost lost consciousness of what happened thereafter.

But I would never forget the shock that greeted me when we arrived in the tube station and boarded a train to behold the sea of white faces and the furtive glances from apparently indifferent co-passengers. I believe that the nostalgic feeling for Lagos which later became part of my life all my days in London began at this point. [1993]

The writer's attitude to the air hostesses can be described as

A. lustful. **B.** worshipful. **C.** timid. **D.** gregarious.

Passage 4

When man evolved a conscience, his basic relationship with the other animals began to change. Until then, they were broadly divided into those which ate him when they got the chance, those which he ate when he got the chance, and a third group which competed with him for food, or was otherwise a nuisance to him in the business of keeping alive.

In the primitive situation, man was, therefore, basically against Nature but, as the battle was progressively won, conscience crept in; the awareness of responsibility, and a failure to meet it, produced feelings of guilt. Those who live in cities and need no longer do battle against Nature are nowadays most actively for Nature.

At this time, something like a thousand kinds of animals (vertebrate animals) can be said to be in danger of extinction. A few of them have been reduced to this precarious position by extensive killing but the majority are disappearing only as fast as the particular kind of country they need for existence is itself disappearing: and all this at the hands of man, as often as not by mistake.

There are three species of turtles whose future survival is menaced by the demand for turtle soup, which would hardly justify the extermination of a giant reptile whose family has existed for 200 million years. Leopards are in jeopardy because of the fashion for their skins. As they get rarer, the prices rise and, as leopard skin coats become more expensive, the demand increases. No species can long survive the price of N60.000 which a half- grown baby leopard now carries on its skin. And crocodiles, the longest surviving reptiles, are now dwindling alarmingly as a result of the fashion in crocodile skin for ladies' handbags and men's shoes.

The human population explosion spreads mankind across the land surfaces of the earth at an alarming rate. *There will be twice as many of us before most of us are dead.* Does this mean no room for wild animals? Of course not.

With ingenuity and forethought, a place can be kept for them. To destroy their habitat is as unnecessary as it would be to pull down a great cathedral in order to grow potatoes on the site. A campaign to save what remains is the concern of a new kind of Noah's Ark - the World Wildlife Fund. It does not believe that all is lost. **[2003]**

From the passage, the attitude of the writer can be described as

A. optimistic. **B.** indifferent. **C.** pessimistic. **D.** partial.

Passage 5

One of the interesting things to me about our spaceship is that it is a mechanical vehicle, just as is an automobile. If you own a car, you realize that you must put oil and gas into it, and you must put water in the radiator and take care of the car as a whole. You begin to develop quite *a little thermodynamic sense*. You know that you are either going to have to keep the machine in a good order or it is going to be in trouble and fail to function. We have not been seeing our Spaceship Earth as an integrally-designed machine which to be persistently successful, must be comprehended and serviced in total.

Now there is one outstanding important fact regarding Spaceship Earth, and that is that no instruction book came with it. I think it is very significant that there is no instruction book, for successfully operating our ship, in view of the infinite attention to all other details displayed by our ship. It must be taken as deliberate and purposeful that an instruction book was omitted. Lack of instruction has forced us to find out that there are two kinds of mangoes - unripe mangoes that will kill us and ripe mangoes which will nourish us. And we had to find out ways of telling which- was -which mangoes before we ate it or otherwise we would die. So we were forced, because of this to devise scientific experimental procedures and to interpret effectively the significance of the experimental findings. Thus, because the instruction manual was missing, we are learning how we can safely survive on the planet. Quite clearly, all living beings are utterly helpless at the moment of birth. The human child stays helpless longer than the young of any species. Apparently, it is part of the 'invention' that man is meant to be utterly helpless through certain anthropological phases. When he begins to be able to get on a little better, he is meant to discover some of the physical principles inherent in the universe as well as the many resources around him which will further multiply his knowledge. Designed into this Spaceship Earth's total wealth was a big safety factor. This allowed man to be very ignorant for a long time until he had amassed enough experiences from which to extract progressively the system of generalized principles governing increase of energy. The designed omission of the instruction book forced man to discover retrospectively just what his most important capabilities are. He learned to generalize fundamental principles of universe. **[2010]**

Adapted from Oluikpe, B.O. et al (2005) *Intensive English for Senior Secondary School 2*, Onitsha: AFP

The writer's mood in the passage is that of

A. non- committal. **B.** pessimism. **C.** optimism. **D.** frustration.

Answers 1. B. 2.C. 3.A. 4.A. 5.C.

SPECIFIC DETAIL OF A PASSAGE

Finding the Specific Details in a Passage

The core concept behind these question stems, and this question type, is that you are looking for something written in the passage. Most of the questions that fit into this category could be called "find the fact" as they rely on your ability to find a specific piece of information, often contained in two or three sentences. Do not be misled into choosing an answer (even one that makes good sense) if you cannot find it supported by the text.

- When you find a key word or its synonym in a sentence, reread that sentence to make sure the test makers haven't used the original wording to mislead you.
- This is more like a direct opposite of answering inference questions where you do not have to rely on the text, here the text or sentences in the passage are essentially what you have been asked to find.

When asked about specific details in the passage, spot key words in the question and scan the passage to find them (or their synonyms).

Strategies for Answering Specific Detail Questions:

- Identify the most important word(s) in the question. This general strategy is critical for specific detail questions. Identify the word or phrase that will guide you toward the answer as you read the passage.
- Make mental notes related to the word or phrase as you read. If the question is a straightforward question about a fact or example from the text, your answer will likely appear in the same sentence in which the word or phrase appears -- or in the sentence before or after that sentence. However, be sure to read the entire passage. Understanding the main idea of the passage is often critical to choosing the correct answer for specific detail questions.
- Some questions will contain a key word or phrase that is a synonym for another word or phrase in the passage. In this case, look for the word or phrase in the passage that means nearly the same as the word or phrase in the stem.

- Some questions will simply ask you to identify the statement that is true or accurate among the answer options. In this case, take brief notes on the main idea as you read and test each answer choice against the facts presented in the passage.

Traps you need to avoid in Detail Questions

Avoid making any Inference: This is the unique trap for specific Detail Questions. The other common wrong answers appear in all the other question types. Since this question type requires us to actually find an answer in the passage, there will be one answer choice that appears like it could be in the passage, but is not actually directly stated anywhere in the passage. The correct answer will always be explicitly mentioned in the passage, so toss out any answer which is not directly written in ink (or light since it's a computer).

Beware of Distorted information from the Passage: Distorting the passage in Detail Questions usually involves stating something from the passage, but tweaking it in some way. Some questions may take an idea from the passage and reverse it, making it imply the opposite of what the passage actually is saying.

Also, this can take the form of distorting the tone and purpose of the passage. If the author was describing a phenomenon or informing the reader about a concept or theory, the answer choice will make it seem like the author was arguing a point or supporting one side over another.

Extreme Language Always, any, all, never, none, these should be warning signs for a wrong answer. The passages are often balanced and thoughtful. Even when the passage is arguing for some idea, the author will include concession points and balanced analysis of their position. So any answer choice that makes a bold claim, a broad generalization, or a simplified statement about a detail in the passage will most likely be wrong.

Unsupported or New: Always be on the lookout for new information in an answer choice. Whether it is something related but unsupported by the passage or related but not in the passage at all, these trap answers can be quite tempting. Sometimes they may include an idea that might fit in with the general discussion, but is ultimately outside the scope of the passage. Sometimes they like to talk about actual numbers and values when the passage only mentions percentages. Don't fall for this trap. Make sure that everything in the answer is actually in the passage.

JAMB questions on Specific Details

Passage 1

All over the world till lately, and in most of the world still today, mankind has been following the course of nature, that is to say, it has been breeding up to the maximum. To let nature take her extravagant course in the reproduction of the human race may have made sense in an age in which we were also letting her take her course in decimating mankind by the casualties of war, pestilence, and famine. Being human, we have at last revolted against that senseless waste. We have started to impose on nature's heartless play a *humane* new order of our own. But, when once man has begun to interfere with nature, he cannot afford to stop half way. We cannot, with impunity, cut down the death-rate and at the same time allow the birth-rate to go on taking nature's course. *We must consciously try to establish an equilibrium* or, sooner or later, famine will stalk abroad again. **[1978]**

The author observes that

- war, pestilence and famine were caused by the extravagance of nature.
- nature was heartless and senseless.
- there was a time when uncontrolled birth made sense.
- it was wise at a time When mankind did not interfere with normal reproduction.

Passage 2

The endeavor to maintain proper standards of fairness in journalism must be pursued. It is fatally easy for the journalist to deviate from the straight path. There is his natural desire to 'make a story' and *insidious* temptation to twist facts to square with his paper's policy. Both are as indefensible as the framing of misleading headlines for the sake of effect. The conscientious journalist must check any tendency to bias, and guard against the dangers inherent in personal antipathies or friendships, and in traditional opposition between rival schools of thought. When a political opponent, whose stupidity habitually provokes attack, makes an effective speech, honesty requires that he be given credit for it. Where personal relationships might make it easier and more congenial to keep silent than to criticize, the journalist must never forget his duty to the public and the supreme importance of recording the truth. **[1978]**

A journalist would be able to uphold the tenets of his profession if

- he seeks publicity.
- he tries to achieve popularity.
- he resists temptation to bias.
- he can manipulate his story to please his employers.

Passage 3

The endeavour to maintain proper standards of fairness in journalism must be pursued. It is fatally easy for the journalist to deviate from the straight path. There is his natural desire to 'make a story' and *insidious* temptation to

twist facts to square with his paper's policy. Both are as indefensible as the framing of misleading headlines for the sake of effect. The conscientious journalist must check any tendency to bias, and guard against the dangers inherent in personal antipathies or friendships, and in traditional opposition between rival schools of thought. When a political opponent, whose stupidity habitually provokes attack, makes an effective speech, honesty requires that he be given credit for it. Where personal relationships might make it easier and more congenial to keep silent than to criticize, the journalist must never forget his duty to the public and the supreme importance of recording the truth. **[1978]**

A dutiful journalist must

- A. read widely.
- B. have political acumen.
- C. make no enemies but friends.
- D. be able to recognize merit wherever found.

Answers 1.C. 2.C. 3.D.

MEANING OF WORDS IN A PASSAGE

Determining the Meaning of words from their context

When a question in the reading comprehension part of an examination asks for the meaning of a word, that meaning can usually be deduced from the word's context. The purpose of this kind of question is to determine how well you can extract meaning from the text, not how extensive your general vocabulary is.

Sometimes the unknown word is a common word used in one of its special or technical meanings.

For example:

He threw the pot in an hour. The wheel turned busily and the shape grew quickly as his fingers worked the wet, spinning clay. (*Throw* here means to shape on a potter's wheel.)

At other times, the unknown word may bear a deceptive resemblance to a known word.

Example:

He fell senseless to the ground. (*He was unconscious. He did not fall foolishly or nonsensically to the ground.*)

Just because you know one meaning of a word, do not assume that you know its meaning as it is used in a particular passage. You must look within the passage for clues.

Always remember that the question to find the meaning of words used in a passage is always framed as:

- As it is used in the passage, the term...can best be described as...
- The phrase...is used in the passage to mean that...
- As used by the author, the term...refers to...
- The author uses the phrase...to describe...

Some more examples

Read the passage and find the meaning of all the underlined words

Sample 1

Projectiles include those items that are shot forward such as a cannon shell, bullet, or rocket.

Using the example clue, the word projectiles in this sentence means

- A. things put down. B. things shot forward. C. things hurt. D. things broken. **Correct Option B**

Sample 2

The professor was a favorite among the students at the college. His sagacity was helpful to them as they pursued their degrees. The professor was known to use his experience, insight, and common sense to help students pursue their education.

Using the example clue, the word sagacity in this sentence means

- A. silliness. B. Thoughtlessness. C. Wisdom. D. Negligence. **Correct Option C**

Sample 3

Famous conquistadors include Cortes, who conquered Aztec Mexico and Pizarro, who conquered Inca Peru.

Using the example clue, the word conquistadors in this sentence means

- A. geographers. B. Losers. C. Victims. D. Conquerors. **Correct Option D**

Sample 4

A sleuth, such as Sherlock Holmes, can be very helpful in solving crimes.

Using the example clue, the word sleuth in this sentence means

- A. senior citizen. B. Man. C. Pilot. D. Detective. **Correct Option D**

Sample 5

Zack was a good at many sports. He excelled in swimming, running, horsemanship, fencing, and target shooting. He decided to compete in the pentathlon rather than having to choose one of the events.

Using the example clue, the word pentathlon in this sentence means

- A. competition with two events.
- B. competition with eight events.
- C. competition with ten events.

D. competition with five events. **Correct Option D**

JAMB questions on meaning of words

Passage 1

All over the world till lately, and in most of the world still today, mankind has been following the course of nature, that is to say, it has been breeding up to the maximum. To let nature take her extravagant course in the reproduction of the human race may have made sense in an age in which we were also letting her take her course in decimating mankind by the casualties of war, pestilence, and famine. Being human, we have at last revolted against that senseless waste. We have started to impose on nature's heartless play a *humane* new order of our own. But, when once man has begun to interfere with nature, he cannot afford to stop half way. We cannot, with impunity, cut down the death-rate and at the same time allow the birth-rate to go on taking nature's course. *We must consciously try to establish an equilibrium* or, sooner or later, famine will stalk abroad again. [1978]

'humane' as used in the passage means

A. thorough. B. sensible. C. wise. D. benevolent.

Passage 2

The endeavour to maintain proper standards of fairness in journalism must be pursued. It is fatally easy for the journalist to deviate from the straight path. There is his natural desire to 'make a story' and *insidious* temptation to twist facts to square with his paper's policy. Both are as indefensible as the framing of misleading headlines for the sake of effect. The conscientious journalist must check any tendency to bias, and guard against the dangers inherent in personal antipathies or friendships, and in traditional opposition between rival schools of thought. When a political opponent, whose stupidity habitually provokes attack, makes an effective speech, honesty requires that he be given credit for it. Where personal relationships might make it easier and more congenial to keep silent than to criticize, the journalist must never forget his duty to the public and the supreme importance of recording the truth. [1978]

'Insidious' (line 2) means

A. subtle. B. natural. C. unusual. D. wicked.

Passage 3

These two factors, the altitude and the weather, tend separately and together to defeat the climber. The height weakens, slows him down; it forces him to spend days and nights in the course of his assault on the summit; the weather, besides adding to the demands of his energy and moral fortitude, *conspires* to deny him the time he needs to complete his mission. Whereas in lower mountains and on easy ground the weather may be no more than a handicap, in the high Himalayas it is decisive, *regardless of terrain*.

The deduction to be drawn from these two factors was clear enough. We must either so fortify ourselves that we could continue, without detriment, *to live and have our being above the limit of natural acclimatization*, or, better still, we must solve the problem of speed. It was desirable, in fact, that we should meet both these requirements and thus give to those chosen to attempt the summit and to their supporting teams some measure of insurance against the vagaries of the weather, for safety in mountain climbing is as much a matter of swiftness as of sureness of foot. Either or both could be achieved only by the administration of oxygen in sufficient quantities to make up for the deficiency in the air, and for the duration of the upward journey above the limit of successful acclimatization. [1978]

3. **'conspires' (line 3) means** A. ruins. B. makes secret plans. C. takes a wicked action. D. Combines.

4. **'regardless of terrain' (line 5) means**

A. ever on easy ground. B. despite the nature of the ground. C. because of steeper gradients. D. ignoring the inhospitality of the mountainside.

Answers 1. B 2. A 3. D 4. B

NOTE: When asked to find the meaning or a grammatical function of words in the passage, ensure to read the whole sentence or paragraph to understand the context usage of the words you are asked to find.

IMPLIED MEANING

Determining the Implied meaning of a passage

This type of question is asking you to make inferences, base your answers on what the passage implies, not what it states directly. Inference questions require you to use your own judgment. You must not take anything directly stated by the author as an inference. Instead, you must look for clues in the passage that you can use in deriving your own conclusion. You should choose as your answer a statement that is a logical development of the information the author has provided. Inference questions test your ability to go beyond the authors explicit statements and see what these statements imply. They may come in these forms:

- It can be inferred from the passage that

- The author implies that
- The passage suggests that
- Which of the following statements about can be inferred from the passage?

When Inferring Meaning: Consider the following statement:

“The Senator admitted owning the gun that killed his wife.”

This is a simple statement about what someone said. Our understanding obviously includes much that is not stated.

There are other meaning embedded in the words and phrases.

Unpacking that meaning, we can see that the Senator was married and his wife is now dead - although this is not actually stated as such. It is as though the single sentence contains a number of assertions as the following:

- There is a Senator.
- He owns a gun.
- He is married.
- His wife is dead.
- That gun caused her death.
- The Senator admitted owning that gun.

On a more subtle level, we recognize that a public figure confronts involvement in a major crime. Our understanding need not stop there. We infer that the gun (or at least a bullet) has probably been recovered and identified as the murder weapon - or the notion of an admission would make little sense. We also recognize the danger of unwarranted inferences. We recognize that we do not necessarily know if the Senator's admission is true. We do not really know whether the Senator is in any way responsible for his wife's death, nor do we know that she died of gunshot wounds (she could have been hit over the head with the gun). We do not even know if it was murder - it might have been suicide or an accident.

This is a typical inference question.

The following story is often presented as a brain twister. In fact, it's a reading exercise.

A man and his son are driving in a car. The car crashes into a tree, killing the father and seriously injuring his son. At the hospital, the boy needs to have surgery. Upon looking at the boy, the doctor says (telling the truth), "I cannot operate on him. He is my son."

How can this be? Decide on your answer before reading further.

Whether this passage is a brain twister or a reading passage, readers must assume that any lack of understanding is not due to the story, but due to their own lack of understanding. We must work harder to think about how the story might make sense. We quickly see that we have to explain how a doctor can have a son ("I cannot operate on him. He is my son.") when at the same time the father is dead ("The car crashes into a tree, killing the father").

The answer: The doctor is the boy's mother. Many readers are blinded to this meaning by the sexist assumption that the doctor must be a male.

Culled from: https://www.ccsf.edu/dam/Organizational_Assets/Department/ESL/CLAD/infer.pdf

Some examples of questions with implied meaning:

Writers often do not explain everything to the reader. For example, in stories, the writer may not tell the reader the time or place. Often readers have to guess these things. This is called making inferences or “reading between the lines.” Readers frequently need to find small clues that lead them to infer - understand - things that the author doesn't explicitly state. They need to use information in the text to guess other things about the text. For example, you might read: “The waves rushed up around his legs and he could feel the coarse sand between his toes.” You would then infer that this person was at the beach.

Below, we will start out simple with exercises where you will make inferences based on sentences and then short reading passages.

Read each sentence; then chose the one answer choice that is an implied meaning based upon that sentence.

1. Blood cholesterol used to be thought of as a problem only for adults.

- A. Blood cholesterol is no longer a problem for adults.
- B. Only children have a problem with blood cholesterol.
- C. Blood cholesterol affects both adults and children.
- D. cholesterol is more dangerous than cancer. **Correct Option C**

2. When apple growers talk about new varieties of apples, they don't mean something developed last month, last year, or even in the last decade.

- A. Apple growers haven't developed any new varieties in recent decades.
- B. Some varieties of apples can be developed in a short time, but others take a long time.
- C. New varieties of apples take many years to develop.

- D. There are no New varieties of apples. **Correct Option A**
- 3. In all cultures, gestures are used as a form of communication, but the same gestures may have very different meanings in different cultures.**
- A. No two cultures use the same gestures.
 - B. One gesture will never have the same meaning in two cultures.
 - C. A person from one culture may misunderstand the gestures used by a person from another culture.
 - D. Gesture is a good form of communication. **Correct Option C**
- 4. Although sheepherding is an older and more beloved occupation, shepherds never caught the attention of American filmmakers the way cowboys did.**
- A. There have been more American films about cowboys than about shepherds.
 - B. Films about shepherds were popular before films about cowboys
 - C. Cowboys are generally younger than shepherds.
 - D. American Filmmakers love shepherds. **Correct Option A**
- 5. As an architect, Thomas Jefferson preferred the Roman style, as seen in the buildings of the University of Virginia, to the English style favored by Charles Bullfinch.**
- A. The architecture of the University of Virginia was influenced by the Roman style.
 - B. Bullfinch was an English architect.
 - C. Jefferson preferred to build in the English style of architecture.
 - D. Jefferson is a Roman architect. **Correct Option A**
- 6. Even spiders that do not build webs from silk use it for a variety of purposes, such as constructing egg sacs and nursery tents.**
- A. All spiders build webs.
 - B. Spiders that build webs don't build egg sacs or nursery tents.
 - C. Silk is used by all spiders.
 - D. I don't know. **Correct Option C**
- 7. There is more quartz in the world than any one kind of feldspar, but the feldspars as a group are five times more common than quartz.**
- A. One type of quartz is five times more plentiful than feldspar.
 - B. Quartz is less common than the feldspars.
 - C. The most common type of feldspar is as plentiful as quartz.
 - D. There are beautiful quartz and feldspar all round the world. **Correct Option B**
- 8. Illegible handwriting does not indicate weakness of character, as even a quick glance at the penmanship of George Washington, Franklin D. Roosevelt, or John Kennedy reveals.**
- A. Washington, Roosevelt, and Kennedy all had handwriting that was difficult to read.
 - B. A person's handwriting reveals a lot about that person.
 - C. The author believes that Washington, Roosevelt, and Kennedy all had weak characters.
 - D. All mentioned names are dead. **Correct Option A**

JAMB questions on implied meaning

Passage 1

They hung around together, the boys from the school up on the hill, School was over. They were expecting the results. One or two got teaching jobs in St. Alban's College. It is one of the post-war secondary schools that sprang up in the city because serious people felt the educational need of the country, and possessed a sharp nose for smelling quick money. Boys from up country who were eager to learn, whose parents had a little money, but who could not get into the big schools like Achimota and Mfantsipim in Cape Coast, rushed to the new schools, secured lodgings with distance relatives, and bought for a relatively cheap amount some sort of education.

His friend Sammy was the history master from Form One to Five and was also put in charge of sports in the distant hope that the school would one day get its own playing field near the mental hospital.

There were six hundred students who were all day boys; classes were held in Dr. Dodu's house. The house was originally built by a man of wealth and a large family. The bedrooms, of which there were eight, were turned into classrooms, toilets were knocked into pantries to provide additional classrooms for the ever growing population of the school. Mr. Anokye, a retired pharmacist, owned the school. He laid great emphasis on science, being a science man himself. He wore a small-rimmed pair of glasses which made him look like one of those little black cats on Christmas cards. He had a small voice which squeaked with akpeteshie, and a breath like the smell of gunpowder, He had spent many years at Korle Bu Hospital where he drank the methylated spirit meant to be supplied to laboratory assistants. He was dedicated to learning, a scholar in many ways. He knew Archimedes' principle. Whenever he shouted, during terminal examinations, his battle cry of Eureka! Eureka! Then he had caught someone cheating, someone looking over his mate's answer sheet. Mr. Anokye came from a long line of scholars. He claimed his grandfather went to England with Reverend T.A. Barnes, D. D., who was the Anglican Bishop of Cape Coast Diocese from 1896 to 1909. He was dedicated to his work. He interviewed Sammy himself, questioned him about his parentage and religious background,

listened to him carefully, and decided to appoint him on a salary of six pounds per month pending the outcome of his Cambridge School Certificate examination. He questioned him closely on history, especially the Glorious Revolution, and Oliver Cromwell. [1979]

We know that St. Alban's College was in the pioneering state because

- A. only pupils of poor homes were admitted into it.
- B. all the students were day boys.
- C. the emphasis was on science.
- D. it did not even have a playing field.

Passage 2

The earthly paradises of Bali and of the South Sea Islands, and the gentle, non-acquisitive civilization of Burma, have been aptly described and romanticized. One can add to them the Nicobar Islands, where a small population lives happily on a very low cultural level. But perhaps the most remarkable and the least known of these earthly paradises is the small kingdom of Hunza in the Himalayas, which was recently visited and enthusiastically described by the journalist, Noel Barber (*Daily Mail*, 5, 6, 8 June 1962).

A fair-skinned population of 18,000, they live in a fertile and almost inaccessible valley not far from the Sinking border, 8,000 feet up. A legend has it that they are the descendants of three deserters from the army of Alexander the Great, who settled here with Persian wives which makes one inclined to believe that pacifism may be hereditary, because these people had no war in 2,000 years. They have no money, no crime, and no diseases, they rarely die before ninety. Their psychosomatic control is almost unbelievable, childbirth is painless, and toothache, a joke; they keep their numbers stationary without contraceptives, and without abortion, but by sheer abstinence, though Noel Barber saw the newborn son of a chuckling father aged eighty-nine. Their diet, which consists mostly of apricots and raw vegetables, may have something to do with their unshakable serenity. It makes one gasp with surprise that human nature can be like this. One is reminded of Huxley's *Island*, but unlike the Palanese, the Hunza people have no art, only serenity! [1979]

The civilizations of Burma and Nicobar Islands are

- A. alike because both are romanticized.
- B. alike because both operate at low cultural levels.
- C. alike because one is gentle and non-acquisitive and the other operates at a low cultural level.
- D. not alike because Burma has been described but the Nicobar Islands have not.

Passage 3

The earthly paradises of Bali and of the South Sea Islands, and the gentle, non-acquisitive civilization of Burma, have been aptly described and romanticized. One can add to them the Nicobar Islands, where a small population lives happily on a very low cultural level. But perhaps the most remarkable and the least known of these earthly paradises is the small kingdom of Hunza in the Himalayas, which was recently visited and enthusiastically described by the journalist, Noel Barber (*Daily Mail*, 5, 6, 8 June 1962).

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The Kingdom of Hunza had no war in 2,000 years. This

- A. proves that pacifism is hereditary.
- B. suggests that pacifism may be hereditary.
- C. shows that Alexander the Great was their ancestor, and he hated wars.
- D. is because they deserted the army of Alexander the Great.

Passage 4

There is one fascinating question that arises out of the contemplation of mud sculpture. Why should anybody use unbaked mud, the most perishable of materials? Is it because no other materials are readily available? The question is not easy to answer definitely. Mud is, of course, the cheapest and most readily available material. Yet there is ample proof that mud is not used merely because it is easy to get hold of and cheap. Many Igbo *Mbari* houses are the only buildings in the village that have an imported corrugated iron roof — which proves that the people who built them

shun no cost to make them look important. In all the areas where I have seen mud sculpture, wood carving and brass casting are also known and practiced. In Yoruba country, stone is also used as a medium for sculpture. One important thing to realize is that different materials are not necessarily used because they have lasting, durable qualities. In Yoruba country today, brass can only be used by Oshun or Ogboni worshippers. Ivory can only be used by Obatala worshippers, copper by Sonponna, iron by Ogun and so on.

Materials are used for their mystic properties of absorbing or repelling human radiation. The Obatala worshipper uses Ivory a protection, in the sense that it is protecting him from the destructive psychic influences of a man whose mentality is *basically* different or opposed to his. Similarly Oshun worshippers use brass figures in their shrines — not because brass lasts longer than wood, but because brass possesses certain magical qualities that are sacred to Oshun. It is not difficult to understand why mud is considered the appropriate medium for Ala (the Igbo earth goddess). Olokun (the Bini god of the ocean), or Legba (originally an earthgod of the Fon). The fact that the material is perishable and sometimes does not even last five years does not enter into the consideration. One does not interfere with the natural life of a carving. When it perishes, a new one simply has to be made. [1979]

The durability of a carving

- A. is not considered important.
- B. is less than five years.
- C. should not be interfered with.
- D. is natural.

Answers 1.D. 2.C. 3.B. 4.A.

When asked to make inferences, base your answers on what the passage implies, not what it states directly.

LOGICAL REASONING

Logical Reasoning: Arguments and Conclusions

JAMB logical reasoning questions require you to do three things:

- Reason - If X is true, then Y must also be true.
- Perceive Feelings - If the author feels this way about subject A, he probably feels a certain way about subject B.
- Sense a Larger Structure - This passage is part of an argument for a proposal, or part of a description of a process, or part of a critique of a hypothesis.

Like inference questions, application questions require you to go beyond what the author explicitly states. Application questions, however, ask you to go well beyond a simple inference, using clues in the passage to interpret possible reasons for actions and possible outcomes of events. Your concern is to comprehend how the author's ideas might apply to other situations, or be affected by them. To do so, you have to put yourself in the author's place.

Imagine you are the author. What are you arguing for? Given what you have just stated in the passage, what would you want to say next? What might hurt your argument? What might make it stronger? What kind of audience would appreciate what you have to say? Whom are you trying to convince? If you involve yourself personally- with the passage, you will be better able to grasp' it in its entirety and see its significance

Some students, who find that they can answer many comprehension questions in WAEC correctly by skimming the passage without reading every word, tend to attack logical reasoning questions in JAMB the same way. This is a very poor strategy.

First of all, the temptation to skim logical argument passages should be less, since these passages are much shorter than the usual run of reading comprehension passages, and skimming them will save less time. More important, in logical reasoning passages, it is not enough to have a general idea about the argument; you must be able to analyze the argument very closely. A cursory reading is not sufficient to pick up a subtle flaw in logic or to ascertain what unstated premise the author is assuming to be true.

In answering logical reasoning questions, you must read closely both the argument and the question or questions based on it. When you do so, be on the lookout for certain signal words that can clarify the situation. In particular, be alert for:

Cause and Effect Signal Words

The following words often signal the conclusion of an argument:

So, therefore, thus, accordingly, consequently for this reason and hence

Contrast Signal Words

The following words often suggest a reversal of thought within an argument or question stem:

Although, but, instead, nevertheless, not, on the contrary, on the other hand, rather than, unlike, despite, even though, except, however and in contrast

NOTE:In answering logical reasoning questions, read each argument very carefully and pay particular attention to signal words in the question and in the argument as well.

Questions about the conclusion of the argument

It is imperative that you are absolutely clear about what conclusion the author of the argument claims to have reached. The three most common situations are as follows: • The conclusion is the last sentence of the passage, often introduced by a word such as therefore, so, thus, hence, or consequently.

Here is a simple example of this type of argument:

Joan Smith has those qualities that we seek in our congressional leaders. She is honest, hardworking, intelligent, and dedicated. Having served for ten years in the House of Representatives, she has the requisite experience to be an effective United States Senator. Therefore, you should enthusiastically vote for Ms. Smith in this year’s election.

- The conclusion is the first sentence of the passage, followed by the supporting evidence. In such a case, there is no word such as therefore signaling the conclusion, but it is still very easy to spot. For example, the preceding argument could have been presented as follows:

Joan Smith deserves your vote for United States Senator. She has those qualities that we seek in our congressional leaders. She is honest, hard-working, intelligent, and dedicated. In addition, having served for ten years in the House of Representatives, she has the requisite congressional experience to be an effective United States Senator.

- The conclusion is not in the passage. In such cases, the question usually asks you to identify the conclusion that is implicit in the argument. For example, if in the two preceding arguments the last or first sentence, respectively, had been omitted, you would have had no difficulty determining that the author of the passage wanted you to vote for Joan Smith. The question might have asked, “Which of the following five statements can most reasonably be inferred from the statements in the given passage?”

In tackling reasoning questions, always identify the conclusion of the argument.

Questions about weakening or strengthening an argument

An argument is based upon certain assumptions made by its author. If an argument’s basic premises are sound, the argument is strengthened. If the arguments basic premises are flawed, the argument is weakened. Pinpoint what the argument assumes. Then compare that assumption with the answer choices. If the question asks you to choose an answer that most strengthen the argument, look for the answer choice that is most in keeping with the argument’s basic assumption. If the question asks you to choose an answer that most weaken the argument, look for the answer choice that casts the most doubt on that assumption.

In questions about weakening or strengthening an argument, examine the argument for any unstated assumptions it makes.

JAMB questions on logical reasoning

Passage 1

I dare not lift the veil that protects our tribal marriage customs and ceremonies from the eyes of outsiders. There is already too little in this world that is sacred; and what Fatmata and I were required to go through during the next week must remain so. I was deeply in debt by the time everything was over, but I was absolutely satisfied with my parents’ choice. Fatmata was as black as satin, and as soft. She had the teeth and smile of a goddess. The Dupo tutors had done their job well; she was a completely efficient lover and mother. I brought her home with *swelling* pride, and began at once to save all I could spare towards the cost of acquiring my second wife. *My anti-Western revolt was gaining momentum. [1978]*

The evidence would seem to indicate that

- A. he disapproves of her ways.
- B. he thinks she is extravagant.
- C. the author adores his wife.
- D. she had not been properly brought up.

Passage 2

No journey can be quite as soothing as a voyage on the Nile from Cairo to Philae. Day after day as you sail upstream nothing in the general pattern changes. Tonight's incredibly bright stars are the same as last night’s and tomorrow’s. Each new bend in the river discloses the same buffalo circling his waterwheel, the same pigeon-lofts on the houses, the same dark Egyptian faces swathed in white.

The banks are surprisingly green, a patchwork of ricefields and sugarcane, of palms and eucalyptus, and then beyond them, like a frame set around a picture, one sees the desert and the hills. There is always a movement somewhere, but it is of a gentle, ambulatory, kind, and one feels oneself going along in a rhythm with the processions of camels and donkeys on the bank, and the feluccas gliding by, and the buffalo, released at last from his wheel, sliding to the blessed coolness of the water in the evening. Occasionally a whiff of humanity comes out from the mud-hut villages on the shore, and it contains traces of the smoke of cooking fires, of dried cow-dung and of Turkish coffee, of some sweet and heavy scent, jasmine perhaps, and of water sprinkled on the dust. It is not unpleasant.

Lying on deck, one idly observes the flight of birds, one dreams one lets the hours go by, and nothing can be more satisfying than the sight of the brown pillars of a ruined temple that has been standing alone on the edge of the desert for the last two thousand years. This is the past joining the present in a comfortably deceptive glow, and the traveller, like a spectator in a theatre, remains detached from both. He would not for the world live in the dust and

squalor of these villages he finds so picturesque, and the ancient ruins he has come to see do not really evoke the early civilization of the Egyptians. **[1979]**

Which of the following suggests that the country is a land of ancient civilization?

- A. the brown pillars.
- B. Egyptian faces swathed in white.
- C. the palms and eucalyptus.
- D. the mud-nut villages.

Passage 3

I began work at the smithy on the Monday morning. My wages were half a crown a week. My hours were from six in the morning till six at night, with an hour's break for lunch. My boss, Boeta Dick, was a tall, bent, reedy consumptive. He had a parched yellow skin, drawn tight over his jutting bones. His cheeks were so sunken it was as though he were permanently sucking them in. His eyes were far back in his head. He coughed violently, and beside his seat was a bucket of sand into which he spat. Changing the sand daily was the only part of my job I hated.

The smithy was divided into two parts. At one end were the machines that cut, shaped, and put the tins together. The men who worked on the machines were on a regular weekly wage. At the other end, was a row of small furnaces, each with its own bellows and pile of fuel. Here, at each furnace, a man sat soldering the seams of the tins as they came from the machines. The solderers were on piece-work. To average two or three pounds a week they had to do a mountainous amount of soldering. Each solderer had a boy to cart the tins from the machines to him, then to smear the seams of each tin with Sulphur powder so that the lead took easily, and, after checking, to cart the tins out of the yard where the lorries collected them. **[1980]**

The boss, Boeta Dick, can be described as being

- A. skinny.
- B. hard working.
- C. ambitious.
- D. a Chinese.

Passage 4

Rufus Okeke - Roof, for short - was a very popular man in the village. Although the villagers did not explain it in so many words, Roofs popularity was a measure of their gratitude to an energetic young man who, unlike most of his fellows nowadays, had not abandoned the village in order to seek work, any work, in the town. Roof was not a village tout either. Everyone knew how he had spent two years as a bicycle repairer's apprentice in Port Harcourt and had given up of his own free will a bright future to return to his people and guide them in these political times. Not that Umofia needed a lot of guidance. The village already belonged en masse to the People's Alliance party, and it's most illustrious son. Chief the Honourable Marcus Ibe, was Minister of Culture in the outgoing government (which was pretty certain to be the incoming one as well). Nobody doubted that the Honourable Minister would be elected in his constituency. Opposition to him was like the proverbial fly trying to move a dunghill. It would have been ridiculous enough without coming, as it did now, from a complete nonentity.

As was to be expected, Roof was in the service of the Honourable Minister for the coming elections. He had become a real expert in election campaigning at all levels - village, local government or national. He could tell the mood and temper of the electorate at any given time. For instance, he had warned the Minister months ago about the radical change that had come into the thinking of Umuofia since the last national election. **[1980]**

Which of the statements would you consider correct with reference to Okeke as an election expert?

- A. it is true that he was an expert.
- B. it is doubtful that he was an expert.
- C. it is most likely to be true that he was an expert.
- D. there are no election experts.

Answers: 1.C. 2.A. 3.A. 4.C.

EXAMPLES ON EVERYTHING ABOUT COMPREHENSION PASSAGES

Passage 1

There are many different approaches to conflict management, each of which may have utility in particular circumstances. A great deal of scholarship has been devoted to analyzing how and in what situations different approaches can be applied most effectively.

Conflict management approaches can be classified into two broad categories: Firstly on the basis of the level of escalation which the particular conflict is being managed. In this sense, one can distinguish between the peaceful and the 'military' approaches. The trademarks of the peaceful approach are negotiation, verbal persuasion, use of inducements, denial of privileges, and subtle manipulations short of the use of physical forces, while those of the military approach relate to the use of physical coercion. The use of physical force could be by a party to the conflict or

third party, to promote one side's interest, impose a settlement, or create a situation in which diplomatic negotiations can occur.

Secondly, conflict management approaches can also be classified according to the status of the participants in the bargaining process. For example, a conflict could be managed through 'negotiation', that is, direct bargaining by the parties involved in the conflict; or through 'mediation', that is with the help of a third party. [2015]

1. The expression *third party*, as used in the passage, means.
A. politician. B. intruder. C. conformist. D. mediator.
2. From the passage, it can be deduced that
A. all nations adopt the peaceful approach.
B. all nations prefer the military option.
C. prevailing circumstances push a warring nation to sue for peace.
D. conflicts are noted for facilitating opportunities.
3. Which of the following statements can be inferred from the passage?
A. The approach to employ in conflict management depends on the state of affairs.
B. Only one conflict management approach can be applied in all situations.
C. All conflict management approaches can be applied in all situations.
D. There is a general disagreement among scholars on conflict management.
4. According to the passage, the different approaches to conflict management are
A. pernicious. B. uniform. C. misleading. D. fundamental.
5. The word *utility*, as used in the passage, means
A. difficulty. B. attitude. C. usefulness. D. management.

Answers Passage 1

1.D. 2.C. 3.A. 4.D 5.C.

Passage 2

Political change and social transformation in the form of *revolutions* have radically altered the course of human civilization and history. Today, the world is witnessing political and social changes arising from the desire of people all over the globe for greater freedom and a voice in the way they are governed and a better standard of living. Part of these struggles and processes have become more pronounced in the Third World since the end of the East- West Cold War in the late 1980s, and in the face of the challenges being posed by the ongoing process of globalization.

While political and social changes may appear to be distinct phenomena, they are analytically inseparable. Political and social changes refer to *alteration* or transformations in human behaviour, norms and politico- social institutions. Such changes are often a collective response to the need to change, or as a tacit recognition of a shift in the prevalent power relations in the society. Therefore, the coming to power of a new set of rulers, or the establishment of new structures and processes of governance broadly typifies socio-political changes.

It is important to note that change can either be positive or negative. In most cases, political and social changes are caused by certain factors or reasons. These push people to collectively organize themselves to struggle for a change in the existing power relations. Another reason is to capture political power, in the hope of making life better for the generality of the people. If politics is defined as who gets what, when and how; it then implies that political change refers to an alteration in the form of power, and the identity of the group or class which controls and wields state power. [2014]

Adapted from Anifowose, R. and Enemu, F. (1999) *Element of Politics*.

1. Which of the following is true according to the passage? A. Change is inimitable. B. Change is inestimable. C. Change is invaluable. D. Change is inevitable.
2. It can be deduced from the passage that political and social changes are: A. intertwined. B. antithetical. C. independent. D. repulsive.
3. A suitable title for this passage is A. Reasons for Political Change. B. The Struggle for Political Power. C. Elements of Politics. D. Social Change and Political Empowerment.
4. The word alteration, as used in the passage, means A. multiplication. B. recognition. C. modification. D. complication.

Answers Passage 2: 1.D. 2.A. 3.D. 4.C.

Passage 3

Like all reptiles, snakes are cold-blooded, or more correctly, ectothermic-they cannot produce their own body heat; instead, they rely on the sun to heat their bodies. Because they do not rely on energy from food to generate body heat, snakes can survive on an extremely meager diet. Some wait for months between successive meals, and a few survive by eating a large meal just once or twice a year. When they do eat, snakes swallow their prey whole rather than biting off small pieces. Many snakes have specialized jaws that enable them to swallow animals that are far larger than their own heads. Although uncommon, some snakes, such as the African rock python, have been observed eating animals as large as an antelope or a small cow.

With over two thousand five hundred species belonging to more than ten families, snakes are a large and successful group. They owe much of this success to their versatility- snakes occupy habitat ranging from underground burrows to the top of the tree, to ocean depths as great as one hundred and fifty metres. They are found on every continent except Antarctica, and although they are most abundant in tropical areas, many survive in regions marked by extreme cold. The only places without snakes are parts of the Polar Regions and isolated islands, such as the Republic of Ireland and New-Zealand as opposed to places in Nigeria like Plateau and Gombe States in the Northern part where there is a large population of snakes. **[2014]**

Adapted from Microsoft Encarta Premium (2009).

- 1. It can be inferred from the passage that snakes are:** A.heterogeneous creatures. B.voracious cow eaters. C.great insect eaters. D.homogeneous reptiles.
- 2. The most notable thing about snakes, according to the passage, is that they** A. abound in Gombe and Plateau States. B.are versatile in reproduction. C.eat big but seldom. D.exist in families.
- 3. Which of the following is true according to the passage?** A. Snakes are not in the polar regions. B.Snakes are endemic on every continent. C. There are countless number of snakes in the Republic of Ireland. D. Snakes are seldom seen at the Antarctica.
- 4. It can be deduced from the passage that snakes have....**A. no external auditory organs. B.visible internal locomotive organs. C. no visual sense of measurement. D. large appetite for antelopes.
- 5. A suitable title for this passage is.** A. Feeding Habits of Snakes. B. Some Characteristics of Snakes. C. Snakes as Legless, Cold-blooded Reptiles. D. Species of Snakes in Nigeria and Other Lands.

Answers: Passage 3: 1.A. 2.C 3.A. 4.C. 5.B.

Passage 4

Music plays a vital role in human society. Good music provides entertainment and emotional release, and it accompanies activities ranging from dances to religious ceremonies. Music is heard everywhere; in auditoriums, homes, elevators, schools, sports arenas and on the streets. Recorded performance is a sensational innovation of the twentieth century. Thanks to modern technology like compact disc (CD), digital video disc (DVD) and the MP3 player, music can now be heard in diverse places. Such places include living rooms and cars, jogging paths can also function as new kinds of concert halls where we can hear what we want as often as we want.

Live performances provide a special excitement. In a live performance, *artistes put themselves on the line*. To avoid embarrassment, the artiste must train beforehand and ensure that technical difficulties are avoided and that the listeners are actively involved. What is performed, how it sounds and how the artistes feel that evening exist for a fleeting moment and can never be repeated. An audience responds to the excitement of such a moment and feelings are exchanged between *stage and hall*.

Our response to a musical performance or an artiste is subjective and rooted in deep feelings. Even professional critics can differ strongly in their evaluations of a performance. There is no one “truth” about what we hear and feel. Does the performer project a concept, an overall idea, or an emotion? Do some sections of a piece, but not others, communicate something to you? Can you figure out why? It is up to us as listeners to evaluate performances of music. Alert and repeated listening will enhance our ability to compare performances and judge music so that we can fully enjoy it. People listen to music in many different ways. For instance, music can be a barely perceived background as in a film or a totally absorbing experience as in a concert. **[2013]**

Adapted from Roger, K. (1990) *An Appreciation Music: Fourth Brief Edition*, McGraw-Hill Higher Education.

- 1. The expression ‘stage and hall,’ as used in the passage, means the** A. artist and the audience. B.producer and the director. C.director and audience. D. artiste and his music.
- 2. From the passage, it can be deduced that music is** A. better appreciated in a crowd.B. better appreciated when we are happy. C. better appreciated by professional critics. D. appreciated as the environment dictates.
- 3. According to the writer, live performances provide a special excitement because they are** A. interactive. B. error-free and original. C. educative. D. stage-managed.
- 4. According to the passage, music plays a vital role in human society because** A. it is easy to appreciate music. B. stage performance is the most popular music opportunity. C. everybody can listen to music through the CD, MP3 and DVD. D. music provides enjoyment and relief.

Answers Passage 4: 1.A. 2.D. 3.A. 4.D.

Passage 5

In 1951, the Government decided to start a Pottery Training Centre where new and more advanced technical methods, especially glazing, could be taught. The centre was intended to serve the whole of the defunct Northern Region, and there were several reasons for choosing Abuja. The first was the excellence of the traditional pottery made in the Emirate. Secondly, firewood is plentiful; this is a most important consideration, because in the making of glazed pottery, more firewood than clay is required. Thirdly, there are good clays, and good local sources for the raw materials needed for the glazes. Fourthly, water, which is another important raw material, is plentiful. Finally, Abuja is in a central position for the whole region and is a town where learners from many different parts can find a *congenial* temporary home, and where the Emir and his Council are actively interested in the project.

Nearly all the making is done by a process called ‘throwing’, so called because the lumps of clay are thrown by the potter onto a wheel-head. They are weighed out so that each pot will be roughly the same size; for example, for making pint-sized jugs, the lumps of clay will be one and a half kilogrammes. The potter sits on the saddle of the wheel and spins it by pushing a pedal with his left foot. He has a bowl of water, a loofah, a bamboo knife, a pointed stick or porcupine quill, a wooden-smoothing tool which potters call a rib, and a piece of wirelike object that is used for wedging. He makes the wheel-head slightly damp, and throws the lumps into the middle. The first work is to force the lump to the centre, ‘then he presses his thumb into the middle of the lump, using water to keep it slippery. When the bottom is of the right thickness, he begins to draw up the walls until they are of the right height. Then he shapes the belly and shoulder of the pot. He *trims off any waste clay*. In this way, a small and medium-sized pot can be made quickly and accurately. [2013]

Adapted from Robert, J.M.E and Smith, L.E.M. (1978) Testing English Language, AUP

- Which of the following was a reason for choosing Abuja as pottery centre?** A. It was the only place for pot makers. B. Its proximity to raw materials. C. It was the only place for glazed project. D. Its medium-sized pot project.
- Which of the following is true according to the passage?** A. Pots can be made quickly and correctly. B. A pot thrown on a wheel is less likely to break. C. The potter does not have to work hard if he uses the wheel. D. Anyone, with almost no training, can run pots on a wheel.
- From the passage, how does a potter make several pots of almost identical size?** A. By weighing the lumps of clay. B. By having the right tools. C. By knowing what to do from experience. D. By having the knowledge of different pots.
- The phrase *trims off any waste clay*, as used in the passage, means to** A. force the clay to the centre. B. divide the clay into two. C. wash away different colours. D. cut away unnecessary parts.
- The word *congenial*, as used in the passage, means** A. precise. B. similar. C. nice. D. congested.

Answers: Passage 5: 1.B. 2.A. 3.A. 4.D. 5.C.

Passage 6

Religion in its various forms is very strong in Nigeria. In other words, Nigerian people are very religious. Most of them believe that there is an unseen supernatural world, apart from the natural world we see around us. This other world is inhabited by beings that are the source of our knowledge of good and evil. They watch and judge us, and if we offend them they may have to be appeased with prayers and sacrifices. Certain individuals in the natural world -priests, prophets and diviners - are believed to be endowed with special powers to make contact with the other world. These individuals lay down ceremonies or rituals which must be observed if due honour is to be paid to the unseen beings. The religious beliefs and practices of Nigerians can be classified under three main headings: Traditional religion, Islam and Christianity. In this passage, our focus is on traditional religion.

Traditional or indigenous religion continues to exert a strong influence on many people’s minds partly because of its association with their birth places and families. Each ethnic group has its own religious traditions, and these are often linked to some sacred spots in the ethnic homeland. Yet the various traditional religions have much in common: a remote but benevolent high god; under him, a number of lesser gods who interact with mankind; and below them various spirits who inhabit natural objects (trees, streams, rocks, etc.); below them again, and closest to living men and women, the spirits of the ancestors.

In the Yoruba tradition, for example, there are more than 400 lesser deities presided over by the high god, *Olorun*. Because he is remote from mankind, shrines are not built to him and worship is not offered to him directly. The lesser gods, on the other hand, are the subject of special cults each with its own priests and devotees. *Eshu*, the messenger of the gods; *Ifa*, the god of divination; *Shango*, the god of thunder, and so on. Traditional religion was also strong in other parts of Nigeria. In Igbo Traditional religion, there were fewer gods. Although there was a remote high god, the most important figure was *Ala* or *Ani*, the goddess of the earth. In Hausaland, traditional religion has largely gone underground owing to the influence of Islam, but belief in the existence of ‘*Bori*’spirits and their power to possess people, especially women, is strong in some areas. Each spirit is associated with certain type of behaviour, which is manifested by the possessed individual.

Divination - the discovery of what is unknown or is yet to happen by supernatural or magical means - is an important element of traditional religion. It is often one of the functions of ‘medicine-men’ or herbalists. In Igboland, there also used to be several oracles which people consulted in order to seek solutions to their problems. With the coming of Christianity, their influence has however waned, but in areas like Arochukwu and Okija, the influence of such oracles is still strongly felt. [2012]

Adapted from Grant, Nnamonu and Jowitt (1997), Senior English Project: For Senior Secondary Schools Students

- From the passage, one can say that all the ethnic groups have**
 - different traditional religions with some elements of similarities.
 - completely different religious practices.
 - the same traditional religion.
 - the same religious manifestation with common deities.

2. According to the first paragraph, Nigerians believe that the
 - A. supernatural and natural worlds co-exist.
 - B. natural and supernatural worlds are antagonistic.
 - C. supernatural world controls the natural world.
 - D. supernatural world exploits the natural world.
3. Traditional religion has waned in Nigeria owing to the
 - A. influence of Islam over Bori spirits.
 - B. influence of Christianity over local oracles.
 - C. decline of interest in traditional religions.
 - D. influence of non-traditional religions.
4. Which factor is common to all traditional religions as mentioned in the passage?
 - A. Prayer only. B. Divination. C. Sacrifice only. D. Ritual.

Answers: Passage 6: 1.A. 2.C. 3.B 4.B.

Passage 7

Recent literary researches reveal that Nigerians hardly have time to read. In essence, the reading culture in Nigeria is now at a low ebb. It is disturbing, however, that the few Nigerians that read concentrate more on foreign books than indigenous productions. Most Nigerian authors of novels, storybooks, fictions and non-fiction series have decried, on different occasions, their woes. They were bitter at the way most owners of bookshops and publishers treat them. It was gathered that most renowned bookshops in Nigeria hardly sell books written by indigenous authors. They preferred to stock foreign books. When contacted by *DAILY INDEPENDENT*, the general manager of a popular bookstore on Lagos Island declared that most of the bookshops preferred to stock foreign books because of higher demands for them. The question that bothers most Nigerian authors is, while their overseas counterparts are being rewarded with great international honours, why are Nigerians not according them such recognition in their own country?

Recently, Nigerian novelist, Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie, won the 2007 Orange Prize Award, the literary world's top award for fiction in English written by women. The award carries a prize tag of \$30,000. It was reported in *Publishers Weekly*, *Half of a Yellow Sun*, the book that earned her the award, was profoundly gripping. According to the reviewer, the book is a 'transcendent novel of many descriptive triumphs, most notably its diction of the impact of war brutalities on peasants and intellectuals alike. It is a searing history in fictional form, intensely evocative and immensely absorbing'. Chinua Achebe, 'Father of Modern African Literature' also won the second ever Man Booker International Prize of 60,000 with his first novel *Things Fall Apart*, published in 1958. When Professor Wole Soyinka won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1986, the fame confirmed the relevance of Nigerians in the world of classical excellence. Ben Okri won the 1991 Booker Prize with his work, *The Famished Road*, and the world celebrated Nigeria as the giant of Africa.

It was also gathered that most of the publishers hurriedly produce books and in the process marred their good contents. Most of the books are not properly edited and eventually become substandard when compared with foreign products. The extent to which book publishing standard has fallen in Nigeria is alarming. Often Nigerian publishers have been blamed for this. It is instructive that none of the books mentioned had been published in Nigeria. It was discovered that most students in tertiary institutions depend on dictations from their lecturers and/or handouts. A science lecturer in one of the Nigerian universities, who had been a victim of handout sales scandal, told *DAILY INDEPENDENT* the reality of campus challenges in relation to books: 'I was forced to dictate notes slowly to students who hung on my every word in the absence of textbooks in a library that had, to all intent and purpose, stopped buying new books when the local currency was devalued. But what other alternative does one have?' [2012]

Adapted from *DAILY INDEPENDENT*, Monday, 20 August, 2007

1. It can be inferred from the passage that
 - A. Nigerians have access to foreign books only.
 - B. Nigerian undergraduates do not read textbooks.
 - C. Nigerians read foreign and indigenous books alike.
 - D. Nigerians read mostly foreign Books.
2. The reason for lack of indigenous books in most renowned bookshops, according to the passage, is
 - A. Nigerians prefer reading foreign books.
 - B. foreign books attract more buyers.
 - C. indigenous books are sometimes not available.
 - D. the low quality of indigenous books.
3. The expression ... *that earned her the award is profoundly gripping*, as used in the passage, means
 - A. is highly interesting and captures attention.
 - B. is of high quality to the writer.
 - C. attracts many indigenous and foreign readers.
 - D. is widely acknowledged by many authors.
4. The university science lecturer gives his reason for issuing handouts as
 - A. lack of teaching aids among students.
 - B. low purchasing power.
 - C. low quality of books.
 - D. lack of sufficient time.
5. A suitable title for this passage is
 - A. Nigerian Literary Writers.
 - B. Nigerian Publishers and International Awards.
 - C. Poor Reading Culture in Nigeria.
 - D. Why Nigerian Lecturers Sell Handout.

Answers: Passage 7: 1.D. 2.D. 3.A. 4.B. 5.A.

Passage 8

It is said that experience is the best teacher, but to learn consciously through wisdom may even be a better and more convenient way. To learn by experience is to learn from mistakes. It means you have burnt your fingers and now your eyes are open'. This is a tough, costly and inconvenient way to learn. Rather than leaving our learning to experience why do we not learn consciously through wisdom? We can learn by consciously going out of our way to acquire knowledge and wisdom rather than leave our learning to chance. Surely, we can learn from mistakes but why wait till when we make mistakes before we learn? We should give more premium to learning by wisdom than by experience. This will involve one making up one's mind to be decisive in learning. We must decide to learn consciously and not necessarily from negative experiences. The first step is to realize that life is simply the outcome and outplay of decisions. Our life now is the sum total of our decisions and our future will be determined by our decisions of today. If we decide to learn today we are not likely to make mistakes and when we do not make mistakes, experience need not be our best teacher.

To avoid making experience our best teacher will take more than a decision. We must couple our decision with a *complete and wholehearted devotion*. We must be resolved, resolute and resilient in our bid to learn by wisdom and not necessarily by experience. This is crucial because situations and circumstances will want us to make a detour and leave our learning and life to chance. We must therefore be disciplined to remain with our resolve to make a clean break with experience as our best teacher. Discipline in this regard means learning something new every day by wisdom rather than experience. It means consciously getting better by the day in your chosen field. Discipline will demand taking advantage of every learning opportunity that comes our way. It will mean we must pay the price for learning by wisdom - invest in books, magazines, seminars and other means by which we may become wiser. It is much easier and cheaper to learn consciously by wisdom than to learn by experience. When we learn by experience, the deed is done and we are just picking up the pieces - learning in regret how to avoid such predicament next time. Consider the child who grasp a turning coal, he has learned the hardway through the painful experience, but his fingers will remain burnt. Thus, the saying, that experience is the best teacher, may not be justifiable after all.

[2012]

Adapted from Sunday Tribune, July 2007

1. **The attitude of the writer of the passage can best be described as**
A. objective. B. critical. C. non-committal. D. emotional.
2. **It can be deduced from the passage that**
A. all experiences are best teachers.
B. learning through pains is better.
C. experience is superior to wisdom.
D. wise thoughts are more desirable than experience.
3. **Which of the following statements is true according to the passage?**
A. Man must make mistakes in order to survive.
B. The totality of our actions should be decided by our judgment.
C. If we do not make mistakes, experience must be our teacher.
D. Our future would be judged by our past mistakes.
4. **According to the passage we must be disciplined to**
A. make experience our best teacher in reality.
B. learn from our experiences in future.
C. choose the learning opportunity that comes our way.
D. decide against making experience our teacher.
5. **The phrase *a complete and wholehearted devotion*, as used in the passage, means**
A. acting without doubts. B. learning with tension. C. learning without pains. D. teaching with ease.

Answers: Passage 8: 1.B. 2.D. 3.B. 4.D. 5.A.

Passage 9

Though assumption is the lowest level of knowledge; it is still a form of knowledge, and knowledge is key. Assumptions are the foundation upon which interpretations and conclusions are built. Everything in life operates under certain assumptions.

We make management decisions based on the assumptions we hold about how management ought to function and how people ought to be governed. For some of us, we consciously imbibe assumptions and principles about life and consciously decide based on them; for others, it is unconsciously but potent all the same. Our assumptions will either drown us or help us soar through life.

We have always seen life as an immense mansion with many rooms. Some roots lead to wealth others to the opposite. Ultimately, we decide where we end up; and life, thus far, has proved that not every one of us decides well, we all behave differently where we have different levels of understanding, and behave the same way where our understanding is the same. We eat because we all understand the consequences of not eating. We all wear clothes because each of us comprehends lunacy. The list goes on and on. It is inevitable that some of us will make choices that get and keep us on the lower rung of the ladder by reason of exposure, training or some other variables. Life is about role playing. We choose our roles wisely or foolishly, consciously or unconsciously. Some of us get wiser to new levels of self-awareness enough to redefine our roles, others make no effort to build further capacity and therefore remain where they are.

It is based on these realities that we draw the conclusion that not everyone will be wealthy in life. We lead, inspire and motivate people to strive and succeed. It is also important that we paint the full and true picture of life so that we can discourage vain pursuits. Balance must be enthroned as a critical component of truth, and people know, for instance, that 'the top' is not a place that all must ascent.

Our greatest consolation lies in our deep conviction that true prosperity is in fulfillment through hard work that in intangible acquisitions.. There are set roles that some of us have been wired up to play in life but which we are not content enough to play because society esteems such roles to be inferior. Take the almost sacred office of a teacher for instance, there are people who have the natural gifts and *inclinations* to be schoolteachers. But the teaching profession, as it is, does not appear to be lucrative. So we have people who would have been more fulfilled and effective working as school teachers serving in banks. [2011]

Adapted from DAILY INDEPENDENCE Monday, 28 April, 2008

- 1. According to the passage, balance must be enthroned because it is** A. a critical interdependent function. B. an amazing help for conscience. C. a critical part of fidelity. D. a serious way of ensuring success.
- 2. The word *inclinations*, as used in the passage, means** A. creeds. B. tendencies. C. inhibitions. D. power.
- 3. Which of the following statements is true according to the passage?**
 - A. Greatness in life emerges when square pegs are put in round holes.
 - B. People do certain things in life because they know the repercussion.
 - C. People agree on all issues and behave the same way for the same reason.
 - D. Understanding life at different levels gives no account of visible acquisition.
- 4. From the passage, it can be inferred that**
 - A. people insincerely discuss facts that govern their behaviour.
 - B. all managerial decisions are based on assumptions.
 - C. people make conscious efforts to acquire hidden knowledge.
 - D. all things in life exist on some beliefs.

Answers: Passage 9: 1.A. 2.B. 3.B. 4.B

Passage 10

Like a clock with the pendulum in full swing, the mind moves as fast as time flies. But we ought to mind our thoughts, for if they turn to be our enemies, they will be too many for us and will drag us down to ruin.

But some people may say that they cannot help having bad thoughts even though they sting like vipers. That may be so, but the question is, do they hate them or not? We cannot keep thieves from looking in at our windows, but if we open our doors to them and receive them joyfully, we are as bad as they. We cannot help the birds flying over our heads; but we may keep them from building their nests in our hair. Vain thoughts will knock at the door but we must not open to them.

Though bad and evil thoughts rise in our hearts, they must not be allowed to reign. He who turns a morsel over and over in his mouth does so because he likes the flavours, and he who meditates upon evil, loves it, and is ripe to commit it. *Think of the devil, and he will appear*, turn your thoughts towards evil and your hands will soon follow. Snails leave their slime behind them, and so do vain thoughts. An arrow may fly through the air, and leave no trace, but an evil thought always leaves a trail like a serpent.

Where there is much traffic of bad thinking, there will be much mire and dirt. Every wave of wicked thought adds something to the corruption which rots upon the shore of life. It is dreadful to think that a vile imagination, once indulged, gets the key of our minds, and an get in again very easily, whether or not we let it in, and what may follow, no one knows,. Nurse evil on the laps; of thought, and it will grow into a giant.

Therefore, there is wisdom in watching every day, the thoughts and imaginations of our hearts. Good thoughts are blessed guests and should be welcomed, well fed, and much sought after, but bad thoughts must fly out as swiftly as they moved in. [2011]

Adapted from Spurgeon, C.H. John Ploughman's Talk

- 1. Which of the following represents the writer's view in the passage?**
 - A. Evil thoughts may come but there is virtue in keeping them out.
 - B. Evil thoughts will continue to stings us likes vipers as long as there are enemies who cause offence.
 - C. Like the pendulum, evil thoughts will always come to our minds no matter what we do.
 - D. Like most birds, evil thoughts fly swiftly in our minds without perching.
- 2. Which of the following statements represents the view expressed by the writer in the first paragraph?**
 - A. Evil thoughts will eventually ruin the evil man.
 - B. If we do not stop the pendulum of thoughts from swinging, our thoughts will soon become our enemies.
 - C. Too many evil thoughts leave fatal consequences.
 - D. It is possible to decide what controls our thoughts.
- 3. From the argument in the second paragraph, it can be concluded that evil thoughts control the lives of people who?** A. are helpless because they fly out of their minds. B. cheeriest idle and slothful ways. C. are thieves with evil instincts. D. treasure and ruminate on them.
- 4. The expression *Think of the devil and he will appear...*, as used in the passage, suggest that**
 - A. like the devil evil thoughts must not reign in our hearts.
 - B. evil thoughts are fantasies which exist only in people's minds.
 - C. uncontrolled evil thoughts may lead to evil deeds.

D. the devil gives evil thoughts only to those who invite him in.

5. Which of the following statements summarizes the argument of the last paragraph?

A. Heavy traffic on a miry and dirty road may lead to evil thoughts.

B. The more evil we think, the more evil we are likely to become.

C. Evil people should not be welcomed as guests in our homes the same way as we welcome good people.

D. Evil thoughts control the key to the human heart and no one can keep them out.

Answers: Passage 10: 1.A. 2.C. 3.D. 4.C. 5.B

Passage 11

In 1962, a team of scientists produced a special radio station that had a range of fifteen miles. Even though communication was being accomplished in space at a range of more than a million times this distance, the new radio station caused most excitement among scientists. The reason: its power supply was 'battery' made of bacteria. For the first time, practical amounts of electricity were being produced by a form of life and put to use.

'Biocell', the new power supply had a liquid fuel containing tiny forms of life that changed the fuel directly into electric energy. This was far more than an interesting experiment. The biocell is being developed as producer of electricity for radios, for signals to guide ships, for lighting and for other uses. Though the working biocell is only a few years old, some scientists feel that it will one day produce power cheaply as is now being done by other methods, and that the biocell will use materials that would otherwise be considered a waste. Early biocells were powered with sugar, but a wide range of fuels can be used. Work is being done using sea water to feed the bacteria.

Electricity from living cells is no new idea. Man experienced the strange 'shock' produced by some fish even before electricity was really discovered. Then in time, there were other discoveries. Benjamin Franklin found that lightning the sky was electricity. Luigi Galvani found some electricity in the muscles and nerves of animals. But the African catfish produces far more electricity than most other living creatures. And another fish, the electric eel, well named, for it has an even greater electric charge. Research works also discovered that even humans produce small amounts of electricity in their bodies. Our hearts produce a very small amount that can be measured, so do our brains. The biocell is completely new in the field of power production and, as yet, no mass-produced models have begun to replace the older types of batteries. It might be wondered, then, what the excitement is all about. [2011]

Adapted from *The Department of English (1988) Obafemi Awolowo University, Ile-Ife: The Use of English Text*

1. A suitable title for the passage is... A. Energy from Living Things. B. Electricity and Living Creatures. C. Biocell and Scientific Discoveries. D. The Biocell's Future.

2. The writer's posture, as conveyed in the statement *Electricity from living cells is no new idea*, can be described as? A. ineffectual. B. contentious. C. logical. D. unguarded.

3. Which of the following is true according to the passage?

A. Scientists felt that biocells would produce very costly energy.

B. Biocells, at the beginning, derived their energy from sugar.

C. Sugar and fuel were initially used as sources of energy for biocells.

D. Biocells were forms of power used by the scientists.

4. The inventors of biocell justified the need for it by saying that it would

A. develop ways for changing biocells into fuel for use.

B. yield a source of energy without much spending.

C. produce electricity for all types of machines.

D. produce signals to guide all ships and other vessels.

5. According to the passage, electricity was first discovered in A. hearts and brains. B. muscles of animals. C. lighting. D. fish.

Answers: Passage 11: 1.B. 2.B. 3.B. 4.B. 5.D.

Passage 12

One of the interesting things to me about our spaceship is that it is a mechanical vehicle, just as is an automobile. If you own a car, you realize that you must put oil and gas into it, and you must put water in the radiator and take care of the car as a whole. You begin to develop quite a *little thermodynamic sense*. You know that you are either going to have to keep the machine in a good order or it is going to be in trouble and fail to function. We have not been seeing our Spaceship Earth as an integrally-designed machine which to be persistently successful, must be comprehended and serviced in total.

Now there is one outstanding important fact regarding Spaceship Earth, and that is that no instruction book came with it. I think it is very significant that there is no instruction book, for successfully operating our ship, in view of the infinite attention to all other details displayed by our ship. It must be taken as deliberate and purposeful that an instruction book was omitted. Lack of instruction has forced us to find out that there are two kinds of mangoes - unripe mangoes that will kill us and ripe mangoes which will nourish us. And we had to find out ways of telling which - was - which mangoes before we ate it or otherwise we would die. So we were forced, because of this to devise scientific experimental procedures and to interpret effectively the significance of the experimental findings. Thus, because the instruction manual was missing, we are learning how we can safely survive on the planet.

Quite clearly, all living beings are utterly helpless at the moment of birth. The human child stays helpless longer than the young of any species. Apparently, it is part of the 'invention' that man is meant to be utterly helpless through

certain anthropological phases. When he begins to be able to get on a little better, he is meant to discover some of the physical principles inherent in the universe as well as the many resources around him which will further multiply his knowledge. Designed into this Spaceship Earth's total wealth was a big safety factor. This allowed man to be very ignorant for a long time until he had amassed enough experiences from which to extract progressively the system of generalized principles governing increase of energy. The designed omission of the instruction book forced man to discover retrospectively just what his most important capabilities are. He learned to generalize fundamental principles of universe. [2010]

Adapted from Oluikpe, B.O. et al (2005) *Intensive English for Senior Secondary School 2*, Onitsha: AFP

1. **According to the writer, the exciting thing about Spaceship Earth is that it** A. has no instruction manual. B. is not difficult to maintain. C. is peculiar to other automobiles. D. is relatively easy to operate.
2. **The absence of instruction manual in Spaceship Earth has** A. made the operation of the Spaceship Earth difficult. B. forced man to devise other means of travelling in spacecraft. C. challenged man's inquisitiveness. D. made man helpless.
3. **From the passage, it can be deduced that man** A. learns by experiment and deduction. B. learns by chance and accidentally. C. is incapable of solving all his problems. D. by his nature is in constant search of knowledge.
4. **The writer's mood in the passage is that of** A. non-committal. B. pessimism. C. optimism. D. frustration.

Answers: Passage 12: 1.A. 2.C. 3.A. 4.C.

Passage 13

Stress is by far the most common cause of ill health in our society, and may be the underlying cause of as many as 70-80% of all visits to family doctors. It is also the problem that every doctor snares with patients. Experts note that *stress is an issue everyone can relate to experientially*. In studying and better understanding about stress, we can derive personal as well as professional benefits.

Stress can be overcome without undergoing duress. They often say anyone who wants to help someone deal with his/her stress should learn to handle his / hers first. The manifestations of stress are legion. It can contribute or mimic just about any symptom you can think of. However, the main symptoms are physical, mental, emotional and behavioural. The causes of stress are multiple and varied but they can be classified into external and internal. External stressors can include relatively getting sick or dying, jobs being lost or people criticizing or one becoming angry. However, most of the stress people experience is self-generated.

Experts tell us that we create the majority of our upsets indicating that because we cause most of our own stress, we can do something about it. This gives us a measure of choice and control that we do not always have when outside forces act on us. This also leads to a basic premise about stress reduction. To master stress-change, you have to figure out what you are doing that is contributing to your problem and change it. These changes fall into behaviour, thinking, lifestyle choices and/ or situations you are in. By getting to the root causes of your stress, you can prevent recurrences.

As a way of draining off stress energy, nothing beats aerobic exercise. To understand why, we need to review what stress is. People often think of stress as pressure at work, a demanding boss, a sick child or rush-hour traffic. These may be triggers but stress is actually the body reaction to factors such as these. Stress is the fight-or-flight response in the body, mediated by adrenaline and other stress hormones, and comprised such physiologic changes as increased heart rate and blood pressure, faster breathing, muscle tension, dilated pupils, dry mouth and increased blood sugar. In other words, stress is the state of increased arousal necessary for an organism to defend itself at a time of danger.

Exercise is the most logical way to dissipate the excess energy. It is what our bodies are trying to do when we pace around or tap our legs and fingers. It is much better to channel it into a more complete form of exercise like a brisk walk, a run, a bike ride, or a game of squash.

Just as we are all capable of mounting up and sustaining a stress reaction, we have also inherited the ability to put our bodies into a state of deep relaxation called the 'relaxation response'. In this state, all the physiologic events in the stress reaction are reversed. Pulse slows, blood pressure falls, breathing slows and muscles relax. [2010]

Adapted from VANGUARD, 19th March, 2008

1. **The expression, *stress is an issue everybody can relate to experientially*, means that** A. it is better understood when experienced. B. its problem can be solved by everybody. C. everybody avoids it. D. everybody encounters it.
2. **Which of the following is true according to the passage?** A. Stress is mostly caused by internal factors. B. Stress can only be avoided during relaxation. C. Stress is better handled by the individual. D. The issue of stress can be solved with no effort.
3. **According to the passage, the major step in controlling stress is** A. changing one's attitude to stressors. B. understanding the history of the disease. C. visiting family doctors for checkup and treatment. D. constant exercise to dissipate every energy.
4. **The experts feel one can control one's stress because** A. its causes are understandable. B. it is not difficult to control. C. external factors contribute less to stress. D. it is individually initiated.
5. **From the passage, it can be deduced that stress is** A. hormonal disorder in the body system. B. individually induced problems. C. bodily reaction to internal factors. D. bodily reaction to external factors.

Answers: Passage 13: 1.D. 2.C. 3.A. 4.D. 5.A

Passage 14

There are many indicators with which to assess or measure corruption. One of them is the affluent living habit of the public official compared to his / her income. Corruption occurs when a public official expects to be induced to perform an act which that public official is ordinarily required to do by law.

Corruption can slow down development. One of the most widely discussed consequences of corruption is the distortion of governmental expenditure. This often results in public money being wasted on white elephant projects, rather than people-oriented services such as health and education. As a result, more opportunities are presented for corrupt use or diversion of funds. Raising the ethical standards of governance can lead to many benefits especially for the economic, political and social development of a country.

Fighting corruption and promoting governance is therefore crucial to developing an environment that facilitates the social, political and economic development of the people. However, while there are often general statements made about the effect of corruption on poverty and development, there is not an explicit recognition that corruption is more than just wealth misappropriation or abuse of power. Corruption impoverishes countries and deprives their citizens of good governance. It destabilizes economic systems. When organized crime and other illegal activities flourish, basic public functions are eroded and the quality of life of the people is reduced. Bribery, for example, is universally regarded as a crime, but it also reflects socio-economic problems that require broad-based preventive measures, and the involvement of the society at large.

Another implication of global measures against corruption is making government work better by improving the economy. Finally, redesigning political and regulatory structures will reduce corruption and other anti-system players that encourage corrupt practices. [2010]

Adapted from This Day Newspaper 28th, October, 2007

1. **According to the writer, corruption is triggered off by** A. unnecessary affluence. B. selfish interests. C. private officials. D. public officers.
2. **From the passage, one of the consequences of corruption is that** A. large projects are executed. B. it is beneficial to wealthy people who stole public wealth. C. it impedes the progress of a nation. D. people get what they want with so much money to spend.
3. **Who, according to the writer, should prevent corruption?** A. Lawyers and police. B. Corrupt public officers. C. The government. D. The people.
4. **Which of the following is an indication of ethical standard of governance?** A. Fundamental human right. B. Socioeconomic instability. C. Democratic governance. D. Bloated expenditure.
5. **The essence of fighting corruption, according to the passage, is to** A. send the corrupt to goal. B. promote good governance. C. punish corrupt politicians. D. make people richer.

Answers: Passage 14: 1.D. 2.C. 3.C. 4.C. 5.B.

Passage 15

Nigeria is currently faced with two major problems which necessitate the use of the broadcast media to satisfy the ever-increasing demand for qualitative education in the country. These are population explosion and debilitating mass poverty. Population explosion in the country has greatly increased the need for more schools so much so that demand now far outstrips provision of educational opportunities, particularly at the post-secondary level. In addition, the Nigerian society is currently handicapped by a crippling economic crisis which has forced many people out of school as a result of growing inability to meet the cost of training, like tuition fees and boarding charges.

A way out of these problems lies in the provision of educational opportunities through the use of radio and television broadcasts. Only when radio and television are fully utilized for teaching and learning can the foundation be laid for mass education in the country. Besides, using radio and television to transmit educational programmes can cut the cost of education as boarding and tuition will become unnecessary for most beneficiaries. At the moment, many Nigerians are unable to enroll or stay on in school because of the high cost of education and because government is unable to provide the staggering amount needed to finance mass education via the traditional school system.

Also of importance is the fact that radio and television will offer good opportunities for the standardization of education in the country. At the moment, the best schools in terms of facilities and qualified teachers are concentrated in the urban centres to the detriment of the rural areas. This has given rise to imbalance and uneven distribution of qualitative education in the country, so much so that experienced and qualified teachers often reject posting to rural schools, while over-concentration leads to under-utilization of capable hands in urban schools. Since educational broadcasting involves the best brains producing and broadcasting educational materials from one central location and reaching out simultaneously to scattered audiences in the rural and urban areas, the quality of educational provision will be made even throughout the country.

The usual argument against the use of radio and television for teaching is the absence of immediate feedback which is thought to be essential for learning. But this handicap is more than compensated for by the listener's or watcher's ability to record and play back as often as he or she likes, any part of the lesson he or she may find confusing or difficult to understand. Besides, support facilities like telephone and postal services may be used to clarify difficulties

or answer students’ questions. In addition, since Nigeria is still largely an orate society, using radio and television for direct teaching will not pose a serious communication problem. A beginning must therefore be made to promote aggressive school broadcast in the country. [2009]

1. The passage suggests that the greatest problems of mass education in Nigeria are
- A. the absence of educational broadcasts and underutilization of urban teachers.
- B. the reluctance of most teachers to work in rural areas and the fact that Nigeria is an ornate society.
- C. the absence of immediate feedback in the teaching process and lack of teaching facilities.
- D. widespread penury and ever-increasing demand for formal education.
2. Which of the following can be concluded from the passage?
- A. The Nigerian government does not support the use of radio and television for teaching.
- B. Telephone and postal services are inimical to effective school broadcasting.
- C. The formal education system is more expensive than the non- school type.
- D. Nigerians reject teaching and learning through radio and television because of lack of immediate feedback.
3. According to the passage, the major advantages of educational broadcasts may be summarized as
- A. mass outreach, reduced costs and equal educational opportunities.
- B. mass education, reduced poverty level and qualitative education.
- C. mass access to qualitative education and reduction of the crippling economic crisis.
- D. increased number of schools, reduced cost of schooling and enhanced mass education.
4. From the last sentence of the passage, it can be deduced that educational broadcasting is
- A. unknown in Nigeria.
- B. rarely used in Nigeria.
- C. often used in Nigeria.
- D. randomly used in Nigeria.
5. A suitable title for this passage is
- A. The Role of Radio and Television in Nigerian Education.
- B. Why Nigerian Teachers should Use Radio and Television for Teaching.
- C. The Need to Promote Teaching and Learning Through Radio and Television in Nigeria.
- D. Enhancing School Broadcasting for Effective Teaching and Learning in Nigeria.

Answers: Passage 15: 1.D. 2.C. 3.A. 4.A. 5.C.

Synonyms

Introduction

Here your task is to choose an option nearest in meaning to the given word. Be reminded that a particular word may have more than one meaning, therefore the correct option will be determined by the context it’s been used. Always read each question slowly, be sure you understand the context the given is been used and then carefully make your choice. Download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store for detailed explanation.

Nearest in Meaning 1

In each of the questions below, choose the option nearest in meaning to the word or phrase in italics.

1. The man was able to persuade his *willful* and *obstinate* daughter to follow the career he chose for her. A. intelligent but arrogant. B. hardworking and intelligent. C. unyielding and obdurate. D. obscure and odious. [2000/80]
2. That punch by the young boxer proved to be *fatal*. A. effective. B. belated. C. hard. D. deadly.[2000/81]
3. The boy was told that he would need *several* more pints of blood if he was to survive. A. plenty. B. much. C. many. D. some. [2000/83]
4. In spite of her grim situation, the young widow smiled dutifully at the visitor's *pleasantries*. A. unkind comments. B. sad stories. C. condolence messages. D. jocular remarks. [2000/84]
5. Though David’s condition is *serious*, his life is not in immediate danger. A. grave. B. nasty. C. dangerous. D. hypertensive. [2000/86]
6. The essay topic is *nebulous*. A. clear. B. incorrect. C. vague. D. distinct. [2000/87]
7. I have always believed that my mother is a very *impassioned* woman. A. impartial. B. emotional. C. impassive. D. emotive.[2000/88]
8. My father was at the *apogee* of his career when he was retired. A. terminal point. B. least productive stage. C. redundant stage. D. highest point.[2000/89]
9. The party gathering was thrown into a state of *euphoria* after the election result was announced A. pleasure. B. confusion. C. sadness. D. excitement [2000/90]
10. Some actions of the Nigerian youth have *alienated* them from those who were *sympathetic* to their cause. A. endeared/kindly. B. separated/opposed. C. estranged/well disposal. D. confronted/ill disposed. [2000/94]
11. The Principal told the teacher to stop *browbeating* the children A. pampering. B. caning . C. bullying. D. deceiving. [2000/95]
12. The professor discussed a number of *abstruse* topics A. irrelevant . B. useful. C. esoteric. D. relevant. [2001/86]
13. Tade became *timorous* when she was asked to give the valedictory speech. A. excited. B. aggressive. C. nervous. D. happy. [2001/87]
14. The men were *tardy* in offering help A. generous. B. quick. C. brave. D. slow. [2001/88]
15. Ugo has often been described as *belligerent* A. attractive. B. combative. C. innocent. D. patient. [2001/89]
16. The *coalescence* of the groups created additional problems. A. union. B. fighting. C. proscription. D. disbandment. [2001/90]

17. Funmi is just being *facetious* about her marrying a soldier. A. unfaithful. B. serious. C. crazy. D. unserious. [2001/91]
18. The village girl wore *sumptuous* clothes. A. loose-fitting. B. cheap. C. faded-looking. D. expensive. [2001/92]
19. I cannot understand why Ali should serve in that *moribund* administration A. crumbling. B. purposeless. C. prodigal. D. oppressive. [2001/94]
20. Bose was angry because her friend called her a *pilferer* A. liar. B. hypocrite. C. criminal. D. thief. [2001/95]
21. While the hooligans exchanged blows, we looked on *complacently* A. questioningly. B. sorrowfully. C. dejectedly. D. contentedly. [2001/96]
22. The player kept on *gamely* to the end of the match. A. courageously. B. amateurishly. C. skilfully. D. stubbornly. [2001/97]
23. Art lies in cherishing the *initiative* and creative power of each person. A. gift. B. strength. C. mind. D. potential. [2001/98]
24. As the triumphant rebels were returning to their base, they met with a *serious reverse*. A. an enemy. B. an army. C. a victory. D. a defeat. [2001/99]
25. The Conference Centre caters for a *transients* only. A. permanent guests. B. professionals. C. novices. D. temporary guests. [2001/100]
26. I wonder what will be left of his essay when the *extraneous* material is deleted. A. main. B. relevant. C. erroneous. D. superfluous. [2002/59]
27. Tortoises need cool climates and must have places where they can *hibernate*. A. sleep deeply. B. relax. C. reproduce. D. hide at night. [2002/60]
28. They are considered to be legal *luminaries*. A. experts. B. practitioners. C. directors. D. powers. [2002/61]
29. Practicing medicine is not as lucrative as many people *think*. A. know. B. assume. C. consider. D. understand. [2002/62]
30. The manager made *disparaging* remarks about the retiring officer. A. parochial. B. cynical. C. derogatory D. rude. [2002/63]
31. The teacher's apparent nonchalant attitude was *misconstrued* by his students. A. condoned. B. misquoted. C. misinterpreted. D. misrepresented. [2002/64]
32. Let us not indulge in *recrimination*. A. unfounded allegation. B. counter-accusation. C. accusation. D. indictment. [2002/65]
33. Teachers of music believe in its *therapeutic* effect. A. lyrical. B. healing. C. sound. D. rhythmic. [2002/66]
34. The man outran his wife when they heard the *eerie* sound A. hissing. B. harsh. C. scary. D. loud [2002/67]
35. The Executive Secretary has just *assumed office*. A. resumed work. B. been sworn in. C. started work. D. returned. [2002/69]
36. The warring tribes have been told to *parley* with each other. A. hold talks. B. observe a truce. C. suspend hostilities. D. sign a treaty. [2002/70]
37. He is a *stringer* for a newspaper. A. a financier of. B. a reporter for. C. an editor of. D. a freelancer for. [2002/71]
38. Adigun's jokes are always *puerile* A. entertaining. B. empty. C. childish. D. amusing. [2002/72]
39. I wish the commander were less *adamant* about his proposed *reprisal* attack on the enemy. A. unyielding about/retaliatory. B. tolerant of/surprise. C. sentimental about/rehearsed. D. supportive of/retributive. [2002/73]
40. The leader has the *unstinting* support of his party. A. unsparing B. laudable. C. uninspiring. D. cautious. [2003/46]
41. The party supporters *vilified* the Chairman for the role he played in the crisis that rocked the party. A. elected. B. challenged. C. condemned. D. impeached. [2003/47]
42. The company is to *shed* three thousand staff this year. A. demote. B. layoff. C. throw up. D. placate. [2003/48]
43. There was a *glut* of oil on the market A. a variety of. B. an accumulation of. C. an abundance of. D. an increase in. [2003/49]
44. The boys knew that a storm was *imminent*. A. possible. B. impending. C. threatening. D. encroaching. [2003/52]
45. The nurse was in favour at voluntary *euthanasia*. A. a painless death. B. a simple operation. C. a sleeping pill. D. a major operation. [2003/53]
46. The *cynics* feared that the nation's nascent democracy would fail A. pessimists. B. delinquents. C. critics. D. illusionists. [2003/54]
47. The *essence* of governance is to seek the good and well-being of the majority of the people. A. importance. B. goal. C. characteristic. D. secret. [2003/55]
48. From what she said, one may *infer* that she does not like the course. A. suppose. B. realize. C. deduce. D. agree. [2003/56]
49. He shared his room with a person whose behavior was quite *nauseating*. A. disrespectful B. disgraceful. C. discouraging. D. disgusting. [2003/57]
50. The carpenter built a *commodious* wardrobe A. gigantic. B. small. C. spacious. D. wide. [2003/58]
51. The man's story sounded *plausible* to his audience A. fantastic. B. credulous C. credible. D. entertaining. [2003/60]
52. The town was in such a *turmoil* that the dance was called off. A. mourning state. B. rainy state. C. state of darkness. D. state of confusion. [2004/78]
53. The festivals create in the people a feeling of pride in their cultural *heritage* A. history B. heirloom. C. legacy. D. possession. [2004/79]
54. *Funnily* enough, the priest prayed for the robber who shot him. A. Timidly. B. Unexpectedly C. Disappointingly. D. Fearlessly. [2004/80]
55. The press described the efforts of the government in *pejorative* terms. A. critical. B. contemptible. C. palpable. D. superlative. [2004/82]
56. The school's badge is the *insignia* of office for all A. power. B. seal. C. symbol. D. recognition. [2004/84]
57. Ibro shows enough *liberality* with his meager income. A. generosity. B. frugality. C. prodigality. D. insensitivity. [2004/85]
58. It is a *misnomer* to call three thousand naira a living wage. A. an incontrovertible assertion. B. an appropriate term. C. a wrong description. D. a mishmash. [2004/86]
59. His plans *boomeranged* on him A. bounced. B. fell. C. catapulted. D. backfired. [2004/87]
60. The manager's knowledge of the strike is of the *utmost* importance. A. standard. B. genuine. C. paramount. D. basic. [2004/88]

61. There has been a *downturn* in the affairs of the company. A. a massive increase. B. little progress. C. a turn-around. D. a decline. [2004/89]
62. The *mottled* skin of a person with HIV indicates an advanced stage of its development. A. brown. B. spotted. C. scaly. D. pimply. [2004/90]
63. In spite of constant financial support from his father, Udenyi treats his studies with considerable *levity* A. seriousness. B. enthusiasm. C. wastefulness. D. lassitude. [2004/91]
64. The prosecutor was fully able to *substantiate* the charge. A. expatiate on. B. prove. C. dismiss. D. weaken. [2004/92]
65. No wonder Sikemi later became a detective she has been very *observant*. A. curious. B. perceptive. C. inductive. D. inquisitive. [2005/51]
66. Nigeria has been playing a *vital* role in the political and economic development of Africa. A. creditable. B. crucial. C. respectable. D. laudable. [2005/52]
67. Emeka's painting was so *realistic* that it could almost have been a photograph. A. picturesque. B. concrete. C. lively. D. authentic. [2005/53]
68. *Courteously*, Ade stood back to let his teacher go first through the door. A. Patiently. B. Politely. C. Carefully. D. Calmly. [2005/54]
69. Many people used to live in *poverty*. A. instability. B. want. C. difficulty. D. the slums. [2005/55]
70. *Accountability* is certainly a desirable quality in a politician A. Respectability. B. Courage. C. Responsibility. D. Diligence. [2005/56]
71. The *common* practice among some media practitioners is to be sensational in their reporting. A. prevalent. B. rampant. C. ordinary. D. cogent. [2005/57]
72. That *fateful* decision changed the company's outlook in many ways A. wonderful. B. disastrous. C. uncontrollable. D. unsuccessful. [2005/58]
73. The accident victim received a *superficial* wound from the crash. A. a serious. B. a painless. C. an internal. D. an external. [2005/59]
74. The boxer *fizzled* out just in the sixth round. A. knocked out his opponent. B. showed off his talents. C. became tired but fought on spiritedly. D. surrendered rather disappointingly. [2005/60]
75. The manager described Mfon as a man of *vehement* character. A. weak and uninterested. B. strong and insistent. C. troublesome and noisy. D. clever and helpful. [2005/61]
76. Obi's dog is old but still *lively*. A. attractive. B. howling. C. barking. D. frisky. [2005/62]
77. His *taciturnity* amazed everyone in the court during the legal tussle. A. obliviousness. B. reticence. C. sensibility. D. pervasiveness. [2005/63]
78. The greatness of the creator of the universe is always *inexpressible* to many adherents of certain faiths. A. inevitable. B. wonderful. C. unbearable. D. ineffable. [2005/64]
79. Adamu is rather *meddlesome* in dealing with his friends A. intimidating. B. quarrelsome. C. impertinent. D. uncaring. [2006/47]
80. The party men *reveled* all night when the election results were announced A. mourned. B. fought. C. celebrated. D. discussed. [2006/49]
81. The judge emphasized his *morbid* desires in his judgment A. uncritical. B. unpleasant. C. inordinate. D. ravenous. [2006/50]
82. The commander said that the battle would be sustained, total and *relentless* A. brutal. B. fierce. C. innocuous. D. continuous. [2006/51]
83. His loss suddenly became *redeemable*. A. repulsive. B. incurable. C. exclusive. D. recoverable. [2006/52]
84. The move to expel the chairman was *sanctioned* by members of the party. A. opposed. B. supported. C. unleashed. D. initiated. [2006/53]
85. The secretary's speech was interesting though *impromptu* A. unprepared B. improper C. controversial D. important. [0/0]
86. The manager of the team is often *maligned* by the supporters. A. slandered B. cherished C. praised D. hounded. [0/0]
87. He has a *cogent* reason for quitting the relationship A. a convincing B. an important C. a tentative D. an unacceptable. [0/0]
88. Mrs. Adio wasn't yet *attuned* to her baby's needs A. familiar with B. ready with C. free from D. planning for. [0/0]
89. Tolu broke her leg because of her *restive* nature. A. lively B. relaxed C. patient D. unruly. [0/0]

Nearest in Meaning 1 Answers

1C 2D 3D 4D 5A 6C 7B 8D 9D 10C 11C 12C 13C 14D 15B 16A 17D 18D 19A 20D 21D 22A 23C 24D 25D 26D 27A 28A 29B 30C 31C 32B 33B 34C 35B 36A 37D 38C 39A 40A 41C 42B 43C 44B 45A 46A 47B 48C 49D 50C 51C 52D 53C 54B 55A 56C 57A 58C 59D 60C 61D 62B 63D 64B 65B 66B 67C 68B 69B 70C 71A 72B 73D 74D 75B 76D 77B 78D 79C 80C 81B 82D 83D 84B 85A 86A 87A 88A 89D

Nearest in Meaning 2

In each of the questions below, choose the option nearest in meaning to the word or phrase in italics.

- The plan has gone *awry* A. wrong. B. wild. C. well. D. wide. [2006/55]
- Because Jamiu is also *easily offended*, he was not considered for the post of head boy. A. troublesome. B. stubborn. C. docile. D. irritable. [2006/56]
- The witness provided a *monstrous* account of the event A. shocking. B. verbatim. C. supportive. D. tragic. [2006/57]
- He is a *prolific* writer. A. an influential. B. a very productive. C. a clever. D. a well-known. [2006/58]
- The chairman advised the participants to follow *convention* in stating their points. A. eloquence. B. prudence. C. tradition. D. advice. [2006/59]
- The recommended novel has a *convoluted* theme A. an attractive. B. a simple. C. a complicated. D. a disgusting. [2006/60]
- The government has announced its *preparedness* for the scheme A. determination. B. pleasure. C. readiness. D. regret. [2006/61]
- Beads* of sweat ran down Ngozi's armpit. A. Rivulets. B. Pools. C. Ponds. D. Springs. [2007/51]
- The rest of the boys admire Olu's *verve*. A. work. B. intelligence. C. energy. D. handsomeness. [2007/52]
- The police are not happy with the growing number of *depraved* people around the politician. A. immoral B. indolent. C. loquacious. D. violent.

- [2007/53]
11. The debt the company incurred became rather **intolerable**. A. insupportable. B. inevitable. C. dangerous. D. unprecedented. [2007/54]
 12. Things may change soon, but at the moment our economic situation is **precarious**. A. buoyant. B. redeemable. C. unattractive. D. uncertain. [2007/56]
 13. He **deprecated** the attempts made to unseat him. A. condemned. B. resisted. C. challenged. D. despised. [2007/57]
 14. The shortage of petrol was a **perennial** problem. A. an annual. B. an incurable. C. a recurring. D. seasonal. [2007/58]
 15. The noise across the road **drowned** the sound of the keyboard in my room. A. balanced. B. equalized. C. neutralized. D. overshadowed. [2007/59]
 16. I visited Amina **umpteenth times** in her college, but she never came to me. A. twice. B. occasionally. C. seldom. D. often. [2007/60]
 17. The last criticism at the rally was **made in ignorance**. A. objective. B. impeccable. C. uninformed. D. unimpeachable. [2007/61]
 18. He holds on firmly to his **hackneyed view of life**. A. positive. B. principled. C. obsolete. D. wayward. [2007/62]
 19. We were warned not to indulge in **recriminations**. A. indiscretions. B. counter-charges. C. accusations. D. frivolous allegations. [2007/63]
 20. The tax rebate was a **concession** given to the civil servants. A. an emolument. B. a donation. C. an allowance. D. an incentive. [2007/64]
 21. The striking workers have vowed not to return to work until the decision is **reversed**. A. dismissed. B. reverted. C. implemented. D. rescinded. [2007/65]
 22. We were at a loss to understand why Oli should **retract** his statement before the Judge. A. assert. B. repeat. C. withdraw. D. reiterate. [2008/51]
 23. The workers hope to appear before the **arbitration** panel to resolve the lingering dispute. A. trial. B. legislative. C. investigative. D. reconciliatory. [2008/52]
 24. He went to the polls in defiance of sound advice and recorded an **abysmal** performance. A. surprisingly good. B. disappointingly bad. C. mediocre. D. landslide. [2008/53]
 25. He was not able to **withstand** the attack from his immediate family. A. survive. B. overcome. C. match. D. resist. [2008/54]
 26. Your effort to bring peace between us is futile because you are **biased**. A. convinced. B. clever. C. prejudiced. D. worried. [2008/55]
 27. Our front door is always kept **ajar**. A. locked. B. sealed. C. half-closed. D. permanently open. [2008/56]
 28. His embroidery was an **exacting** task for the tailor. A. an unwarranted. B. an exciting. C. a demanding. D. a disturbing. [2008/57]
 29. The students' **remonstrances** were rebuffed by the authority. A. protests. B. suggestions. C. complaints. D. regrets. [2008/58]
 30. I had to make my way through the **throng** of people in the church. A. group. B. crowd. C. gathering. D. theme. [2008/59]
 31. The man's wife has her **misgivings** about him. A. fears for. B. distrust of. C. hatred for. D. love for. [2008/60]
 32. Violent crime is only one of the **maladies** afflicting modern society. A. damages. B. illnesses. C. wounds. D. crises. [2008/61]
 33. Ade has an **aquiline** nose. A. a large and curved nose. B. a wide and straight nose. C. a big and pointed nose. D. a small and attractive nose. [2008/62]
 34. Everyone was talking about the **camaraderie** in the club. A. companionship. B. quarrelsomeness. C. commissioning. D. disunity. [2008/63]
 35. 'You're **impossible**,' she said to me. A. unreasonable. B. unforgiving. C. daft. D. strong. [2008/64]
 36. We have every need to preserve some of our national monuments for **posterity**. A. prosperity. B. future. C. national pride. D. collective gain. [2009/52]
 37. He **commands** the confidence and respect of all his subordinates. A. requests. B. enjoys. C. enforces. D. conjures. [2009/53]
 38. The president has mapped out so many **laudable** projects to embark upon. A. laughable. B. good. C. praiseworthy. D. valuable. [2009/54]
 39. Adamu's father is a **stern** man. A. wicked. B. strict. C. playful. D. conservative. [2009/55]
 40. Nobody knew the source of the **altercation** between the couple. A. alter ego. B. quarrel. C. deep love. D. wealth. [2009/56]
 41. His poetry is said to be **inscrutable**. A. ludicrous. B. unlearnable. C. inseparable. D. mysterious. [2009/57]
 42. Hers was a **specious** argument about the government of the day. A. misleading. B. precious. C. spacious. D. true. [2009/58]
 43. The Lagos bus conductor wore his professional **livery**. A. badge. B. shoe. C. uniform. D. cap. [2009/59]
 44. If joy hadn't been **tripped up** halfway through the race, she would have come first. A. discouraged. B. disqualified. C. interrupted. D. exhausted. [2009/60]
 45. There must be something **sinister** about her late arrival. A. reasonable. B. joyful. C. hopeful. D. ominous. [2009/61]
 46. The **unification** of the country has brought about grate technology advancement. A. restoration. B. cohesion. C. agreement. D. stability. [2009/62]
 47. His **amnesia** has affected his career. A. loss of focus. B. loss of memory. C. loss of sight. D. loss of direction. [2008/63]
 48. Idris' **forbearance** endeared him to us. A. hard work. B. patience. C. wisdom. D. good manners. [2009/64]
 49. They hated the police and, by **implication**, me. A. extension. B. inference. C. examination. D. application. [2009/65]
 50. A political **impasse** does not offer the best opportunity for merrymaking. A. manifesto. B. party. C. gridlock. D. rally. [2010/51]
 51. We were all **enthusiastic** as we awaited the result of the election. A. bemused. B. agitated. C. elated. D. nervous. [2010/52]
 52. The uniform makes the guards look **absurd**. A. dirty. B. smart. C. sensible. D. ridiculous. [2010/53]
 53. The law is often **tardy** in reacting to changing attitudes. A. quick. B. exclusive. C. slow. D. generous. [2010/54]
 54. Isa and Ilu ate **sumptuous** meals on their brother's wedding day. A. expensive. B. foreign. C. insipid.

- D. cheap. [2010/55]
55. Kaltume **crouched** over the papers on her desk
A. wrote on. B. stood on. C. walked over. D. bent over. [2010/56]
56. The **panacea** for a country's economic mess lies in systematic planning and hardwork. A. cure. B. foresight. C. hope. D. trouble. [2010/57]
57. Thousands of workers have been victims of **retrenchment** since the military came back to power
A. unemployment. B. trench mentality. C. suffering. D. increase in penury. [2010/58]
58. The principal gave his speech **offhand** at the sports meeting A. calmly. B. beautifully. C. unconcerned. D. unprepared. [2010/59]
59. Jankoli was dressed in an old **assortment** of clothes A. avalanche. B. homogeneity. C. sameness. D. melange. [2010/60]
60. The girl's father was **astounded** to see her appear from the shrine A. collected. B. overwhelmed. C. embarrassed. D. astonished. [2010/61]
61. The director's remark was extremely **apposite** to the issue being discussed A. appropriate. B. inconsequential. C. emphatic. D. adequate. [2010/62]
62. Her reputation is without a **blemish** A. struggle. B. problem. C. fault. D. blessing. [2010/63]
63. Ugo is **eligible** for the post of secretary
A. nominated. B. invited. C. qualified. D. intelligent. [2010/64]
64. This is an **abridged** version of No Longer at Ease
A. an outdated. B. an enlarged. C. an illustrated. D. a shortened. [2010/65]
65. Since its **inception** in 1983, the newspaper has attracted thousands of readers A. renaissance. B. coming. C. commencement. D. publication. [2011/51]
66. Mrs Asio wanted her sister to stop being so **detached**. A. friendly. B. careless. C. indifferent. D. passionate. [2011/52]
67. Lantana **dwelt** in a ruined cottage on the hillside
A. sat. B. worked. C. slept. D. lived. [2011/53]
68. The mistake brought the show to an **ignominious** end A. a good. B. a palatable. C. a disgraceful. D. a satisfactory. [2011/54]
69. He **compliments** me on my way of doing things
A. complements. B. imitates. C. disgusts. D. praises. [2011/55]
70. The girl is angry with her friend who had **ensnared** her into this relationship A. tricked. B. encourage. C. forced. D. enslaved. [2011/56]
71. Their new house was roofed with **corrugated** sheets A. folded. B. iron. C. aluminium. D. corrupted. [2011/57]
72. The stockbroker said it was an **astute** move to sell the shares then. A. a bad. B. a shrewd. C. an unprofitable. D. an insincere. [2011/58]
73. The principal described Oche as the most **tactful** person he had ever worked with
A. passionate. B. discreet. C. hard-working. D. innovative. [2011/59]
74. The old woman is suffering from **dementia**
A. lucidity. B. senility. C. insanity. D. sagacity. [2011/60]
75. Some drugs have some **deleterious** effect on a child's development A. debilitating. B. helpful. C. harmful. D. healing. [2011/61]
76. Fila has always been described as **belligerent**
A. beautiful. B. attractive. C. combative. D. innocent. [2011/62]
77. Laraba saw a **forlorn** little figure sitting outside the class. A. wise and intelligent. B. lonely and unhappy. C. smart and healthy. D. short and ugly. [2011/63]
78. The circular **supersedes** all previous correspondence on the matter A. supports. B. displaces. C. eliminates. D. circumvents. [2011/64]
79. Her problem was **exacerbated** by the loss of her father. A. exaggerated. B. solved. C. aggravated. D. infuriated. [2011/65]
80. Okibe was rusticated for his **derogatory** remark about the principal A. complimentary. B. unsavoury. C. unwarranted. D. lackluster. [2012/52]
81. Justice is difficult to enforce because people are **unwilling to accept any loss of sovereignty**.
A. autonomy. B. position. C. leadership. D. kingdom. [2012/53]
82. There are still **virtuous** women in our society today.
A. clever. B. upright. C. devilish. D. intelligent. [2012/54]
83. The type of response is **typical** of a lazy teacher
A. symptomatic. B. characteristic. C. universal. D. incontestable. [2012/55]
84. Akin is an **inveterate** gambler. A. a selfish and self-centered. B. an extremely unlucky but popular. C. an incurable but fearful. D. A long time and incorrigible. [2012/56]
85. He was too **petrified** to give the closing remarks at the conference. A. frightened. B. delighted. C. agitated. D. happy. [2012/57]
86. During a particular time of the day, the road **shimmers** in the heat. A. darkens. B. lightens. C. shine. D. beams. [2012/58]
87. Every human being is **vulnerable** to communicable diseases. A. liable. B. lifted. C. immuned. D. closed. [2012/59]
88. Mariam looks rather **furtive** to Shehu.
A. intoxicated. B. unfriendly. C. sad. D. sly. [2012/60]
89. The student's union leader delivered his speech **extempore**. A. out-of-hand. B. off the cuff. C. accurately. D. courageously. [2012/61]
90. His story gave us an **inkling** of what he passed through during the strike. A. a possible idea. B. a taste. C. a summary. D. the right view. [2012/62]
91. These policies have been **espoused** by the ruling party. A. condemned. B. rejected. C. supported. D. outlined. [2012/63]
92. We must not **foreclose** reconciliation as the purpose of his trip. A. exclude. B. consider. C. underestimate. D. forgo. [2012/64]
93. Her findings **exploded** widely held beliefs about learning. A. challenged. B. debunked. C. projected. D. confirmed. [2012/65]
94. Ayodeji is an **ardent** supporter of education for the girl child. A. an optimistic. B. a cogent. C. a passionate. D. an ignorant. [2013/56]
95. The scholar's **epitaph** was demolished
A. monument. B. embodiment. C. farmland. D. book. [2013/57]
96. Mohammed does his work with so much **ardour**.
A. enthusiasm. B. discouragement. C. knowledge. D. indifference. [2013/58]

Nearest in Meaning 2 Answers

1A 2D 3A 4B 5C 6C 7C 8A 9C 10A 11A 12D 13A 14C 15D
16D 17C 18C 19C 20D 21B 22C 23D 24B 25D 26C 27C 28C
29A 30B 31B 32B 33A 34A 35A 36B 37B 38C 39B 40B 41D
42A 43C 44C 45D 46B 47B 48B 49B 50C 51C 52D 53C 54A

55D 56A 57A 58D 59D 60D 61A 62C 63C 64D 65C 66C 67D
68C 69D 70A 71A 72B 73B 74B 75C 76C 77B 78B 79C 80B
81A 82B 83B 84D 85A 86C 87A 88D 89B 90A 91C 92A 93B
94C 95A 96A

Nearest in Meaning 3

In each of the questions below, choose the option nearest in meaning to the word or phrase in *italics*.

1. Mr. Okon has been described as an *eagle-eyed* editor. A. a quick-sighted. B. a short-sighted. C. a long-sighted. D. a clear-sighted. [2000/79]
2. The Governor told the chief that he was only on a *routine tour*. A. working visit and homage. B. normal and regular visit. C. surprise and impromptu check. D. unplanned encounter. [2000/82]
3. The presence of the security men in the area will provide a *moment of respite* for the residents. A. enduring reprieve. B. temporary relief. C. lasting security. D. soothing relaxation. [2000/85]
4. The family discussed the crime committed and resolved to *nail the lie to the counter*. A. defer action on it. B. expose it publicly. C. bury it in a coffin. D. seek. [2000/91]
5. The new ruler is *big-hearted* in his dealings with the people. A. proud. B. cruel. C. generous. D. soft. [2000/92]
6. It is time for all concerned to first *pick to pieces* the strike action before proffering solutions. A. embrace joyfully. B. critically analyse. C. stop abruptly. D. commend highly. [2000/93]
7. Any chief executive of an organization would find *radical changes* blocked at every turn. A. ideas. B. innovations. C. developments. D. suggestions. [2001/93]
8. His success may be described as a *pyrrhic victory*. A. a deserving victory. B. costly. C. indecisive. D. an easy victory. [2002/68]
9. A few years ago, nobody would have believed that the economy would *turnaround*. A. deteriorate. B. improve. C. stagnate. D. change. [2003/50]
10. Before announcing his retirement, Ochima resolved to *settle an account* with the bank. A. pay back all he owes. B. close his account with. C. retire his loans from. D. get back at. [2003/51]
11. Publishing as a business venture has become a *hot potato* in Nigeria. A. unpleasant. B. profitable. C. unacceptable. D. expensive. [2003/59]
12. The presence of the captain makes the sailors *ill at ease*. A. uncomfortable. B. sickly. C. impatient. D. easily ill. [2004/81]
13. Okonkwo manages his household *with a heavy hand*. A. like a powerful dictator. B. using the cane on every occasion. C. without tolerating weaknesses. D. like a heavyweight champion. [2004/83]
14. We *made a pile* in the business deal. A. lost a lot of money. B. earned a lot of money. C. broke even. D. cut corners. [2005/65]
15. His discovery of the vaccine became a *Quantum leap* in the search for a scientific cure for the illness. A. slow but steady leap. B. victorious battle. C. fast but sure step. D. great improvement. [2006/48]
16. After the meeting, I read a *leer* on his face as he looked at the woman. A. bad look. B. satisfying meaning. C. poor smile. D. pleasant disposition. [2006/54]
17. The astute businessman neatly *fended off* questions about his private life. A. welcomed. B. explained. C. sidestepped. D. asked. [2007/55]
18. I was being directed by my *sixth sense* all through the ordeal. A. intelligence. B. judgement. C. intuition. D. imagination. [2008/65]
19. Agwube's explanation of her poor performance at the examination only *begged the question*. A. delayed her punishment. B. sounded quite convincing. C. did not address the issue. D. over flogged the matter. [2009/51]
20. Some men will continue to cause offences until they are given a *taste of their own medicine*. A. placated. B. revenged on. C. recompensed for. D. cured. [2012/51]
21. The athlete is proud to be in the *vanguard* of sports development. A. unforgettable position. B. leading position. C. destructive position. D. emerging position. [2013/59]
22. Nwankwo was on the *verge* of signing a two-year contract with the club. A. shore. B. summit. C. height. D. brink. [2013/60]
23. I am tired of your *eternal* argument. A. Strong. B. Useless. C. constant. D. open. [2013/61]
24. The lamb is a *feeble* little animal. A. quiet. B. loving. C. weak. D. fat. [2013/62]
25. The actress *screamed* when she noticed an object behind her. A. protested. B. waded in. C. stormed out. D. wailed. [2013/63]
26. The *exhibition* was an eye opener to all. A. display. B. style. C. examination. D. dispatch. [2013/64]
27. As a journalist, Bala has always had a *nose for stories*. A. cynical statement. B. an instinct. C. a command. D. soft comment. [2013/65]
28. The chairman admires *incessant* meetings. A. planned. B. constant. C. irregular. D. unusual. [2014/56]
29. Today's weather is *favourable* for a game of tennis. A. abnormal. B. disapproving. C. encouraging. D. impartial. [2014/57]
30. All the candidates looked *aghast* at the first reading of the questions. A. dismayed. B. satisfied. C. relaxed. D. fulfilled. [2014/58]
31. Joke gave Muhammed a *jaunty* smile. A. an inviting. B. a frightful. C. a cheerful. D. a discouraging. [2014/59]
32. The first round of the tournament was a *doddle*. A. balanced. B. dodgy. C. exasperating. D. easy. [2014/60]
33. The lazy man cast a *lustful* glance at his neighbour's wife. A. quick. B. covetous. C. envious. D. hateful. [2014/61]
34. They accused him of *fomenting* political unrest. A. discouraging. B. preventing. C. guiding. D. inciting. [2014/62]
35. You can *learn* a great deal just from watching other players. A. accumulate. B. allow. C. discover. D. invent. [2014/63]

36. All the researchers were asked to *garner* information on the new viral infection.
A. disseminate. B. distort.
C. give. D. collect. [2014/64]
37. The dispute between the two countries has resulted in the *severing* of diplomatic relations. A. securing.
B. swapping. C. strengthening. D. breaking. [2014/65]
38. A big sum been *recovered* from the fraudulent man
A. regained B. rescued C. restored D. retrieved. [0/0]
39. He *gazed* relentless at the point A. satirized B.
stirred C. steered D. stared. [0/0]
40. The financial scandal was reported by our *correspondent*. A. reporter B. columnist C.
newscaster D. editor. [0/0]
41. We cannot *exonerate* Aminu in this matter
A. excuse B. indict C. involve D. accuse. [0/0]
42. There has been a *downturn* in the affairs of the company. A. A turn-around B. A massive increase C.
A decline D. Little progress. [0/0]
43. She is *an ignoramus* when it comes to Mathematics.
A. A genius B. A professional C. A novice D. A sheep.
44. The tenants only pay a *nominal* rent yearly. A. Vast
B. Huge C. Token D. Flat. [0/0]
45. The local thief was put in *an inconspicuous* position.
A. A striking B. A permanent C. An unnoticeable D. A unquestionable. [0/0]
46. The citizens have always *yearned* for good governance. A. Argued for B. Paid for
C. Campaigned for D. Longed for. [0/0]
47. Women admire men who tell *veritable* stories. A.
Fantastic B. Real C. Negative D. Archaic. [0/0]
48. The man with a bandaged hand has been a victim of *xenophobia*. A. Fear of the unknown B. Fear of
crowds C. Fear of foreigners D. Fear of darkness.
49. I have tried to make Ukwudi a friend, but she has remained *petty*. A. Hostile B. Friendly C. Parochial D.
Cynical. [0/0]
50. Bassey's actions have fallen outside the *precincts* of the law. A. Limits B. Premises C. Localities D.
Directives. [0/0]
51. Many students are faced with *pecuniary* challenges. A. Psychological B. Family C. Monetary D.
Peculiar. [0/0]
52. The company has been declared *insolvent*. A.
Buoyant B. Productive C. Corrupt D. Bankrupt.
53. This event was a *watershed* in the company. A.
Landmark B. Blot C. Publicity D. Stain. [0/0]
54. Aisha *impelled* Ola to the party. A. Compelled B.
Accompanied C. Invited D. Encouraged. [0/0]
55. He made a *lucid* point. A. Clear B. Strange C. Vague
D. Hazy. [0/0]
56. The children received gifts from *doting* parents. A.
Nagging B. Loving C. Humble D. Docile. [0/0]
57. This case is within the *jurisdiction* of the council.
A. Record B. Prohibition C. Authority D. Finance

Nearest in Meaning 3 Answers

1A 2B 3B 4B 5C 6B 7B 8B 9B 10D 11A 12A 13A 14B 15D
16A 17C 18C 19C 20B 21B 22B 23C 24C 25D 26A 27B
28B 29C 30A 31C 32D 33B 34D 35C 36D 37D 38D 39D
40A 41A 42C 43C 44C 45C 46D 47B 48C 49C 50A 51C
52D 53A 54A 55A 56B 57C

Antonyms

Introduction

Here your task is to choose an option opposite in meaning to the given word. Just like the questions on synonyms, be reminded that a particular word may have more than one meaning, therefore the correct option will be determined by the context it's been used. Always read each question slowly, be sure you understand the context the given is been used and then carefully make your choice. Download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store for detailed explanation.

Opposite in Meaning 1

In each of the questions below, choose the option opposite in meaning to the word or phrase in italics.

- The officer said that he knew nothing to the *detriment* of the applicant. A. background.
B. disfavour. C. damage. D. advantage. [2000/63]
- Common sense requires that one should be *decorous* at formal gatherings A. courteous.
B. careful. C. impolite. D. incurious. [2000/64]
- The string was *taut* A. stretched. B. loose. C. firm.
D. tight. [2000/65]
- The diminutive figure bounces over the track with *unfathomable* lightness A. irresistible. B. predictable.
C. invigorating. D. impressive. [2000/66]
- The teacher announced that the class would be making a *fleeting* visit to the zoo A. long. B. routine.
C. brief. D. guided. [2000/67]
- We intend to make the reception a *diurnal* event
A. an annual. B. a weekly. C. a nightly. D. a short. [2000/68]
- The project is designed to *alleviate* poverty in the country. A. exacerbate. B. assuage. C. eradicate.
D. tackle. [2000/69]
- The Permanent Secretary left his job *under a cloud*
A. with a clear record. B. on a sunny day. C. in disgrace. D. on a cloudy day. [2000/70]
- It is surprising that this politician has now turn *renegade*. A. militant. B. loyal. C. quiet. D. corrupt.
[2000/71]
- Hypertension is a *debilitating* disease that everyone should prevent A. a horrible. B. an enervating.
C. a mortal. D. an energizing. [2000/72]
- The striking workers have vowed not to return to work until the decision is *rescinded*.
A. implemented. B. changed. C. dismissed. D. incorporated. [2000/73]
- It is rare for a leader and his deputy to see *eye to eye*. A. reproach each other. B. disagree. C. be of one
mind. D. respect each other. [2000/74]
- I'm not interested in buying that shirt. I think it is *overpriced*. A. too expensive. B. priceless. C. cheap.
D. overrated. [2000/75]
- When the driver applied the brakes, they *acted up*.
A. responded well B. jammed. C. were sluggish. D. failed. [2000/76]
- Civil engineering is *predominantly* a male profession
A. absolutely. B. seldom. C. essentially D. generally. [2000/77]
- Despite his laxity in other matters, Ojo's father *drew the line* at truancy A. rejected. B. emphasized.
C. favoured. D. ignored. [2000/78]

17. Amina's performance in the examination **surpassed my expectations** A. amazed everyone. B. lacked merit. C. was extraordinary good. D. was disappointing. [2001/63]
18. As these boys never act in public, the police are now worried about their **covert** activities. A. evil. B. open. C. cryptic. D. ignoble. [2001/64]
19. The town was all **agog** at his unexpected return A. unexcited. B. excited. C. on fire. D. surprised. [2001/65]
20. Some equatorial areas have a **sultry** climate. A. a hot. B. an inclement. C. a temperate. D. a stable. [2001/66]
21. The journalist's write-up contained a **plethora** of detail A. simplicity. B. shortage. C. complexity. D. spectrum. [2001/67]
22. In the latter part of his life, the famous soldier showed signs of **youthfulness**. A. bravery. B. vitality. C. energy. D. senility. [2001/68]
23. It is **inconceivable** that the rat devoured the cat. A. contestable. B. credible. C. incomprehensible. D. unimaginable. [2001/69]
24. All wondered why, the principal was **ambivalent** about the students future. A. inconsiderate. B. decisive. C. anxious. D. ambitious. [2001/70]
25. The teacher taught the **rudiments** of Chemistry to the first grade A. elements. B. fundamentals. C. basics. D. theories. [2001/71]
26. In his **naivety**, he believed all the stories his friend told him. A. artlessness. B. friendliness. C. incredulity. D. stupidity. [2001/72]
27. Updating the Board's brochure is an **arduous** task A. a regular. B. an annual. C. a difficult. D. an easy. [2001/73]
28. The lecture seemed **interminable** A. brief. B. interesting. C. boring. D. unending. [2001/74]
29. Had I known about their plan much earlier, I would have **nipped** it in the bud. A. promoted it. B. squashed it. C. initiated it. D. stopped it. [2001/75]
30. What a **harmless** thought he has! A. pleasant. B. perfect. C. pernicious. D. pertinent. [2001/76]
31. There is much **apathy** towards reading among students nowadays. A. indecision. B. enthusiasm. C. indifference. D. disinclination. [2001/77]
32. He gave an **unsatisfactory** excuse but the boss swallowed in hook, line and sinker. A. completely. B. with a pinch of salt. C. entirely. D. without mincing words. [2002/87]
33. The principal took exception to the **ignoble** role the teacher played in the matter. A. dishonourable. B. extraordinary. C. honourable. D. embarrassing. [2002/88]
34. The **hardline** posture of the labour leader has not helped matters. A. imposing. B. difficult. C. compromising. D. uncompromising. [2002/89]
35. The high cost of living these days calls for a lot of **frugality**. A. economy. B. recklessness. C. prudence. D. extravagance. [2002/90]
36. The evidence the leader gave was **incontrovertible**. A. logical. B. indubitable. C. practicable. D. contestable. [2002/91]
37. Tunde's reaction **underscores** the point I was making. A. contradicts. B. justifies. C. summarize. D. emphasizes. [2002/92]
38. Everyone admired the manager's **adroit** handling of the crises in the company A. clever. B. clumsy. C. skillful. D. tactless. [2002/93]
39. The chairman's conduct **redounds** to the image of the company. A. contributes to. B. detracts from. C. assists in. D. reflects on. [2002/94]
40. Her **phlegmatic** temperament endears her to her friends. A. cold. B. stoic. C. lively. D. irritable. [2002/95]
41. The President gave another **extemporaneous** speech last Friday. A. fascinating. B. unfavourable. C. unprepared. D. planned. [2002/96]
42. The witness **averred** that she had seen Dosun at the scene of the crime. A. confirmed. B. argued. C. affirmed. D. denied. [2002/97]
43. The workers suddenly became **restive**. A. fidgety. B. calm. C. disorderly. D. submissive. [2002/98]
44. The athlete has unexpectedly become **indomitable**. A. unruly. B. unconquerable. C. weak. D. disoriented. [2002/99]
45. He is **notorious** for his drunkenness. A. known. B. renowned. C. popular. D. well known. [2002/100]
46. Only those who are **gullible** fall victim to his trickery A. saucy. B. devastated. C. courteous. D. astute. [2003/31]
47. He is well known for his **inordinate** ambition A. excessive. B. passionate. C. moderate. D. sound. [2003/32]
48. Students could be **timid** A. friendly. B. bold. C. covetous. D. pugnacious. [2003/33]
49. The witness decided to **conceal** the evidence A. divulge. B. hide. C. destroy. D. waive. [2003/34]
50. The members of the congregation were **inspired** by the sermon A. bewitched. B. enthralled. C. disenchanted. D. disorientated. [2003/35]
51. Agbenu was **ecstatic** about her result A. dispassionate. B. sad. C. pessimistic. D. mad. [2003/36]
52. The labour leader's **recalcitrant** stance was applauded. A. stubborn. B. flexible. C. uncompromising. D. well-informed. [2003/37]
53. A cool bath in a hot weather can be truly **invigorating**. A. devastating. B. unpalatable. C. debilitating. D. disgusting. [2003/38]
54. I am **loath** to do the assignment. A. willing. B. unwilling. C. waiting. D. dying. [2003/39]
55. Toyin is married to an **impatient**, self-centered man. A. a fretful. B. a tolerant. C. an edgy. D. a tolerable. [2003/40]
56. **Gregarious** animals can be found in the zoo. A. various. B. Wild. C. lonely. D. Tame. [2003/41]
57. The doctor examine the patient **painstakingly**. A. perfunctorily. B. professionally. C. painfully. D. carefully. [2003/42]
58. The company has continued to **monopolize** the distribution of the products. A. centralize. B. specialize. C. liberalize. D. regularize. [2003/43]
59. A **conservative** estimate put the number of missing persons at forty A. rough. B. An accurate. C. A primitive. D. An incorrect. [2003/44]
60. The agency has sworn to deal with all **apostles** of confederation. A. proponents. B. protagonists. C. apostates. D. opponents. [2003/45]
61. Sailors are unusually **dauntless** in their exploits. A. selfless. B. ruthless. C. excited. D. frightened. [2004/61]
62. The **potency** of the drug has been acknowledged. A. action. B. loss. C. inefficacy. D. power. [2004/62]

63. The dictator wanted *tractable* men in his cabinet.
A. reliable. B. intelligent. C. tough. D. unruly.
[2004/63]
64. After the war, the victors became increasingly *vindictive*. A. friendly. B. vociferous. C. arrogant.
D. treacherous. [2004/64]
65. The ship was *imperiled* by high winds. A. piloted.
B. destroyed. C. deceived. D. saved. [2004/65]
66. Beauty queens sometimes wear *outlandish* dresses.
A. beautiful. B. flashy. C. familiar. D. attractive.
[2004/66]
67. The journalist said he was working *freelance*.
A. tirelessly. B. satisfactorily. C. without a pay.
D. dependently. [2004/67]
68. My father's presentation was rather *casual*
A. formal. B. vital. C. informal. D. divisive. [2004/68]
69. The Flying Eagles put up a *plucky* defense against
their opponents. A. strong. B. weak. C. careless.
D. tactful. [2004/69]
70. The man who scared the girl was a bit *deranged*.
A. Sane. B. amorous. C. crazy. D. dangerous.
[2004/70]
71. The injured man is determined to get back at his
assailant. A. attack. B. identify. C. visit. D. forgive.
[2004/71]
72. The player *writhed in pain* after the fall. A. remained
still. B. cried out. C. walked out. D. shook violently.
[2004/72]
73. The noise of the fans *unnerved* the star player.
A. refreshed. B. confused. C. helped. D. calmed.
[2004/73]
74. The team got an *ecstatic* welcome from the crowd.
A. an unexpected. B. a joyous. C. a cold. D. a
thunderous. [2004/74]
75. We found a *shady* place for the display. A. an
open. B. an unsafe. C. a stuffy. D. an enclosed.
[2004/75]
76. The teacher recounted two events that were
analogous with each other. A. similar with. B.
advantageous to. C. distant from. D. different
from. [2005/36]
77. The Principal was filled with *scorn* when we gave our
reason for coming late. A. contempt. B. sympathy.
C. anger. D. pity. [2005/37]
78. After fifty years he could not find anyone who
was *contemporary* with him at college. A. strange
to. B. friendly with. C. belonged to. D. contested
against. [2005/38]
79. Aliyu was a natural *spendthrift* when he was
single. A. philanthropist. B. miser. C. gambler. D.
thrift collector. [0/0]
80. I *despise* the way she lived her life. A. abhor.
B. hate. C. admire D. remember. [0/0]
81. Tagamo was a *witless* student A. dull B. a sensible
C. a physical D. an unwise. [0/0]
82. The judge ruled that the accused did not give a
plausible explanation A. a true B. a reasonable C. an
unbelievable D. a possible. [0/0]
83. The jury maintained that the evidence *obscured* the
facts of the case A. ignored B. changed C. masked D.
exposed. [0/0]
84. Sani's disposition contrasts with his brother 's
assiduity A. kindness B. Indulgence C. laziness D.
diligence. [0/0]
- 85 Asaba was *recalcitrant* to accept the offer A.
unwilling B. obedient C. reluctant D. free. [0/0]

Opposite in meaning 1 Answers

1D 2C 3B 4B 5A 6C 7A 8A 9B 10D 11A 12B 13C 14A 15B 16
C 17D 18B 19A 20C 21B 22D 23B 24B 25D 26C 27D 28A 29
A 30C 31B 32A 33C 34C 35D 36D 37A 38D 39B 40C 41D 4
2D 43B 44C 45C 46D 47C 48B 49A 50C 51B 52B 53C 54A 5
5B 56C 57A 58C 59B 60D 61D 62C 63D 64A 65D 66C 67D
68A 69B 70A 71D 72A 73D 74C 75A 76D 77B 78A 79B
80C 81B 82C 83D 84C 85B

Opposite in Meaning 2

In each of the questions below, choose the option opposite in meaning to the word or phrase in italics.

1. Idris gives me a *sour* look every time I pass by him
A. bad. B. satisfactory. C. friendly. D. sinister.
[2005/39]
2. The officer was given an *invidious* task. A. vivid.
B. cruel. C. pleasant. D. difficult. [2005/40]
3. The views of the plateau are in *stark* contrast to the
workaday cottages below. A. ordinary and
uninteresting. B. beautiful and interesting.
C. comfortable and fascinating. D. ugly and
unfascinating. [2005/41]
4. The President can afford to dispense with some of
his *henchmen*. A. detractors. B. bodyguards.
C. sycophants. D. advisers. [2005/42]
5. The judge did not grant the request that the witness
should *appear by proxy*. A. be present in
person. B. be represented by a counsel. C. not appear
at all. D. answer questions by phone. [2005/43]
6. It would be difficult to defeat such a *highly*
motivated team. A. highly deluded. B. completely
disillusioned. C. very demoralized. D. very Immature.
[2005/44]
7. Asabe bought a *glossy* pair of shoes. A. smooth and
shiny. B. rough and dull. C. smooth and shining.
D. rough and gummy. [2005/45]
8. Manu is hard to convince because he is an
opinionated person. A. an objective. B. subjective.
C. an imperative. D. a discursive. [2005/46]
9. Some people consider the leather upholstery and
thick rugs a bit *sumptuous*. A. expensive.
B. desirable. C. lavish. D. simple. [2005/47]
10. The dramatist provided a satisfactory *denouement*
to the play. A. audition. B. climax. C. introduction.
D. criticism. [2005/48]
11. Many Nigerians are *wary* of night journeys.
A. worried about. B. unscarred of. C. satisfied
with. D. troubled about. [2005/49]
12. The proprietor accused Uche of silently *acquiescing*
to the students' demands. A. submitting to.
B. compromising on. C. adjusting. D. resisting.
[2005/50]
13. The usually hostile crowd was captivated by the
player's *winsome* attitude. A. colourful.
B. obnoxious. C. drunken. D. friendly. [2006/26]
14. He gave himself up by his *plebeian* tastes. A. robust.
B. laughable. C. voracious. D. patrician. [2006/27]
15. The reporter made a *masterly* analysis of the
situation A. a proper. B. an unskilled. C. an in-
depth. D. a mistaken. [2006/28]
16. Akpan was able to *douse* the flames with the new
piece of equipment. A. reduce. B. reinforce.
C. extinguish. D. ignite. [2006/29]
17. A *tentative* solution was provided. A. A definitive.
B. A provisional. C. An amicable. D. A convincing.
[2006/30]

18. The notice reads, 'No *cash* transactions in this hall' A. gainful. B. cheque. C. money. D. business. [2006/31]
19. In our last play, Segun acted the *hero* A. assassin. B. devil. C. villain. D. criminal. [2006/32]
20. The man drew a sword as people *congregated* round him A. fled from. B. praised. C. gathered round. D. mobbed. [2006/33]
21. *No sooner* had he arrived than it started to rain A. simultaneously. B. Seldom. C. Just before. D. Long before. [2006/34]
22. The police found a *conclusive* proof of the boy's guilt A. a corroborative. B. a consolatory. C. an incriminating. D. a doubtful. [2006/35]
23. He has no reason to *have his heart in his mouth*. A. be afraid. B. feel guilty. C. be confident. D. think negatively. [2006/36]
24. The little boy has become quite *chubby*. A. intelligent. B. tall. C. thin. D. huge. [2006/37]
25. The point you have made is quite *apt*. A. helpful. B. irrelevant. C. illogical. D. insensitive. [2006/38]
26. The chief said he would use the power *inherent* in his office to stop the celebration. A. impervious to. B. allotted. C. common to. D. unrelated to. [2006/39]
27. The action was *premeditated*. A. unplanned. B. unnecessary. C. catastrophic. D. uncoordinated. [2006/40]
28. The man advised his wife to *steer a middle course* in the argument between her and employers. A. be compromising. B. be unrepentant. C. be unrelenting. D. be recalcitrant. [2007/36]
29. The man paid a large sum to *redeem* his mortgaged property. A. pawn. B. recover. C. ransom. D. acquire. [2007/37]
30. The stadium was *seething* with people when we entered. A. crowded. B. noisy. C. empty. D. filled. [2007/38]
31. Otokpa took after his late father who was a *teetotaler*. A. a disciplinarian. B. sober. C. a drunk. D. careless. [2007/39]
32. The students were *undeterred* by the noisy lecture environment. A. discouraged. B. challenged. C. frustrated. D. encouraged. [2007/40]
33. The suggestions he made were very *unobtrusive*. A. helpful. B. reasonable. C. forceful. D. sincere. [2007/41]
34. The study he carried out of the problem was quite *comprehensive*. A. sketchy. B. complete. C. detailed. D. inscrutable. [2007/42]
35. 'Is it necessary for us to go?' she asked in her *shrill* voice. A. quiet. B. indistinct. C. aggressive. D. angry. [2007/43]
36. The Vice-Chancellor *relinquished* power at the end of his term. A. gave up. B. wielded. C. clung on to. D. abandoned. [2007/44]
37. The refugees were received at the *transit camp*. A. temporary. B. nearby. C. permanent. D. passage. [2007/45]
38. Lami and her husband are simply *munificent*. A. angry. B. niggardly. C. wealthy. D. happy. [2007/46]
39. Mr. Adeyemo is quite a *conceited* young man. A. an unassuming. B. a resourceful. C. an experienced. D. a practical. [2007/47]
40. Do not be *discouraged* by failure in life. A. disorientated. B. overjoyed. C. actuated. D. dissuaded. [2007/48]
41. For anything to do with academic work, he has a great *aversion*. A. contempt. B. conversion. C. predilection. D. attention. [2007/49]
42. The police demanded a *factual* account of the accident. A. an uncorroborated. B. an admissible. C. an undisguised. D. a supportive. [2007/50]
43. Sola is *apathetic* about his work. A. indifferent. B. enthusiastic. C. half-hearted. D. bored. [1000/36]
44. The members of the family had a *hasty* breakfast before starting out on their journey. A. hurried. B. leisurely. C. tasty. D. nasty. [2008/37]
45. The *poverty* level among the masses is unbearable. A. arrogance. B. saturation. C. affluence. D. influence. [1000/38]
46. The chairman was accused of implementing policies that favoured the *elite*. A. oppressed. B. executives. C. jobless. D. citizens. [1000/39]
47. The manager was impressed by the man's *eagerness*. A. impatience. B. indifference. C. negligence. D. calmness. [1000/40]
48. He is known for making *threadbare* arguments as a scholar. A. justifiable. B. baseless. C. empty. D. militant. [1000/41]
49. The lecturer's *obscure* publications counted against him during the promotion exercise. A. widespread. B. closed. C. circulated. D. restricted. [1000/42]
50. The man found his wife physically *repellent*. A. attractive. B. fatuous. C. unpleasant. D. flamboyant. [1000/43]
51. As an *absolute ruler*, Adayi brooks no opposition from his subordinates. A. a despotic dictator. B. a shameless king. C. a benevolent leader. D. a magnanimous democrat. [1000/44]
52. The response to the advertisement has been *phenomenal*. A. spiritual. B. frightening. C. unimpressive. D. catastrophic. [1000/45]
53. My father lived a *Spartan* life before his death. A. extravagant. B. peaceful. C. quiet. D. luxurious. [1000/46]
54. Bola's parents went through an *acrimonious* divorce A. a bitter. B. an acrid. C. a sour. D. a peaceful. [1000/47]
55. Iliya's account of the incident is *appalling*. A. tasking. B. fascinating. C. horrifying. D. ridiculous. [2008/48]
56. She *encapsulated* her view of the nature of life in a poem. A. summed up. B. explained. C. expatiated on. D. reflected. [1000/49]
57. We were held *spellbound* by his eloquence. A. unimpressed. B. freed. C. deceived. D. unenlightened. [1000/50]
58. We had difficulty eating the meat because it was *leathery*. A. bitter. B. stringy. C. tough. D. tender. [2009/36]
59. The boy is too *indolent* to do well at school. A. intelligent. B. industrious. C. inactive. D. slothful. [2009/37]
60. Salasi's *tremendous* effort has yielded results. A. absolute. B. insignificant. C. unimaginable. D. prohibitive. [2009/38]
61. The *computerized* service of the new banks is heartwarming. A. manual. B. mechanical. C. electrical. D. condensed. [2009/39]
62. Life has become a *misery* for many owing to the harsh economic condition in the country A. drudgery

- B. ridicule. C. ritual. D. comfort [2009/40]
63. The company director has a *vivacious* personality
A. a positive. B. an unmanageable. C. an unimpressive. D. a gregarious. [2009/41]
64. Young people have a *penchant* for fast cars.
A. likeness. B. passion. C. madness. D. dislike. [2009/42]
65. Most of his latest actions are *militant* in nature
A. commanding. B. civil. C. zealous. D. passionate. [2009/43]
66. His ideas sounded quite palatable yet they were *jettisoned* by the group
A. accepted. B. dumped. C. denied. D. criticized. [2009/44]
67. The compulsory leave made her feel *listless*.
A. restful. B. great. C. fat. D. energetic. [2009/45]
68. A novel is an *embellished* falsehood, said the teacher
A. enriched. B. exaggerated. C. adorned. D. obliterated. [2009/46]
69. I have had enough of your *impudence*.
A. politeness. B. arrogance. C. incivility. D. boldness. [2009/47]
70. We are *collectively* responsible for keeping the machine in good shape
A. jointly. B. severally. C. dutifully. D. socially. [2009/48]
71. His comment was not *printable*
A. punishable. B. suitable. C. offensive. D. unfair. [2009/49]
72. *Curiously*, he escaped unhurt. A. interestingly. B. unsurprisingly. C. annoyingly. D. unusually. [2009/50]

73. I am optimistic about the interview though it was a *mind – bending* exercise. A. an enervating. B. a difficult. C. a debilitating. D. an easy. [2010/36]
74. The trader was amused by the *cut - throat* rush for the goods. A. worrisome. B. strange. C. lackluster. D. mad. [2010/37]
75. The teacher said that Ali's essay was full of many *redundant* details. A. unexplained B. strange. C. necessary. D. useful. [2010/38]
76. His father surmounted the *myriad* of obstacles on his way
A. most. B. few. C. all. D. many. [2010/39]
77. Her *ingenuous* smile drew our attention. A. witty. B. naive. C. clever. D. arrogant. [2010/40]
78. Ndeni gave a *flawless* speech at the party
A. a wonderful. B. a careless. C. an interesting. D. an imperfect. [2010/41]
79. The smell is *obnoxious*
A. pleasant B. loathsome C. unpleasant D. obvious. [2009/49]
80. The decision will have no *adverse* effect on us.
A. inimical B. detrimental C. beneficial D. lasting.

Opposite in meaning 2 Answers

- 1C 2C 3B 4A 5A 6C 7B 8A 9D 10C 11B 12D 13B 14D 15B
16D 17A 18B 19C 20A 21D 22D 23C 24C 25B 26D 27A
28D 29A 30C 31C 32A 33C 34A 35A 36C 37C 38B 39A 40C
41C 42A 43B 44B 45C 46A 47B 48A 49A 50A 51D 52C
53D 54D 55B 56C 57A 58D 59B 60B 61A 62D 63C 64D
65B 66A 67D 68D 69A 70B 71C 72B 73D 74C 75D 76B
77D 78D 79A 80C

Opposite in Meaning 3

In each of the questions below, choose the option opposite in meaning to the word or phrase in italics.

- Beneath Ado's *guff* exterior, he's really very kind-hearted
A. nice. B. harsh. C. rough. D. gentle. [2010/42]
- The captain says sports is being *debased* by commercial sponsorship.
A. localized. B. perverted. C. elevated. D. overvalued. [2010/43]
- Governing a country is not always as *straight forward* as people sometimes imagine
A. complicated. B. troublesome. C. untoward. D. irksome. [2010/44]
- The crowd was very *receptive* to the speaker's suggestion.
A. disobedient. B. repellent. C. alert. D. hostile. [2010/45]
- There was a general *acquiescence* on the new drug law.
A. resistance. B. discrepancy. C. compromise. D. agreement. [2010/46]
- Aisha seems to feel *ambivalent* about her future.
A. decisive. B. anxious. C. ambitious. D. inconsiderate. [2010/47]
- The report of the committee contained a *plethora* of details.
A. shortage. B. simplicity. C. multitude. D. spectrum. [2010/48]
- Ada gave her husband a look that made words *superfluous*.
A. redundant. B. spurious. C. unnecessary. D. scanty. [2010/50]
- The warring communities were *coerced* into negotiating a settlement.
A. driven. B. compelled. C. persuaded. D. pressured. [1000/36]
- His father served as a *mercenary* in the army
A. preacher. B. regular. C. recruit. D. officer. [1000/37]
- Jummai is *cruel* to her husband
A. harsh. B. brutal. C. passionate. D. ferocious. [1000/38]
- The teacher who beat the student was treated with *mercy*.
A. disrespect. B. contempt. C. vengeance. D. kindness. [1000/39]
- His wife hates his *garrulous* attitude.
A. outspoken. B. unfriendly. C. reticent. D. thoughtful. [1000/40]
- 'Agoshito is a *callow* youth', said the teacher
A. an ignorant. B. an experienced. C. an idle. D. an organized. [1000/41]
- What you are asking me to do is a *herculean* task.
A. a strenuous. B. a demanding. C. a lovely. D. an easy. [1000/42]
- Nkechi was a *novice* when she was first employed.
A. manager. B. clerk. C. supervisor. D. professional. [1000/43]
- 'I do not trust him', he said, in a rare moment of *candour*.
A. reproach. B. dishonest. C. frankness. D. fairness. [1000/44]
- Mrs. Akunilo looks *anaemic* today
A. strange. B. sick. C. weak. D. strong. [1000/45]
- It is *inconceivable* that the sun shone in the night.
A. credible. B. unthinkable. C. impossible. D. contestable. [1000/46]
- She only gives a *superficial* impression of warmth and friendliness.
A. a strong. B. a fake. C. a deep. D. an unrealistic. [1000/47]
- As a *prudent* businessman, Adayi does not leave anything to chance.
A. frugal. B. shrewd. C. careless. D. unsuccessful. [1000/48]
- His *antipathy* affected the growth of his business
A. hatred. B. receptiveness. C. loyalty. D. hostility. [1000/49]
- Okonkwo's *lethal* right foot did the magic in the football match.
A. weak. B. wicked. C. fat. D. harmless. [1000/50]

24. We were *shocked* by the news that he had lost the money. A. astonished. B. disconcerted. C. unconcerned. D. surprised. [2012/37]
25. Bola always looks *sober*. A. excited. B. serious. C. worried. D. hapless. [2012/39]
26. Dupe was promoted for her *efficiency*. A. ability. B. incompetence. C. inconsistency. D. rudeness. [2012/40]
27. The management wants to consider her *reticent* behaviour in due course. A. disapproving. B. disciplinarian. C. contemplative. D. loquacious. [2012/41]
28. Election processes often become *volatile*. A. calm. B. strange. C. sudden. D. latent. [2012/42]
29. Oche entered the principal's office in a rather *abrasive* manner. A. gentle. B. rude. C. lackadaisical. D. indifferent. [2012/43]
30. Otokpa is a member of the *ad hoc* committee on stock acquisition. A. improvised. B. formal. C. temporary. D. fact-finding. [2012/44]
31. His gift to the poor was always *infinitesimal*. A. large. B. small. C. supportive. D. Shameful. [2012/45]
32. The economist concluded that several factors have been *adduced* to explain the fall in the birth rate. A. affirmed. B. diffused. C. mentioned. D. refute d. [2012/46]
33. The presidential system is an *antidote* to some political ailments. A. an answer. B. a reply. C. an inquiry. D. an obstacle. [2012/47]
34. Ola thought that her father was very *callous*. A. parlous. B. compassionate. C. wicked. D. cheerful. [2012/48]
35. He was very much respected, though he had no *temporal* power. A. spiritual. B. mundane. C. permanent. D. ephemeral. [2012/49]
36. The way the workshop was organized was rather *hit-and-miss*. A. systematic. B. hasty. C. slow. D. funny. [2012/50]
37. Chibuzor gave a *curt* nod and walked away. A. gentle. B. rude. C. polite. D. shocking. [2013/46]
38. The girl took a *cursory* glance at the letter and hid it. A. sententious. B. concise. C. brief. D. lasting. [2013/47]
39. The relationship between the couple has been *frosty*. A. fraudulent. B. cordial. C. amenable. D. frugal. [2013/48]
40. The Nobel laureate's activity in the field of science is *heinous*. A. indelible. B. laudable. C. deplorable. D. forgettable. [2013/49]
41. The accused was *eventually* convicted. A. initially. B. consequently. C. subsequently. D. finally. [2013/50]
42. The *plebs* can be found in every society of the world. A. masses. B. middle class. C. elite. D. politicians. [2013/51]
43. Everyone's condition was *appalling*. A. simple. B. cloudy. C. pleasant. D. complex. [2013/52]
44. The man's *mordant* wit is apparent to the entire village. A. Kind. B. scathing. C. caustic. D. withering. [2013/53]
45. The war against malaria keeps *waxing*. A. happening. B. decreasing. C. increasing. D. wavering. [2013/54]
46. The soldiers tried in their *dogged* defense of the city. A. indifferent. B. strong. C. miserable. D. classical. [2013/55]
47. Prolonged strike action *debilitated* the industry. A. isolated. B. weakened. C. destroyed. D. invigorated. [2014/46]
48. One of the students bought a *plagiarized* copy of the book. A. an original. B. a revised. C. an annotated. D. a used. [2014/47]
49. The young girl was taken *aback* by her father's gift of a car. A. unmoved. B. surprised. C. nonplussed. D. shocked. [2014/48]
50. Musa is a gifted but *erratic* player. A. regular. B. unpredictable. C. unstable. D. strong. [2014/49]
51. The lamp shades were *translucent*. A. intersected. B. luminous. C. transparent. D. opaque. [2014/50]
52. My niece has an *unquenchable* thirst for adventure stories. A. an illegitimate. B. a reduced. C. an inextinguishable. D. a spurious. [2014/51]
53. Some of my neighbours have an *antipathy* to dogs. A. affection for. B. acronym for. C. alarm for. D. enmity towards. [2014/52]
54. The dressmaker *unpicked* the seam of the shirt. A. sewed up. B. picked up. C. tore up. D. threaded. [2014/53]
55. The testimony of the witness was *vague*. A. true. B. ambiguous. C. clear. D. disturbing. [2014/54]
56. As a student, Isa tried *communal* living for a few years. A. general. B. shared. C. private. D. collective. [2014/55]
57. His cruelty to his mother *defies* logical explanation. A. demands. B. offers. C. projects. D. precludes. [1999/85]
58. The stadium was *seething* with people when we entered. A. filled. B. crowded. C. empty. D. noisy. [2007/54]
59. The reporter made a *masterly* analysis of the situation. A. an unskillful. B. a mistaken. C. an in-depth. D. a proper. [2006/87]
60. A *tentative* solution was provided. A. convincing. B. A provisional. C. An amicable. D. A definite. [2006/94]
61. The man drew a sword as people *congregated* round him. A. praised. B. gathered round. C. mobbed. D. fled from. [2006/99]
62. The man paid a large sum to *redeem* his mortgaged property. A. ransom. B. acquire. C. pawn. D. recover [2007/48]
63. 'Is it necessary for us to go?' she asked in her *shrill* voice. A. angry. B. quiet. C. indistinct. D. aggressive. [2007/50]
64. Akpan was able to *douse* the flames with the new piece of equipment. A. reduce. B. extinguish. C. ignite. D. reinforce. [2006/90]
65. The action was *premeditated*. A. unnecessary. B. catastrophic. C. unplanned. D. uncoordinated. [2006/93]
66. The notice reads, 'No *cash* transactions in this hall'. A. money. B. gainful. C. business. D. cheque. [2006/100]
67. A cool bath in a hot weather can be truly *invigorating*. A. debilitating. B. devastating. C. disgusting. D. unpalatable. [2003/77]
68. No sooner had he arrived than it started to rain. A. Long before. B. Seldom. C. Simultaneously. D. Just before. [2006/92]
69. The point you have made is quite *apt*. A. illogical. B. helpful. C. irrelevant. D. insensitive. [2006/98]
70. The chief said he would use the power *inherent* in his office to stop the celebration. A. unrelated

- to. **B.** common to. **C.** allotted. **D.** impervious to. [2006/95]
71. **He gave himself up by his *plebeian* tastes** **A.** robust. **B.** voracious. **C.** patrician. **D.** laughable. [2006/91]
72. **Only those who are *gullible* fall victim to his trickery.** **A.** astute. **B.** courteous. **C.** saucy. **D.** devastated. [2003/76]
73. **The refugees were received at the *transit* camp** **A.** passage. **B.** permanent. **C.** temporary. **D.** nearby. [2007/47]
74. **Mr. Adeyemo is quite a *conceited* young man** **A.** a resourceful. **B.** a practical. **C.** an experienced. **D.** an unassuming. [2007/53]
75. **The witness decided to *conceal* the evidence.** **A.** waive. **B.** divulge. **C.** hide. **D.** destroy. [2003/78]
76. **Abiola was a very *feeble* man** **A.** selfish **B.** weak **C.** strong **D.** tall
77. **It is *obligatory* for all employees to be punctual at work.** **A.** Recommended **B.** Imperious **C.** Optional **D.** Necessary
78. **Ayoola is always *meticulous* in studying for examination.** **A.** Thorough **B.** Sloppy **C.** Impatient **D.** Superficial
79. **Although the work was *arduous*, I impressed my boss by executing it.** **A.** Strenuous **B.** Easy **C.** Improvised **D.** Unexpected
80. **The lecturer's speech on the fire outbreak was *ambiguous*.** **A.** Lucid **B.** obscure **C.** obstructive **D.** Ambitious
81. **Aku was *livid* when she saw her result.** **A.** Furious **B.** Hopeful **C.** Delighted **D.** Sad
82. **He did not see the *likelihood* of passing the Examination.** **A.** Difficulty **B.** Probability **C.** Impossibility **D.** Practicability
83. **Kolo has considerable *allurement* for white shirts.** **A.** Fascination **B.** Repulsion **C.** Attraction **D.** Temptation
84. **We have learnt the *theoretical* aspect of the course.** **A.** Practical **B.** Abstract **C.** Written **D.** Hypothetical.
85. **Many people dislike the present *austerity* measures.** **A.** Harsh **B.** Rigid **C.** Miserly **D.** Buoyant
86. **Many bought *outlandish* costumes from the Far East.** **A.** Conventional **B.** Ordinary **C.** Expensive **D.** Indigenous
87. **The man was *traitorous* to our club.** **A.** Loyal **B.** Known **C.** Treacherous **D.** Accustomed
88. **The chairman is *parsimonious*.** **A.** Avaricious **B.** Thrifty **C.** Generous **D.** Miserly.
89. **The student received a mild *reproof* from the teacher.** **A.** Exhortation **B.** Opposition **C.** Commendation.
90. **They come here on a *bootless* errand.** **A.** Worthwhile **B.** Vain **C.** Delusive **D.** Intended

Opposite in meaning 3 Answers

1D 2C 3A 4D 5A 6A 7A 8D 9C 10B 11C 12C 13C 14B 15D
16D 17B 18D 19A 20C 21C 22B 23D 24C 25A 26B 27D 28A
29A 30B 31A 32D 33D 34B 35A 36A 37C 38D 39B 40B
41A 42C 43C 44A 45B 46A 47D 48A 49A 50A 51D 52B 53A
54A 55C 56C 57B 58C 59A 60D 61D 62C 63C 64C 65C 66D
67A 68A 69C 70A 71C 72A 73B 74D 75B 76C 77C 78B 79B
80A 81C 82C 83B 84A 85D 86A 87A 88D 89C 90A

Sweet Sixteen By Bolaji Abdulahi

The Letter

- Aliya was the.....of her parents. **A.** First child **B.** Second Child **C.** Only Child **D.** Last Child
- Aliya turned 16 Days before the end of the term examinations. **A.** One **B.** Two **C.** Three **D.** Four
- To Aliya,is the same as stupid. **A.** adulthood. **B.** Childhood **C.** Old age **D.** love
- Aliya felt more comfortable relating with who.....**A.** Daddy **B.** Mother **C.** People older than her **D.** people younger than her
- Who among the characters felt drawn to grown up things **A.** Aliya **B.** Bumi **C.** Bobo **D.** Akin
- "Aliya don't be deceived by your size, you are still a child and you should enjoy being a child". Who made this statement? **A.** her mother **B.** Her father **C.** her uncle **D.** Bobo
- According to Aliya, what was a fair compromise between being a child and an adult. **A.** a young child **B.** a big girl **C.** a small girl with a big God **D.** a young adult.
- Aliya's mother was a **A.** doctor **B.** Nurse **C.** Pharmacist **D.** Journalist.
- Aliya's father was a when she was born **A.** Nurse **B.** Doctor **C.** Pharmacist **D.** Journalist.
- Which among the following is not a job Aliya's father did? **A.** Journalist **B.** stand up comedy **C.** Public relations **D.** Working with international organization that helps the poor
- In Aliya's fathers eyes, a birth day was **A.** an achievement **B.** a huge achievement **C.** not an achievement **D.** a small achievement
- He did not see the *likelihood* of passing the Examination. **A.** Difficulty **B.** Probability **C.** Impossibility **D.** Practicability
- Kolo has considerable *allurement* for white shirts. **A.** Fascination **B.** Repulsion **C.** Attraction **D.** Temptation
- We have learnt the *theoretical* aspect of the course. **A.** Practical **B.** Abstract **C.** Written **D.** Hypothetical.
- Many people dislike the present *austerity* measures. **A.** Harsh **B.** Rigid **C.** Miserly **D.** Buoyant
- Many bought *outlandish* costumes from the Far East. **A.** Conventional **B.** Ordinary **C.** Expensive **D.** Indigenous
- The man was *traitorous* to our club. **A.** Loyal **B.** Known **C.** Treacherous **D.** Accustomed
- The chairman is *parsimonious*. **A.** Avaricious **B.** Thrifty **C.** Generous **D.** Miserly.
- The student received a mild *reproof* from the teacher. **A.** Exhortation **B.** Opposition **C.** Commendation.
- They come here on a *bootless* errand. **A.** Worthwhile **B.** Vain **C.** Delusive **D.** Intended

- break time C. during the night class D. During class hours
25. **Who was Aliya's only true friend?** A. Grace B. Her mother C. Her father D. Akin
26. **Who did people in Aliya's school think she was snobbish?** A. Bola B. Grace C. Akin D. Bobo
27. **Who did everybody call Bobo at the school?** A. The principal B. Tokunbo C. Aliya's Uncle D. The mathematics teacher
28. **What was inside the gift bag that Aliya received?** A. A digital camera B. A teddy bear C. Some money D. a recharge card
29. **Bobo's surname is?** A. Tokunbo B. Alabi C. Bello D. Akin
30. **What game was played during the visiting day?** A. game of chess B. Scrabble C. Whot D. Ludo
31. **What illness did Aliya suffer from?** A. Anaemia B. Asthma C. Leukamia D. Cancer
32. **What type of inhalers did Aliya use?** A. Vontelin B. Ventil inhalers C. Ventolin inhalers D. Robb
33. **Who and who played the game of chess** A. Mr. Bello and himself B. Mr Bello and Aliya. C. Akin and Aliya D. Bobo and Aliya
34. **What does Omoluabi mean?** A. a helper B. a Lady C. a real human being D. an angel
35. **At what age and class did Aliya start receiving a birthday gift from her father?** A. 10yrs and JSS1. B. 15yrs and JSS3 C. 12yrs and JSS1 D. 16yrs and SS1
36. **What equipment remained constant in Aliya's life** A. mobile phone B. Inhaler C. Laptop D. Eyeglasses

37. **Who referred to himself as the king of the boys in Aliya's class** A. Tayo B. Bobo C. Peter D. Akin
38. **Bobo's reason for giving Aliya gifts is that...**A. He likes her B. He felt like giving her C. He emulated his friends D. He was forced by his friends to do so.
39. **Who gave Aliya a teddy bear** A. Her father B. Her mother C. Tokunbo D. Akin
40. **"Do you know the kind of girls, that most boys like?" "No I answered " "Dumb girls, Boys like dumb girls". This statement was made by who and to whom?** A. Aliya to Grace B. Aliya's mother to her C. Bello to Aliya D. Bobo to Aliya.
41. **Mr. Bello is Yoruba while the Principal is** A. Tiv B. Hausa C. Igbo D. Yoruba
42. **The letter Mr. Bello wrote was 16 pages and each page** A. for the topics they discussed B. each year of her life C. each class she passed D. her favorite topics.
43. **Who also wrote a letter titled "letter to my Daughter?"** A. Lukman B. Gandhi C. Maya Angelou D. Molara
44. **According to Mr. Bello, a girl who feels she needs to belong is a** A. Dumb Girl B. Smart girl C. Sharp girl D. Happening babe
45. **Who is Alabi** A. Akin B. Bobo C. Grace D. Bummi
- The Letter Answers**
- 1.C 2.B 3.B 4.C 5.A 6.B 7.A 8.B 9.D 10.B 11.C 12.A 13.A 14.C 15.C 16.B 17.B 18.A 19.C 20.B 21.B 22.B 23.B 24.B 25.C 26.B 27.B 28.B 29.B 30.A 31.B 32.C 33.A 34.C 35.C 36.B 37.D 38.C 39.C 40.C 41.A 42.B 43.C 44.A 45.B

THE DRIVE

1. **What was Aliya about to do when she noticed a presence at her door?** A. eat her breakfast B. wash clothes C. plug in her earphones D. watch movies
2. **What was printed on the back of Aliya's jersey?** A. No 10 B. Daddy's girl C. First Lady. D. Queen A
3. **The Chelsea Jersey was bought from** A. Nigeria B. Ghana C. London. D. Dubai
4. **What did Aliya choose to wear over the Nike trainers that Saturday** A. A pair of sandals B. The slippers her mum bought for her. C. Sneakers D. her shoes
5. **Where was Aliya's mother that Saturday's morning?** A. She went to the market. B. she was on a morning shift. C. She went to the hairdressing salon D. She went to crusade
6. **What was inscribed on the lorry that pulled up beside their car?** A. no condition is permanent B. condition is permanent. C. Carry go D. The Lord is in control
7. **What were the two girls selling during the traffic?** A. bananas and groundnuts B. oranges and cooked groundnuts C. lemons and roasted groundnuts D. Gala and lacasera
8. **Why did Aliya envy the girls that were hawking their goods** A. because she loves hawking B. because they make money C. because they are free to go anywhere and meet different people D. because she hates luxury
9. **Who said the fence made their house look like a prison?** A. Mrs. Bello B. Aunt Gigi C. Grandma D. Big mummy
10. **What did Aliya call her father's elder sister?** A. Big Aunt B. Aunt Love C. Big Mummy. D. Grandma
11. **Who wouldn't accept to have a house help?** A. Mrs. Bello B. Big Mummy. C. Grandma. D. Mr. Bello.
12. **What happened at the junction?** A. Mrs. Bello turned right B. Mr. Bello turned left C. Mr Bello made to turn right but later turned left. D. Mr. Bello made to turn left but later turned right.
13. **Which fast food did they stop at?** A. Mr. Bello B. Grandma C. Aunt Gigi D. Mr. Biggs
14. **What did Aliya order for?** A. An ice cream and banana juice. B. ice cream and orange drink. C. ice cream and meat pie D. Meat pie and Fanta
15. **Mr. Bello became successful inspite of what experience?** A. Reading and writing B. praying C. Hawking D. Education
16. **"It is easier to climb up with an empty stomach" Who made this statement and to whom?** A. Aliya to Bobo B. Mr. bello to Aliya C. Grandma to Aliya D. The principal to Aliya.
17. **"It is easier to climb up with an empty stomach" What is the meaning of the statement?** A. too much food can drag you back B. Climbing requires one to be light C. sometimes hunger is what you need to drive you ahead in life D. a hungry man is an angry man
18. **What problem did Mr. Bello remark that affects the wealthy** A. They have no time B. They cannot pass the same hunger that helped them survive to their kids C. They give their children the best life D. They don't care about their kids.
19. **What question did Mr. bello ask Aliya to kick start the conversation he had wanted?** A. "Do you know that sugar affects some women during their mensuration?" B. "Do you have a boyfriend?" C. "Have you had sex before?" D. "Have you seen your period?"
20. **"The ice cream helped me break the ice" The Ice here refers to** A. Conversation about sex B. Conversation about boys C. Conversations about school D. Conversations about the dignity of work

21. **What confession did Aliya made to her father about sex?** A. I have heard sex B. I have had sex C. I have watched sex D. I hate sex.
22. **How did Aliya learn about sex?** A. watching movies B. TV C. books and Magazines D. All of the above
23. **Was Mrs. Bello back by the time they returned?** A. No B. yes
24. **Where did Aliya get the cosmopolitan magazines from?** A. the library B. From aunty Molara's room C. School library D. his mother's bedroom
25. **Aliya taught her father that one can now download and watch movies on** A. YouTube B. Twitter C. Facebook D. Netflix
26. **Who is Aunty Molara?** A. The maid. B. Aliya's teacher. C. Mrs. Bello's younger sister D. Her mummy's sister
27. **Mr. Bello taught his daughter that watching those things that are sex related is like?** A. growing a flower in her garden B. dragging filth into your beautiful room C. learning more on how to handle your home D. Improving your sex education
28. **According to Aliya, which prophet was sent by God to teach his son?** A. Prophet Mohammed B. Prophet Lukman. C. Prophet Gandhi. D. Jesus
29. **The greatest birthday gift Aliya had received was a?** A. digital camera. B. 16 page letter. C. His father's love D. A teddy bear
30. **How did Aliya describe the letter his father wrote to her?** A. A textbook of life B. A prophets' book C. The Princess book D. A compendium

The Drive Answers

1.C 2.C 3.C 4.A 5.B 6.A 7.B 8.C 9.C 10.C 11.C 12.C 13.C 14.B 15.C 16.B 17.C 18.B 19.A 20.A 21.A 22.D 23.A 24.B 25.D 26.D 27.B 28.B 29.B 30.A

WORK

1. **What was wrong with the first tea Aliya made for her father?** A. it contained much sugar. B. It lacked milk. C. It contained too much milk. D. It was not sweet
2. **What challenge did Aliya had with her mother in this chapter?** A. To cook her mother's favourite food B. To make the perfect tea for her father C. To make the perfect tea for her mother D. A. To cook her father's favourite food.
3. **Who taught Aliya to make a perfect tea for her father?** A. Grandma B. Mr. Bello. C. Her mother. D. Bunmi
4. **What colour of mugs did Aliya's father, mother herself use?** A. Blue, Black and red B. Red, Blue and Orange. C. Blue, Red and orange. D. White, red blue
5. **What colour would be the tea, if Aliya made it perfect?** A. Brownish yellow. B. brown. C. Golden D. black
6. **To say that Bello has Araldite in his hands means** A. his hands are super glue. B. his hands are glued together C. He is stingy D. he is holding a superglue
7. **In making a tea for Mr. Bello, it is always better to make use of a kettle than a pot to boil the water because** A. The kettle is smaller B. the pot is bigger C. The kettle helps to conserve the oxygen D. The pot conserves the oxygen in the water
8. **Which career did Aliya choose when she was about to enter her senior class?** A. A nurse. B. A lawyer. C. A pilot. D. Doctor
9. **What incident killed her dream of being a pilot?** A. Plane Crash B. Terrorist activities C. the 9/11 incident D. her father refused
10. **Why did she think of being a musician?** A. Because she had a nice voice. B. Because she loved music. C. because she can dance. D. because she met Flavour performing at a concert
11. **What mobile app did Aliya's father pay for?** A. App for nursing. B. App for fashion designing C. App for lawyers. D. App for pilots
12. **What career did Aliya finally choose?** A. Lawyer. B. Doctor. C. Journalist. D. Pilot
13. **Why did Aliya consider being a doctor?** A. She was good in sciences B. Her mummy wanted her to be a doctor C. she wanted to be able to help children who suffer from asthma D. because she believes doctors are well paid.
14. **Who was the author that inspired Aliya to be a lawyer?** A. Maya Angelou. B. John Grisham. C. Charles Dickens D. Gandhi
15. **What score did Aliya finally get in chemistry?** A. F. B. C. C. A D. E
16. **What did Mr. Bello consider more important than Aliya's chemistry result?** A. her efforts B. her determination. C. her hard work. D. All of the above
17. **Mr. Bello taught Aliya that getting away with cheating is not** A. being lucky B. not being smart C. being fast D. helping.
18. **"I mean I don't have a sister or brother" What was Bello's response to this statement** A. We could not bear another child B. Your mother became ill after your birth C. I love you so much that I don't want to share you with another person D. God planned it that way
19. **What about Mr. Bello terrified her daughter Aliya?** A. His confidence B. his perfection C. his care and attention D. his love
20. **Which tooth was missing in Mr. Bello's Dentition.** A. Molars. B. Incisors. C. Canine. D. pre molars.
21. **What was Mr Bello's response to the pressure parents mount on their children to perform?** A. That God has given us spiritual gifts. B. That parents are right to insist. C. That it is wrong to use one child as a standard for another. D. that smart children should be role models for others
22. **What did Mr. Bello consider to be a great problem facing the child as they grow** A. distraction B. Partying C. truancy D. the believe that there can be an alternative to hard work
23. **According to Mr. Bello, failure is** A. evil B. not always a bad thing C. a bad thing D. is beautiful.
24. **What can failure teach us** A. Humility B. Strength C. Perseverance D. All of the above.
25. **One of the greatest poems ever was titled and written by.....** A. ULYSSES by Alfred Lord Tennyson. B. Prophet by Lukman C. Prophet by Gilbran D. The School boy by Alfred Lord Tennyson
26. **What event adopted the poem as its motto?** A. 2012 UEFA Champions League B. 2012 summer Olympics. C. 2010 World cup D. 2014 summer Olympics
27. **Where did the event take place?** A. Nigeria B. Ireland C. London D. Dubai
28. **"To strive, to seek, to find, and not to yield" This excerpt is from a poem written by** A. Alfred Lord Tennyson. B. Lukman C. Gilbran D. Gandhi

29. **Mr. Bello joked with her daughter that she wanted to be a lawyer so as to** A. avoid Chemistry B. send people to jail C. help the wrongly accused D. dress corporate
30. **According to Mr. Bello, what was the most important thing about choosing a career** A. Money B. passion C. Connection D. to buy benz
31. **Bello advised Aliya saying “In whatever you do, strive toA.** Be the best B. make money C. climb higher D. not stress yourself
32. **What two reasons did Mr. bello give about children obeying their parents** A. because parents are omniscient B. because parents love their children C. because parents are experienced and want the best for their children D. because God said so
33. **In Aliya’s class, what was the name of the person whose career was chosen for him?** A. Soji B. Sogo C. Akin D. Bobo
34. **Who is Kahlil Gibran?** A. A Nigerian singer B. A Lebanese poet. C. An English man D. a poet
35. **What year did Kahlil Gibran die?** A. 1391 B. 1931. C. 1891 D. 1930
36. **Who did Mr. Bello compare his wife to, for having many shoes and bags?** A. Aunt Gigi B. grandma. C. Imelda Marcos D. Kim Khardesians
37. **Imelda Marcos was former first lady of ...who owned 3000 shoes?** A. Nigerians B. Ghanaians C. Philippines. D. Pakistan
38. **What did Aliya’s mother consider as one of her greatest misfortune in marrying Mr. Bello?** A. her perfection B. Her love for their daughter C. having to compete with other women for his attention D. having to compete with books to find space in his bed.
39. **Who wrote the novel “the prophet”** A. Lukman B. Kahlil Gibran. C. Charles Dickens D. Alfred Lord Tennyson
40. **At first, who did Aliya think the book ‘The Prophet’ was about?** A. Her father B. Prophet Lukman C. Prophet Mohammed D. Apostle Paul
41. **With regard to reading, Mr Bello complained that the younger generation** A. are trying B. waste time liking up themselves on Facebook C. are making videos on Instagram and snap chat D. reading well.
42. **Who made this statement “Technology would surpass human interaction and the world would have a generation of Idiots”?** A. Mr Bello B. Albert Einstein C. Kahlil Gibran D. Alfred Lord Tennyson
43. **Social media was invented by young people who re-imagined the world by out-thinking everyone else. Mr. Bello complained that Unfortunately, many of our young people found the social media and** A. stopped eating B. stopped thinking C. loved it D. hated it.
44. **What did the author of the book, the Prophet say about love that caught Aliya’s attention?** A. When love beckons to you, follow him B. Love is blind C. Love conquers all things D. falling in love is real
45. **Who is the author of the Novel “Twilight” ?** A. Stephenie Meyer B. Kahlil Gibran C. Albert Einstein. D. Lukman

Work Answer: 1.C 2.B 3.C 4.C 5.C 6.C 7.C 8.C 9.A 10.B 11.B 12.A 13.C 14.B 15.C 16.D 17.A 18.C 19.B 20.C 21.C 22.D 23.B 24.D 25.A 26.B 27.C 28.A 29.A 30.B 31.A 32.C 33.B 34.B 35.B 36.C 37.C 38.D 39.B 40.C 41.B 42.B 43.B 44.A 45.A

THE GANDHI TEST

1. **The most under used part of Mr. Bello’s house was?** A. The visitor’s bedroom B. The family living room C. The Kitchen D. The bathroom
2. **What did Mr. Bello buy from Paris?** A. Eiffel books B. Eiffel wristwatch C. Eiffel Tower. D. French kiss
3. **The Arab boy riding a camel and a crystal Burj Khalifa was bought from?** A. America B. South Africa C. Dubai D. UAE
4. **What was the name of the lion cub from South Africa?** A. Zinbab B. Ijambulo C. Kenzai D. Burj Khalifa
5. **Where did he buy the two hand-painted ostrich egg shell from?** A. Zimbabwe B. Tanzania C. London. D. South Africa
6. **The pyramid and Sphinx was bought from?** A. London B. Egypt C. New York D. Dubai
7. **What did he buy in New York?** A. statue of the world B. Statue of liberty C. The eye of an eagle. D. Eiffel tower
8. **Where did Mr. Bello collect the Tower bridge and the bright red telephone booth?** A. London B. France C. US D. UK
9. **Which country did Aliya’s mother gain her tertiary education from?** A. US B. UK C. Egypt D. Nigeria
10. **How many pairs of jeans and shirts had Mr. Bello when he met his wife?** A. 2 pair of Jeans and 2 shirts B. 1 Jean and 3 shirts C. A pair of jeans and 2 shirts.
11. **What assignment was Mr. Bello’s doing when he met his wife?** A. freelancer B. Cub reporter C. Lawyer. D. Public relations
12. **How many years after they met did they get married?** A. 1 year B. 5 Years C. 2 Years D. 2 and half
13. **Who was described by Aliya as having Harry Porter’s Glasses?** A. Mahatma Gandhi B. Prophet Lukman C. Ghalil Gibran. D. Mr. Bello
14. **India gained their independence from which country?** A. USA. B. France C. Great Britain. D. Italy
15. **Who was the first prime minister of India?** A. Jawaharlal Nehru B. Mahatma Gandhi C. Gibran. D. Indira Gandhi
16. **Why did Mr. Bello prefer drinking coke from his bottle?** A. to retain the gas. B. retain the Chill C. To conserve his drink D. So as not to share with anyone
17. **What name did Mr. bello give to his collections** A. Cabinet B. Museum of Mementos C. Museum D. Museum of memories
18. **What did Aliya’s mother contribute to Mr. Bello’s museum** A. decorated plates from China B. a soft camel with a jingle bell from Dubai C. a tower bridge and a bright red telephone D. a Massai couple from Nairobi
19. **What did Aliya contribute to Mr. Bello’s museum** A. decorated plates from China B. a soft camel with a jingle bell from Dubai C. a tower bridge and a bright red telephone D. a Massai couple from Nairobi
20. **What is Mr. Bello’s favorite weekend breakfast** A. Yam and egg stew B. Akara and bread with coke C. Akara and bread with star Radler D. Indomie, plantain, eggs and vegetable sauce
21. **Mrs bello has a degree in From UK.** A. Management Sciences B. Economics C. Nursing D. Pharmacy
22. **Where did Mr. Bello saw Aliya’s mother for the first time** A. In UK during her school days B. At the Mall C.

At the newsroom **D.** At the Accident and emergency ward

23. **“You can take a man out of the village but you cannot take the village out of him” who made this statement and to whom?** **A.** Aliya to Bobo **B.** Miss Salako to Mr. bello **C.** Aliya to Mr. bello **D.** Aliya’s mummy to Mr. bello
24. **“You can take a man out of the village but you cannot take the village out of him”. What was the speaker referring to?** **A.** the making of akara burger **B.** The breaking of kolanuts **C.** drinking from a coke bottle **D.** eating with bare hands

DATING

1. **What was Mr. Bello’s favorite club?** **A.** Chelsea **B.** Juventus **C.** Arsenal. **D.** Manchester
2. **What was the colour of most of Aliya’s first belonging as a child?** **A.** Red **B.** Blue **C.** Yellow. **D.** Pink
3. **In the Novel, who won the champions league Final match?** **A.** Chelsea **B.** Manchester United. **C.** Juventus. **D.** Bayern Munich
4. **During the match, who got a Red card for slapping an opponent?** **A.** Pogba **B.** Drogba **C.** Ferdinand. **D.** Hazard
5. **Who taught Aliya about the 5-why test?** **A.** Her mother **B.** Grandma **C.** Her father. **D.** Grandpa
6. **HAK in the novel means** **A.** Hugs and Keys. **B.** Humans and kisses. **C.** Hugs and kisses **D.** Humans and Kisses
7. **Who passed a love note to Aliya?** **A.** Bobo **B.** Zak **C.** Emmanuel **D.** Bunmi
8. **To Aliya, her father was her** **A.** BFF and trainer. **B.** Teacher and BFF **C.** Trainer and BFF **D.** Mentor and father.
9. **Who was Mr. Bello favorite singer?** **A.** Fela **B.** Ali Farka Toure **C.** kelvin Richard. **D.** Don Moen
10. **The song “ Teacher don’t teach me nonsense” which Mr. Bello sang when Aliya was mostly talking about her school slangs was whose music** **A.** Ali Farka Toure **B.** Fela **C.** Kelvin Richard. **D.** Don Moen
11. **What does KPC mean?** **A.** keep peaceful children **B.** Keep parents clueless **C.** keep people’s children **D.** Kiss peoples chicks
12. **What name did Aliya’s Mummy call the Television that Aliya saw at the Lagos Market** **A.** Fairly used **B.** No Testing **C.** Non-Tested **D.** Taiwan
13. **KOTL in the novel means** **A.** Kiss on the leg. **B.** Kiss on the lips. **C.** Kiss on the laps **D.** Kiss on the lower lips
14. **What are the social media languages Aliya taught her father.** **A.** HAK and KOTL **B.** HAK and KOLT **C.** KOLT and HAL **D.** HAL and KOTL
15. **When you have an exaggerated feeling towards someone in a way that is foolish, then you are suffering from** **A.** Infatuation **B.** Love **C.** Crush **D.** Heartbreak
25. **What is the Gandhi Test?** **A.** Do unto others what you will like them to do to you **B.** Whatever you do to the least of my brothers that you do unto me **C.** When you are doing something and you don’t want other people to know about it, it is most likely that what you are doing is bad. **D.** The leader is the servant of all.

The Gandhi Test Answers

- 1.B 2.C 3.C 4.B 5.B 6.B 7.B 8.A 9.B 10.C 11.B 12.A 13.A 14.C 15.A 16.A 17.B 18.A 19.B 20.B 21.C 22.D 23.D 24.A 25.C

Dating Answers

- 1.A 2.B 3.B 4.B 5.C 6.C 7.B 8.B 9.B 10.B 11.B 12.B 13.B 14.A 15.A 16.B 17.D 18.A 19.A 20.D 21.B 22.B 23.A 24.D 25.A

STEREOTYPE

1. **Who gave Aliya slippers which looked like rabbits?** **A.** Her father **B.** Big mummy **C.** Aunty Molara . **D.** Auntie Bello
2. **Who was fond of Yoruba greetings ?** **A.** Grandma **B.** Big Mummy **C.** Aliya’s mother **D.** Mr. Bello
3. **Who in Aliya’s class referred to Muslims are murderers?** **A.** Bisi **B.** Akin **C.** Rebecca **D.** Bunmi
4. **Who had a reputation for being mean ?** **A.** Akin **B.** Tokunbo **C.** Rebecca **D.** Bunmi
5. **What word did Aliya searched for in google page?** **A.** Stereotype **B.** Education **C.** Wisdom. **D.** Dating
6. **The diversity of people’s religion, culture and tribe was referred to as** **According to Mr. Bello** **A.** A beautiful room **B.** A white garden **C.** A beautiful garden **D.** a problem
7. **Which Christian was also a terrorist like Boko Haram in the novel according to Mrs. Bello?** **A.** Hitler **B.** Charles Dave **C.** Kelvin Maroon. **D.** Rick Santor

8. Which mosque was also bombed by terrorist? A. Mohammed's mosque in Africa B. Prophet's mosque in Medina. C. Elijah's mosque in Nigeria. D Egyptian mosque
9. How many people survived in the slavery story A. 4 B. 2 C. 3.D. 5
10. The 1st story Mr. Bello told was in the era of ? A. Slave trade B. Rich merchants C. Early men of the world. D. colonization
11. What book served as a sleeping pill for Aliya A. Great Expectations B. Lonely days C. Othello D. The Prophet
12. Who rescued them from the Island ? A. God of the sea. B. A merchant ship C. The white men. D. the Black community.
13. Why did the slave black man help the chief of the white slave traders? A. because he is a better human being B. because he is timid C. because he respects the whites D. because he is trapped in an island
14. Why did Mr. Bello want to round-up his discussion with his daughter? A. Because there was no time B. Because he was to travel the next day C. Because Grandma came by.
15. Aliya did not consider herself as a night person, she thinks she is A. Solar Powered B. a morning person C. an evening person D. An energy filled
16. According to Mr. Bello, what will make you to get away with anything else during the day A. prayers only B. honesty C. prayers and honesty D. Love
17. What was the breakfast Aliya ate with her family? A. Tea and bread. B. Yam and fried Eggs. C. Beans and plantain D. Akara and bread
18. According to Aliya, how do you know that the storm is over between her parents A. When the mother calls her father Babe. B. When she starts singing "lucky Dube" C. When her mother calms down D. When she stops abusing her
19. Which cartoonist portrayed Islam as a violent religion A. Irish B. British C. Danish D. French
20. Which dictionary did Aliya's mummy suggested was used in their own time. A. Micheal Text B. Micheal West C. Oxford Advanced Learners D. Oxford Learners Dictionary
21. A stereotype is A. A set of ideas about somebody or something B. A set of ideas about somebody or something that is true C. A set of ideas about somebody or something that is usually based on wrong notion. D. A group of fake people
22. There are about how many Muslims in the world. A. 1.6 billion. B. 1.2 million C. 1.5 billion D. 2 million.
23. What was the statement Aliya made that made her as guilty as Rebecca. A. She said Muslims will go to hell B. She said Christians think their religion is better C. She said Muslims are terrorists D. She said Christians are Terrorists
24. Where did Aliya's mummy leave the house to go? A. Church B. Saloon C. Work D. market
25. What did the white slaver vow to do once he returns to his own country? A To repent B. To free all his slaves C. to pray for the black man. D. To help fight against the evil of slavery and slave trade.

STEREOTYPE ANSWERS

- 1.C 2.C 3.C 4.C 5.A 6.C 7.A 8.B 9.B 10.A 11.D 12.B 13.A 14.B 15.A 16.C 17.B 18.A 19.C 20.B 21.C 22.A 23.B 24.B 25.D

BEAUTY

1. According to the novel, the idea of force-feeding girls to fatten them up is referred to as A. Feeding B. Food culture C. Fattening D. Fat-Farms.
2. What book was Aliya reading when her father knocked on her room A. Sweet Sixteen B. Chike and the River C. Great Expectations D. Robinson Crusoe
3. Who is the author of the book Aliya was reading A. Kofi Anam B. Wole Soyinka C. Wale Ademola D. Charles Dickens
4. Being nice to people who hurt you is something Aliya A. Can comfortably do B. Has been doing C. Wish she could do D. will aspire to achieve someday
5. Whose life mission was to pick on Aliya in school? A. Akin B. Rebecca C. Bunmi. D. Seyi
6. Bunmi is in what class A. SS 1 B. SS 2 C. SS 3 D. same class with Aliya
7. During which class was Aliya humiliated by her teacher? A. Chemistry class B. Maths class C. Biology class D. History teacher
8. What did the teacher call her? A. A Elephant B. A fat girl. C. Fatima D. Fat-farm
9. "None one can hurt me without my permission" the quote above was written by A. Her father B. Gandhi C. Gibran Ghili D. Ababio
10. What is the media's representation of beauty? A. Sweet voice B. Nice waist to hip ratio C. Slim and tall D. plumpy
11. A plump woman is very attractive in which of the countries below? A. India B. Mauritania C. Parkistan D. Macedonia
12. Which tribe in Nigeria feed their girls for marriage? A. Benin people B. Two people C. Efik people of calabar. D. Igbo people
13. The second story Mr. Bello told Aliya occurred in And it was about a? A. An urban village and rich man B. A remote village in Africa and a hunter
- 14."So Daddy which one do you like?" What was Aliya referring to ...A. his favorite food B. his idea of a beautiful woman C. his favorite sports D. his occupation.
15. According to the novel, which act can do damage to the internal organs A. Slavery B. Skin bleaching C. Asthma D. fattening.
16. According to Mr. Bello, beauty is A. Total B. in the eyes of the beholder C. physical D. in the waist
17. Beauty is nothing but is needed. A. Character B. Love C. good D. virtue
18. What did Mohammed Ali write in his letter to her daughter A. He told his daughter to always expect to be treated respectfully B. He told his daughter to always expect to be treated equally C. He told his daughter to always expect to be treated as a queen D. He told his daughter to always expect to be treated fairly
19. Aliya and Bunmi were in the same A. hostel B. Room C. Class D. study group
20. Aliya broke to her father that she was going...A. be a prefect B. going to date C. hate Christians D. home
21. "Wow, that's good. Now you will be in a better position to help other students". What position was Mr. Bello talking about? A. Queen B. Prefect C. Governor D. Medical Doctor

22. What donation did Aliya promise to make to her school? A. Inhaler B. Nebuliser C. build a school clinic D. A wall clock
23. According to the story told by Aliya's father, what is the price to be paid by every generation A. The sin of Adam and Eve B. to pass down what they have learned from one generation to the next C. To solve their own problems D. School fees
24. Who paid for the food, the hunter ate A. his ancestors B. his friends C. his fellow hunters D. The angels

25. What incident(s) did Aliya remember that made her to cry in this chapter? A. when she was beaten by Bunmi B. when she was bullied by Bunmi and humiliated by her teacher C. When she was fat D. when she was humiliated by her principal.

Answers

- 1.D 2.C 3.D 4.D 5.C 6.C 7.C 8.C 9.B 10.C 11.B
12.C 13.B 14.B 15.B 16.A 17.A 18.C 19.A 20.A
21.B 22.B 23.B 24.A 25.B

MODEL TEST QUESTIONS: based on Bolaji Abdullahi's *Sweet Sixteen*

- What lesson can be learnt from the phrase below according to the novel? *"All you can eat for free, your ancestors have paid for your food."* A. Invest for future generations B. Endure now so you can enjoy later C. You reap what you did not sow D. Everything in life is free
- According to the novel, Grace was not a A. Good friend B. Great talker C. Friendly person D. Decent girl
- What ethnic group does Principal belong to? A. Yoruba B. Igbo C. Tiv D. Hausa
- The story of the white slaver and the black man teaches A. Patience B. Hard work C. Humility D. Forgiveness
- According to the passage *"The most beautiful garden is the one that has different colours and flowers"* illustrates beauty in A. simplicity B. diversity C. hope D. trust
- How did Mr. Bello love to be called by his daughter? A. Dad B. Father C. Sweetheart D. Bello
- The relationship between Aliya and her father can be described as A. Cordial B. Frosty C. Simplistic D. Platonic
- According to the novel, Mrs. Belo worked as a A. Lawyer B. Journalist C. Nurse D. Teacher
- The letter Aliya received from her father on her birthday had how many pages? A. Twelve B. Eight C. Sixteen D. Four
- According to the story, 'stereotype' is usual based on A. Wrong notion or idea B. Woman right violation C. Religious crisis D. Racial discrimination
- When she turned 16, Aliya ran to the principal's office after the geography class. He said to her. *"I guess your boyfriend has a special present for you this year."* as he brought out a gift box with a pinkish wrap. Who was the principal referring to as Aliya's boyfriend? A. Bobo B. The principal C. Akin D. Aliya's farther.
- As Aliya and her father were driving and talking. The following discussion arose, you envy them? And why is that? She asked. *"I guess they must be having fun. I mean the freedom to go anywhere you want and meet different people. Aliya responded. Who are they talking about, that Aliya seems to envy? A. The girls who were selling things on the street. B. The wedding party driving about m different cars. C. The group of boys and girls who were walking the street. D. The children of the rich who were enjoy mg themselves at Aunt' Gigis.*
- Daddy smiles broadly *"Your generation is so lucky, In our own time. we would have had to wait until we found the Oxford Advanced Learner 's Dictionary "Or Michael West" Mummy added and they both laughed. What has just happened? A. Aliya had* defined. "stereotype" off –the- cuff. B. Mummy had told them the meaning of stereotype. C. As Aliya and her mother did not know the meaning of stereotype. Daddy had defined it for them. D. Aliya had searched the meaning of stereotype from Google.
- In the Biology class. Aliya's teacher referred to her as Fatima and later he called her LatifAT with emphasis on the last syllable. This was in reference to Aliya's ...A. weight B. intelligence C. complexion D. behavior
- From the section of the text titled 'Beauty', we learn one of the following lessons A. Beauty is in the eye of the beholder. B. People come in all shapes and sizes but not all are attractive and acceptable C. How you feel about yourself is more important than how other people make you feel. D. Like Mahatma Gandhi and Mohammed Ali, every parent must train their children to be kings and queens.
- How long was the letter that Aliya's father sent her on her sixteenth birthday? A. One page B. Five pages C. Ten and a half pages D. Sixteen pages.
- In the section title 'Beauty', Aliya's father told her the story of the hunter who ate what he thought was a free meal because his ancestors were said to have paid for it. Afterwards he was asked to pay, so that his own descendants could enjoy free meal as well. The lesson m the story is that: A. Aliya should pay her parents back in good behaviour. B. Aliya should pay back by teaching her own children in future C. Aliya should pay back with sumptuous meals in future D. one should control one's appetite even in hunger
- In the section of the text titled 'Work', Aliya was taught to prepare one of the following meals, A. rice and stew B. tea with milk C. bread and butter D. pounded yam with soup.
- "Daddy", I said, "you know now I am 16" Of course, how can I possibly forget that you are no longer a child but a young adult."* he answered and laughed okay. I mean now that lam 16, I am old enough to... right? What was Aliya about to ask her father if she was old enough to do at sixteen? A. Dating. B. Marriage C. Travelling alone D. Cooking
- "I remember another Gandhi quote" .. he said, "You see. my darling, no matter what you do, you would not be able to control how other people behave towards you. But you know what? You can control how they make you feel".* What was the Gandhi quote which Aliya s father has so interpreted? A. 'Nobody can hurt me without my permission' B. 'Nobody can control me if they don't let me control them' C. 'When two people relate closely, they control each other's behavior D. 'The principle of

- equality demands that each person controls his or her own affairs’
21. **According to the writer, Mr. Bello was a fan of which football club?** A. Arsenal B. Manchester United C. Chelsea D. Liverpool.
 22. **What is the meaning of HAK according to the novel?** A. Hugs and Kisses B. Hard and Kneels C. Hide and Kiss D. Hook and Knock.
 23. **Aliya felt jealous when she saw Bobo with, A.** Morayo B. Molayo C. Modele D. Morola.
 24. **What subject did Aliya find quite difficult according to the writer?** A. Mathematics B. Geography C. Physics D. Chemistry.
 25. **In which country are girls forced to fatten them up according to the story?** A. Indonesia B. Australia C. Mozambique D. Mauritania.
 26. **“Nobody can hurt me without my permission’. This statement is a quote made by** A. Gaddaffi B. Gandhi C. Galadima D. Mandela.
 27. **From the text, Bobo’s real name is,** A. Tokumbo Ayanda B. Tokumbo Alabi C. Tokombo Alao D. Tokombo Alamu.
 28. **According to the novel, Aliya suffered from one of these ailments,** A. Pneumonia B. Asthma C. Bronchitis D. Amnesia.
 29. **From the novel, what is the significance of Mr.Bello’s letter to his daughter?** A. It was a reflection from the past to the present B. It was a call for change. C. It was a parental plea. D. It was a precious gift.
 30. **What did Bobo present to Aliya on Valentine’s day?** A. Camera B. Designer perfume C. teddy bear D. A bouquet of flower.
- 1.A 2.C 3.C 4.D 5.B 6.D 7.A 8.C 9.C 10.A 11.D
12.A 13.D 14.A 15.C 16.D 17.B 18.B 19.A 20.A
21.C 22.A 23.A 24.D 25.D 26.B 27.B 28.B 29.D
30.C

Use of Preposition/Conjunction

Prepositions

Prepositions are a class of words that shows relationships between nouns, pronouns and other words in a sentence. Most often they come before a noun. The good news is that they never change their form, regardless of the case or gender of the word they are referring to.

There are four classes of preposition and they include;

Simple or Compound Prepositions

Simple prepositions are single word prepositions - across, after, at, before, between, by, during, from, in, into, of, on, to, through, under, with and without are all single word prepositions while **compound prepositions** are more than one word. They are prepositions made up of two words like - in between and because of or three words ilke- in front of, on behalf of. For correct usage of these prepositions, download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store.

Prepositions of Movement

Prepositions can be used to show movement. These forms of preposition are as follows: to, through, across. We use them to show movement with the aim of a specific destination. For correct usage of these

1. **He went abroad with a viewa business partner** A. to find. B. to be finding. C. to have found. D. to finding. [1978/61]
2. **He bought a typewriter with a viewto type** A. to learning. B. to learnt. C. to be learning. D. to be learnt. [1981/33]
3. **Government should prevent smugglerstheir contraband.** A. to sell. B. to be selling. C. from selling. D. having sold. [1981/43]
4. **He devoted himself.... homeless children** A. to helping. B. to help. C. by helping. D. with helping. [1981/66]
5. **The prisoners had been from all contacts** A. kept upon.B. kept apart. C. kept for. D. kept on. [2015/80]
6. **During the examination, a student....more answer sheets.** A. requested. B. requested for. C. requests for. D. request. [1995/92]
7. **....the house was an easy task for the demolition squad.** A. Bringing forth. B. Tearing down. C. Bringing up. D. Tearing with. [2015/74]

prepositions, download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store.

Prepositions of Place

Prepositions can be used to show where something is located. They include - at, on, in. For correct usage of these prepositions, download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store.

Prepositions of time

Prepositions can be used to show when something happens. (time, day, date, month, year, morning, afternoon, evening, night, season).Prepositions of time - at, on, in. For correct usage of these prepositions, download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store.

Conjunctions

A conjunction is a word that links words, phrases, or clauses. There are three types of conjunctions.:

Coordinating conjunctions: for, and, nor, but, or, yet, so.

Correlative conjunctions: both...and, either...or, neither...nor, not only...but also.

Subordinating conjunctions: after, although, because, if. For correct usage of these conjunctions, download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store.

8. **Oboro will always his friends.** A. stand up for. B. stand down for. C. stand across for. D. stand beside for. [2015/83]
9. **Audu overbalanced and....the water.** A. fell into. B. fell from. C. fell for. D. fell at. [2015/85]
10. **You may have the pencil, but you can’t have the ballpoint....**A. either. B. also. C. furthermore. D. as well. [2014/68]
11. **Audu took these actions purely.... his own career.** A. on furtherance of. B. in furtherance of. C. to furtherance in . D. in furtherance with . [2011/75]
12. **The secretary has no right to my affairs.** A. spy from. B. meddle in. C. toy at. D. complain into. [2011/83]
13. **When the cashier told him to join the queue, he considered it his dignity.** A. a drawback to. B. an affront on. C. withdrawal from. D. a strain on. [2009/67]
14. **After so many trials, the experiment** A. paid up. B. paid for.C. paid out. D. paid off. [2004/31]

15. The class more girls than boys this session.
A. comprised of. B. comprises of. C. comprise.
D. comprises. [1998/94]
16. The accident occurred when the driver of the car the lorry. A. reversed towards. B. reversed into.
C. reversed to. D. reversed back into. [1997/81]
17. One would wish missed that opportunity to be present at the graduation ball. A. to have not. B. for having not. C. to having. D. not to have. [1987/62]
18. The dull student took correspondence course as a meanshis standard in the class. A. to improve. B. for improving. C. of improving. D. by improving. [1985/87]
19. I always prefer the theatrethe cinema. A. than. ' B. then. C. on top of. D. to. [1983/66]
20. He did not explain what happened....did she
A. either. B. never. C. neither. D. rather. [1995/82]
21. I know that your friend will not accept the proposal A. and you neither. B. and neither you. C. neither do you. D. neither will you. [1988/84]
22. Umar: I have never visited the dentist. Aliyu:
A. neither myself. B. i myself haven't. C. neither have I. D. I also never. [2013/79]
23.his illness, Muhammad could not come to school.
A. with reference to. B. referring to. C. owing to. D. due to. [2004/30]
24. All the traders in the market saw the woman buythe imported suits. A. up. B. off. C. over. D. out. [2000/46]
25. There is no need to standceremony in matters of this nature. A. by. B. to. C. on. D. for. [1988/93]
26. The number of stores will be increasedtwenty to thirty. A. from. B. on. C. at. D. into. [2015/66]
27. The company deals computer software. A. with. B. for. C. in. D. to. [2015/72]
28. There is no logicany of their claims. A. with. B. in. C. from. D. up. [2015/73]
29. Parents should be good examplestheir children
A. to. B. at. C. from. D. by. [2015/77]
30. She arrived air for the occasion. A. for. B. in. C. with. D. by. [2015/84]
31. The guard spent all the night pacing A. from and to. B. fro and to. C. to and from. D. to and fro. [2014/72]
32. The woman refused to testify.... her husband. A. in. B. at. C. against. D. from. [2014/73]
33. The chairman is too much an idealist for this government. A. from. B. about. C. of. D. with. [2014/80]
34. What is the jury's the matter? A. verdict on. B. verdict from. C. verdict at. D. verdict with. [2014/82]
35. She traced her family history maternal descent. A. in. B. by. C. with. D. at. [2014/85]
36. The girl says she is averse what others admire. A. to. B. with. C. for. D. from. [2013/66]
37. The philanthropist devoted himself the poor
A. by helping. B. to be helping. C. to helping. D. in helping. [2013/68]
38. Tinu likes apples she does not like oranges. A. so. B. but. C. or. D. for. [2013/69]
39. The police described the boy as being hand
A. over at. B. out of. C. on by. D. up to. [2013/73]
40. All farmers were encouraged carry out fumigation on their farms. A. in. B. with. C. to. D. from. [2013/75]
41. If you are confused anything, phone my office.
A. of. B. with. C. about. D. for. [2013/83]
42. We have a family mutiny our hands. A. on. B. for. C. from. D. of. [2013/84]
43. He was both a writer and a politician, but he was better a singer. A. as if. B. like. C. as. D. to be . [2012/66]
44. We visited his house three times. A. like. B. for like. C. about. D. for about. [2012/73]
45. She wasthe verge of tears. A. at. B. on. C. by. D. with. [2012/74]
46. your parents frownour friendship, we shouldn't see each other anymore. A. Because/over. B. Since/at. C. Although/at. D. As/upon. [2012/82]
47. he switches on the light, the shadow disappears. A. Whenever. B. Except. C. Since. D. Until. [2011/68]
48. I wonder how he will being absent from school for a long time. A. make in. B. make up. C. make off. D. make out. [2011/79]
49. He can recall the important dates in the nation's history, it is interesting to listen as he rattles
A. off. B. over. C. up. D. out. [2010/67]
50. His wife was badly injured in the fracas, but I think she will pull.... A. up. B. over. C. through. D. back. [2010/70]
51. The principal said that he was pleased. my effort. A. on. B. of. C. with. D. about. [2010/74]
52. Paper is made wood pulp. A. on. B. of. C. from. D. with. [2010/75]
53. The politician was sent....exile A. onto. B. into. C. on. D. to. [2010/78]
54. Vital is still spread word of mouth in most villages in Africa. A. information/from. B. information/with. C. information/by. D. information/through. [2010/80]
55. Based on the facts before me, I have no alternative.... to hold you responsible. A. only. B. as. C. than. D. but. [2010/84]
56. Amina livescampus. A. in the. B. on. C. at the. D. inside. [2009/69]
57. The officer acted inthe instructions. A. accordance by. B. accordance to. C. accordance of. D. accordance with. [2009/72]
58. If you want to succeed in life, don't be enviousother people's achievement. A. of. B. to. C. with. D. on. [2009/74]
59. They are taught to value honour their lives
A. from. B. in. C. than. D. above. [2009/75]
60. Our plan for the trip fellwhen the richman did not give us a life A. off/boat. B. through/line. C. down/jacket. D. in/help. [2009/76]
61. I tried to discourage him, but he persisted revealing the secret to his son. A. for. B. in. C. on. D. to. [2009/81]
62. a motor cycle can be harmfulyour health.
A. riding/for. B. riding /to. C. to ride/for. D. to ride/with. [2002/75]
63. The members of the other team agreeall the terms of the contract. A. by. B. to. C. on. D. with. [2002/80]
64. One advantage of the English language in Nigeria is that it puts everyone.... a common.... A. at/equality. B. on/footing. C. in/standing. D. in/ advantage. [2002/85]
65. You are free to solicitsupport from the Board.
A. by financial. B. for financial. C. financial. D. a financial. [2002/87]

66. He is Kadunaan official assignment.
A. in/on. B. at/in. C. at/for. D. for/in. [2002/89]
67. Despite all preparations, the wedding did not
A. come along. B. come off. C. come on. D. come up. [2002/90]
68. Didn'tdraw your attention to the entry requirements? A. anyone. B. somebody. C. someone. D. everyone. [2002/93]
69. any problems, I shall travel to London tomorrow on a business trip. A. in spite of. B. given. C. in case of. D. barring. [2002/94]
70. They let him go in to his age. A. respect. B. regard. C. disregard. D. consideration. [2001/86]
71. The weather is probably appealing for people who live in Josfor foreigners. A. as much /as. B. more last. C. no less/than. D. at least as/but. [2001/91]
72. They had tothe generator when the electricity failed. A. light up. B. fall back on. C. switch on. D. resort to. [2001/97]
73. The editor was not happy that the Nigerian press was hemmed A. up. B. over. C. across. D. in. [2001/98]
74. Our economic programme iscommitment to Nigeria's economic growth. A. deeply root in. B. root in deep. C. rooted in a deep. D. deeply rooted in deep. [1999/68]
75. Some robbers are on the prowl, we must be
A. alert. B. at alert. C. on the alert. D. for alert. [1999/70]
76. It was late when we decided to getthe train.
A. off. B. down. C. out of. D. out from. [1999/76]
77. The rebels will soon fight back. We have been informed.... their.... A. of/predicament. B. about/indulgence. C. on/rearmament. D. as for/advancement. [1989/87]
78. The hospital was closed.... because there were no beds to put patients A. again/upon. B. off/on. C. down /at. D. up/in. [1998/89]
79. Students were forbidden....any secret society.
A. from joining. B. in joining . C. to join. D. on joining. [1998/100]
80. You can stay hereas you are quiet. A. as long. B. so long. C. in as much. D. for as long. [1997/77]
81. The workers suffered a lot, toilingthe sun.
A. in. B. under. C. underneath. D. inside. [1995/68]
82. He was angry with mebeing treated nonchalantly. A. on. B. for. C. of. D. at. [1995/72]
83. She has been herethe past three years. A. since. B. for. C. from. D. in. [1995/76]
84. One of the three candidates contesting the union election was obliged toin favour of his friend.
A. step down. B. stand down . C. step out. D. stand out. [1995/95]
85. The fact that Olu was able to guess correctly some of the questions that were asked, made himthe other candidates. A. have the edge on. B. obtain a edge over. C. have an edge over. D. obtain the edge with. [1995/96]
86. The patient was....by a group of surgeons last week.
A. operated on. B. operated. C. operated for. D. operated with. [1994/68]
87. The handset was faulty and so it was impossible tothem by phone. A. get at. B. get over to. C. get through to. D. get on to. [1994/73]
88. Until his recent experience, Onimisi used to pride himselfhis fearlessness. A. on. B. by. C. about. D. for. [1994/76]
89. Based on the facts before me, I have no alternativeto terminate your appointment. A. but. B. than. C. as. D. only. [1994/78]
90. Despite the pressure of work during the week I shall endeavour toat your wedding. A. put up an appearance. B. put up appearance. C. put in an appearance. D. put on an appearance. [1994/79]
91. The expected guest eventually arrived....his wife
A. in company with. B. in company of. C. by company of. D. accompanied with. [1994/80]
92. The director is to liaise....the management corporate matters. A. with/in. B. in/on. C. with/on. D. on/with. [1994/94]
93. Some motoristsSokoto and Kano. A. shuttle along. B. shuttle from. C. shuttle to. D. shuttle between. [1994/95]
94.we can now start meaningful development.
A. Since the cold war is over. B. With the cold war over. C. The cold war over. D. That the cold war is over. [1994/96]
95. A citizen in a democracy can.... the law if he or she wants to correct an injustice. A. turn up. B. bring out. C. bring up. D. turn to. [1994/100]
96. The policemen who were to keep watch connivedthe robber's escape. A. with. B. at. C. to. D. for. [1993/66]
97. Wodu will not come she is asked. A. after. B. provided. C. unless. D. because. [1993/68]
98. Otokpa is not very bold. He's nota rough life
A. cut up for. B. cut for. C. cut off for. D. cut out for. [1993/73]
99. The secretary was blamed the untidy state of the office A. for. B. about. C. over. D. on. [1993/80]
100. Do you prefer my rickety car? A. going on foot to taking. B. to go on foot to taking. C. going on foot than taking. D. to go on foot than to take. [1993/86]
101. Idubor has gone to see his mechanic because his car engine needs to be turned A. in. B. off. C. up. D. on. [1993/98]
102. Many people believe that nuclear power will solve our energy problems.....this has not been proved to be true. A. Indeed. B. But. C. However. D. On the contrary. [1992/55]
103.sign post words are useful to readers.
A. Conclusively. B. To conclude. C. In conclusion. D. The conclusion. [1992/56]
104. Programme of good exercise may help a person fight cold. A. out. B. at. C. with. D. off. [1992/58]
105. It seems to be a well thoughtscheme.
A. over. B. out. C. off. D. into. [1992/67]
106. Adaobi is contemptuousdishonest people
A. to. B. at. C. for. D. of. [1992/83]
107. My goats are grazing the field A. on. B. in. C. at. D. into. [1992/84]
108. You avoid facing....the reality of life A. at. B. up C. up to. D. on to. [1992/89]
109. The girl that my brother introduced to us last week is pretty.... ill-mannered. A. and. B. but also. C. as well as. D. respectable. [1991/47]
110. Little did Tunde realize that his frequent unwarranted reports about me were working....my advantage. A. in. B. to. C. for. D. against. [1991/58]
111. The Board has been having....series of meetings lately. A. some. B. a. C. a lot of. D. many. [1991/59]

112. I know, nobody has seen any leopards in this area. A. so far as. B. in as much as. C. provided. D. even as. [1991/60]
113. Inyang has always been shy to speak A. in public. B. publicly. C. in the public. D. with the public. [1991/62]
114.his uncle helped him or not, he would still not be able to do it A. although . B. if. C. whether. D. since. [1991/63]
115. The school will for Easter in another six weeks. A. break off.B. break away. C. break out. D. break up. [1991/73]
116. His power supply was....from the mains because he did not pay his electricity bill. A. blown out. B. cut off. C. put off. D. put out. [1991/74]
117. When you've finished using the telephone, please hang....A. down. B. up. C. off. D. on. [1991/75]
118. I do not intend to stay for long at the function. I only want to A. put in an appearance. B. put up appearance. C. show up appearance. D. keep up appearance. [1991/76]
119. The boy who stole the mango was givenby an eye witness. A. out. B. in. C. away. D. up. [1991/93]
120. After listening to the statements from the two students, the headmaster realized that it was a trivial argument thata serious quarrel between them. A. touched in. B. drew up. C. touched off.D. brought up. [1991/94]
121. Mr and Mrs Akoka were sad and disappointed.... the performance of their son. A. about. B. for. C. at. D. over. [1991/95]
122. When the transformer blew up, Saka threw himself down....his stomach. A. at. B. over. C. to. D. on. [1991/96]

Preposition & Conjunctions II

131. The point....the story is that he is the man's son. A. in. B. of.C. off. D. around. [1990/88]
132. The Director is pains to ensure the success of the programme. A. in. B. at. C. on. D. having. [1990/89]
133. Bola broke....when he heard the news of the arrest of his twin brother. A. up. B. off. C. away. D. down. [1990/90]
134. The contractors were short....cash even before the project was completed. A. in. B. for. C. with. D. of. [1989/78]
135. The judge acquitted the accused....all the eight counts. A. of.B. on. C. from. D. upon. [1989/79]
136. If we go hunting this weekend we'll have towith scratch meals and sleep in a hut in the forest. A. make up. B. make do.C. make out. D. make good. [1989/80]
137. 'Leave me alone' blurted the angry customer. 'I can'twith your price hikes'. A. make do. B. put up. C. deal. D. make up. [1989/81]
138. The committee was disgusted.... the way the office was being run. A. at. B. by. C. with. D. over. [1989/82]
139. He regarded the betrayal of his friend as a stab the back. A. on. B. at. C. in. D. from. [1989/100]
140. When I met Amadi yesterday it was the first time Ihim for six months. A. had seen. B. saw. C. have seen. D. have been seeing. [1989/66]
141. I go to work 8.00 every day.A. by B. at C. on D. with
142. The traveler had to runin order to....the train. A. first/catch. B. fast/cash. C. fast/catch.

123. I ran....an old friend of mine on Broad Street and brought him home. A. into. B. to. C. over. D. across. [1991/97]
124. The spokesman confirmed that government would not give.... to the demands of the trade union leaders. A. up. B. into. C. onto.D. in. [1991/98]
125. Now, I am used bread without butter. A. to eat. B. in eating. C. of eating. D. to eating. [1990/74]
126. Attention has shifted to the teaching of Science nowadays....the usefulness of the Arts. A. in spite of. B. not minding.C. oblivious to. D. forgetting. [1990/77]
127. all probability, the train will arrive today. A. In. B. Under.C. For. D. By. [1990/83]
128. We cannot explain his objection....the new law. A. for. B. with.C. at. D. to. [1990/84]
129. Silk materials ought to be prohibited.... being brought into the country. A. about. B. in. C. from. D. by. [1990/85]
130. The answers to the questions were discussedthe students. A. between. B. by. C. for. D. to. [1990/86]

Preposition & Conjunctions Answers 1

- 1D 2A 3C 4A 5B 6B 7B 8A 9A 10D 11B 12B 13B 14D 15D 16B 17D 18C 19D 20C 21D 22C 23D 24A 25C 26A 27C 28B 29A 30D 31D 32C 33C 34A 35B 36A 37C 38B 39B 40C 41C 42A 43C 44C 45B 46B 47A 48B 49A 50C 51C 52C 53C 54C 55C 56B 57D 58A 59B 60B 61C 62B 63B 64B 65C 66A 67D 68A 69D 70D 71A 72D 73D 74C 75C 76A 77C 78D 79A 80A 81B 82B 83B 84A 85C 86A 87C 88A 89B 90A 91 92C 93D 94B 95D 96A 97C 98D 99A 100A 101C 102B 103C 104D 105B 106D 107B 108C 109B 110B 111B 112A 113A 114C 115A 116B 117B 118B 119C 120D 121D 122D 123A 124D 125D 126A 127B 128D 129C 130B

- D. first/cash. [1989/69]
143. If Kaka hadn't tried to stand up in the boat, he.... into the lake. A. wouldn't have fallen. B. will not have fell. C. will not have fallen.D. wouldn't have fell. [1989/73]
144. The soldiers were sufficiently equipped with....A. arms and ammunition. B. arms and ammunitions. C. arm and ammunitions.D. arm and ammunition. [1989/74]
145. The college authorities have....the students to end the strike. A. called for. B. called on. C. called. D. called at. [1988/76]
146. I have been trying to locate you.... A. since five days. B. five days now. C. since five days now. D. for five days. [1988/77]
147. A government spokesman announced that efforts....the release of the hostages are continuing. A. to obtain. B. in obtaining.C. for obtaining. D. of obtaining. [1988/80]
148. My boss is usually a charming man but He can be very irritable. A. at one time. B. on time. C. in time. D. at times. [1987/81]
149. The Inspector of Education who made several trips on the bad road returned yesterday completely by fever A. brought down. B. put down. C. worn down. D. worn off. [1988/82]
150. The vice principal asked the students to alwaystheir answers only from the textbooks recommended for the course. A. look out. B. search out. C. look up. D. bring up. [1988/83]

151. Wale Agun, in creating his characters, draws freely his experience in life. A. by. B. in. C. on. D. of. [1988/86]
152. The beautiful plan made for the expansion of the business fell....as soon as the manager died.A. down. B. out. C. in. D. through. [1988/90]
153. The events reported in the newspapers did not happen years ago; they A. are of recent. B. had happened recently. C. are recent. D. recently happened. [1988/91]
154. We heard theof breaks which was followed by crashing noise. A. screaming. B. sereeching. C. scraping. D. streaking.[1988/97]
155. I was hearing distance of the speaker. A. on. B. at. C. within. D. in. [1987/56]
156. Peter was such a skilful boxer that he was not afraid to take anybody. A. to. B. upon. C. on. D. in. [1987/57]
157. Owing to the constant harassment of the populace by armed robbers, all night guards have been instructed to shootevery moving things. A. at sight. B. by sight. C. in sight. D. off sight. [1987/58]
158. The ceremony was rounded very late. A. up. B. off.C. of. D. out. [1987/63]
159. Bassey's evidence led Okon being imprisoned for life A. at.B. into. C. in. D. to. [1987/74]
160. The nurse kept apologizing to mothers as she stuck her needle.... every baby at the clinic. A. in. B. onto. C. on to. D. into. [1987/77]
161. During the demonstration, the mobile police were instructed to break.... the students' defense lineA. off. B. open.C. through. D. down. [1987/85]
162. Roli failed because the examination was difficult for her. A. so. B. very. C. highly. D. too. [1987/86]
163. My brother does not have a flairMathematicsA. for. B. in.C. at. D. of. [1987/87]
164. The poor little kid has been down.... fever these few days. A. with. B. from. C. in. D. for. [1987/88]
165. The villages looked their leader for good examples.A. up to.B. on to. C. up at. D. forward to. [1987/91]
166. Do not take my books out of this office unless you....my permission to do so A. get. B. have. C. had got. D. are having. [1987/93]
167. The train was too slow so I decided to at the next stop A. get by. B. get bye. C. get off. D. get off. [1987/98]
168. Jibril found that thieves had entered his house in his absence. to report the A. break out. B. break up. C. break in.D. break into . [1986/68]
169. I can quickly recite the National Anthem.... now. A. off head.B. off by heart. C. at hand. D. off hand. [1986/78]
170. A number of suspects were paraded.... the victim of the robbery. A. in front of. B. before. C. for. D. to. [1986/86]
171. If you are going to the market, may Iplease? A. for follow you. B. come with you. C. come by you. D. come as your second. [1986/99]
172. Mary goes to schoolbus. A. in. B. on. C. with. D. by. [1985/72]
173. The loud noise in the neighbourhood attracted people who staredthe thief A. at. B. about. C. with. D. on. [1985/73]
174. The students' unrest resultedthe expulsion of the ringleaders. A. to. B. in. C. for. D. on. [1985/74]
175. The lawyer insisted the full payment of his charge. A. with. B. in. C. for. D. on. [1985/75]
176. Little children are usually afraid.... thunder. A. about. B. for.C. of. D. with. [1985/76]
177. On the orders of the steward, the cook rushedthe market. A. to. B. at. C. for. D. in. [1985/77]
178. The principal advised that we pursue this case cautiously, otherwise we are bound to be taken.... by Ada's lies. A. away. B. out. C. in. D. off. [1985/78]
179. I am very sorry.... to attend the meeting yesterday. A. for failure. B. in failing. C. to having failed. D. for failing. [1985/79]
180. When you are faced with an examination of this nature, endeavour to keep your mind.... the job and not be distracted for one moment. A. at. B. in. C. for. D. on. [1985/80]
181. The old politicians were discredited because they tried to....the people's ignorance. A. cash in on. B. catch in with. C. catch in on. D. cash in with. [1985/91]
182. The thief ran....luck when the policeman running after him caught up with him and knocked him down. A. into. B. with. C. of.D. out of. [1985/94]
183. Your brigade would be the better for it, if you desisted rumor - mongering, observed the Chief of Staff. A. from. B. away.C. into. D. away from. [1985/96]
184. He received a patthe back for his brilliant success in the examination. A. by. B. at. C. in. D. on. [1985/100]
185. Children's clothes have to be strong to stand rough use. A. with. B. in through. C. in for. D. up to. [1984/62]
186. Shall I make the cheque.... you or to your firm?A. in for. B. up with. C. in with. D. out to. [1984/63]
187. The young man looked carefully at the long document, but he couldn't make.... what it meant.A. up. B. out. C. off. D. through. [1984/71]
188. Give me a minute to think I can't remember the answer.... A. out of hand. B. ahead. C. off hand. D. to hand. [1984/73]
189. Omeime was taking his dog for a walk when the dog suddenly.... from its chain, and escaped. A. broke through. B. broke lose. C. broke even. D. broke loose. [1984/75]
190. The Head of Department is away to Murtala Mohammed Airport and has asked Dr. Haruna to stand....for him. A. out. B. in.C. on. D. across. [1983/43]
191. The Commission was set up to enquire....the general conditions of child abuse in such institutions . A. at. B. from.C. after. D. into. [1983/44]
192. This conference is designed to enable delegates their personal interests with specialists in various fields. A. to discuss about. B. discussing. C. to discuss. D. for discussing. [1983/49]
193. I do not want the light in my room....when asleep. A. turned off. B. turn off. C. to run out. D. turned out. [1983/53]
194. I've lived....this street....ten years. A. at, since. B. for, during. C. on, for. D. in, for. [1983/59]
195. He acts....he were a manager. A. like. B. such as. C. such. D. as if. [1983/67]
196. I shall travel to Lagos by....next week. A. air or with lorry.B. aircraft or by road. C. airways or by bus. D. air or by road. [1982/32]

197. You can never get....with stealing the presidential jet. You will be caught. A. by. B. away. C. bye. D. free. [1982/33]
198. The armed robber stabbed the driverthe back. A. in. B. on.C. at. D. inside. [1982/35]
199. I am disappointed....the ways you conducted yourself at the party. A. by. B. for. C. due. D. at. [1982/37]
200. Always remember tothe lights before leaving the room. A. put off. B. blow out. C. off. D. switch off. [0/37]
201. Chike, who, plays in the first eleven, is an expert dribbling. A. for. B. by. C. at. D. with. [1982/47]
202. Everybody hates....kept waiting. A. be. B. being. C. to be. D. for being. [1982/59]
203. Put....your watch, it is half an hour fast. A. away. B. up. C. on.D. back. [1982/69]
204. You look very tired, a cup of tea will.... you some good! A. make. B. do. C. give. D. put. [1982/70]
205. There was a loud bang we thought it was the television, but it wasn't. A. at last. B. at first. C. at least. D. at the moment. [1982/72]
206. Plans for a rise in productionthrough when a strike started. A. went. B. came. C. set. D. fell. [1982/73]
207. She used to be very untidy but she has grown....it now. A. out of. B. from. C. without. D. away with. [1982/74]
208. Your approach to the problem is different ours A. as.B. like. C. from. D. because of. [1981/28]
209. Although he was invited he was not welcome. A. but.B. yet. C. so. D. since. [1981/38]
210. They tried to cash in the people's ignorance. A. under.B. against. C. about. D. on. [1981/40]
211. He looked everyone in authority as an enemy. A. on.B. at. C. in. D. about. [1981/45]
212. Excuse me, do you mind....I smoke? A. because. B. if. C. since. D. while. [1981/49]
213. The house will look all the better....this new coat of paint. A. for. B. under. C. against. D. upon. [1981/50]
214. I am not attending....is my wife. A. whereas. B. neither. C. either. D. but. [1981/53]
215. Maimuna wrote to ask if I could put her....for the night. A. up.B. in. C. out. D. off. [1981/75]
216. As a result of the injury sustained on the football field, Segun was with a broken leg for months. A. laid down. B. aid out.C. laid on. D. laid up. [1980/77]
217. The Principal was able to establish a functional language laboratory for school because he actedthe advice of experts on the subject. A. through. B. at. C. from. D. on. [1980/78]
218. We couldn't find the official who was to act as our guide he has left before we arrived.A. Moreover. B. Actually.C. Nevertheless. D. However. [1980/86]
219. The meeting starts.... two o'clock. Please be punctual. A. about. B. in. C. on. D. at. [1980/95]
220. Every time you pay a bill you must insist....being given a receipt. A. in. B. from. C. on. D. by.[1980/96]
221. The elections....the Senate were held in July. A. into. B. of.C. from. D. onto. [1980/97]
222. There is a filling station the corner, to your right. A. about.B. by. C. from. D. around. [1980/98]
223. It is difficult these days to get a seat....the plane in spite of a confirmed booking. A. inside. B. in. C. on. D. upon. [1980/99]
224. He travelled to Jos....train when he came last month A. by.B. in. C. on. D. inside. [1980/100]
225. We travelled all night and arrivedthe Oyo motor part at six o'clock in the morning. A. by. B. inside. C. on. D. at. [1979/77]
226. We ought to stay away the robbers come back. A. provided. B. should in case. C. although. D. in case. [1979/78]
227. The Principal will be going away on leave. In his absence, the Vice-Principal will....the school. A. take over. B. carry on. C. care for. D. look after. [1979/79]
228. The new leader has good intentions, but he is unable to A. carry them with him. B. carry them out. C. carry them on. D. carry them all. [1979/80]
229. He sent the children out to play he might be alone. A. because. B. so that. C. yet. D. since. [1979/85]
230. He played the pianoan hour or two. A. around. B. in about.C. during. D. for. [1979/86]
231. The boycott of classes last year by undergraduates resulted the temporary closure of Nigerian Universities. A. to. B. in.C. from. D. at. [1979/93]
232. The Executive President honoured the messenger with the Grand Commander of the Niger award his industry and meritorious service to the nation. A. on recognition of. B. in gratitude for. C. in recognition to. D. in recognition of. [1979/95]
233. In 1966, the Military because of the tragic failure of the civilian politicians. A. took to power. B. undertook power. C. marched into power. D. came to power. [1979/97]
234. His suggestion is completely.... the point and cannot be accepted. A. to. B. about. C. beside. D. on. [1978/64]
235. For.... he is secretary we shall not have correct minutes. A. because. B. as long as. C. so long. D. in as much. [1978/65]
236. The frightening explosion in the factory.... whole wing. A. washed out. B. wiped out. C. rooted out. D. flushed out. [1978/70]
237. Our plane was scheduled to.... at 10.00 hrs but it was delayed because of bad weather. A. fly out. B. take off. C. start out. D. shoot off. [1978/71]
238. As luck would have it, the weather brightened almost immediately and after six hours flight we.... at Heathrow AirportA. touched down . B. dropped. C. came down. D. flew down. [1978/72]
239. Before we left the airport, each passenger was made to.... certain forms. A. fill in. B. write in. C. enter in. D. go through. [1978/73]
240. The boxer was highly rated.... his doggedness and ability to absorb heavy punches A. by. B. through. C. for. D. about. [1978/81]
241. Many lives are lost on Nigerian roads lack of consideration for other road users by many crazy drivers. A. in view of. B. resulting in. C. owing totally to. D. through. [1978/82]
242. The man no longer feared his opponents after their spokesman had assured him that they were well disposed....him. A. to. B. towards. C. around. D. about. [1978/83]
243. My little boy is hyper-active and he is therefore prone....accidents. A. with respect to. B. for. C. to. D. about. [1978/84]
244. The train rattled along full speed. A. in. B. at. C. with. D. by. [1978/86]

245. They have had their debt written by their creditors. A. down. B. on. C. up. D. off. [2008/82]
246. I wanted to avail myself.... the opportunity of listening to the lecture, but the lecturer failed to turn up. A. with. B. for. C. of. D. at. [1991/55]
247. I can always dependmy father for my survival. A. on. B. in. C. upon. D. by. [1990/87]
248. I could understand how she slept the uproar. A. through B. on C. off D. among
249. any rate, he tackled his problem courageously A. In B. At C. By D. For
250. Though Amina was very well paid, A. since she was always short of money B. but she was always short of money C. and when she always short of money D. she was always short of money
251. I rode a bicycle2011 to 2014 A. since B. as at C. in D. from
252. The teacher came to school her car A. with B. in C. on D. by
253. He is fond of more food A. demanding B. demanding for C. demands D. demanding from
254. Mrs. Adio’s words instilled confidence ... her children. A. With B. Through C. In D. At

255. The housemaster woke up ... to caution the students. A. At midnight B. In the midnight C. In midnight D. At the midnight
256. They invested heavily ... their training A. At B. In C. Upon D. For
257. Garba acquiesced ... their decision. A. For B. On C. In D. By
- Preposition & Conjunction Answers II**
 131B 132B 133D 134D 135B 136B 137A 138C 139C 140A 141B 142C 143A 144A 145B 146D 147A 148D 149C 150C 151C 152D 153C 154B 155C 156C 157A 158B 159D 160D 161C 162D 163A 164A 165A 166B 167C 168C 169D 170A 171B 172D 173A 174B 175D 176C 177A 178C 179D 180D 181A 182D 183A 184D 185D 186D 187B 188C 189D 190B 191D 192C 193A 194C 195D 196D 197D 198B 199D 200D 201C 202B 203A 204B 205B 206D 207A 208C 209B 210D 211A 212B 213A 214B 215A 216A 217D 218B 219D 220C 221A 222B 223B 224A 225D 226D 227D 228B 229B 230D 231B 232D 233D 234C 235B 236B 237B 238A 239A 240C 241C 242B 243C 244A 245D 246C 247A 248A 249B 250D 251D 252B 253B 254C 255A 256B 257C

Word Register

Introduction

- The term word register refers to particular varieties or styles of speaking and writing. Registers vary because the language is used for different purposes, in different contexts and for different audiences. Reading varieties of materials such as journals, novels, newspapers etc. will prepare you for questions under this objective.
- As he was still owing me two naira, I was careful not to.... him any more money. A. Lend. B. loan. C. borrow. D. extend. [1978/54]
 - marked an important step in the history of the industrial revolution. A. The invention of the locomotive engine. B. The discovery of locomotion. C. The discovery of the engine. D. Inquiry into locomotion. [1978/79]
 - We should take care....the robbers come back. A. may be.B. should in case. C. Perhaps. D. in case. [1978/90]
 - The candidate looked.... after finishing the examination. A. unhappily. B. lazily. C. wonderfully. D. unhappy. [1979/92]
 - Bilaminu sent the expensive present to one Miss Sanda of the United African Organization and not to of the Central Bank of Nigeria. A. the Miss Sanda. B. Miss Sanda. C. a Miss Sanda. D. one Miss Sanda. [1979/99]
 - I was able to....Olu my book because he promised to return it the following day. A. borrow. B. give. C. lend. D. lease. [1980/82]
 - Peter’s....a cold upsets our plan A. catches. B. will catch.C. to catch. D. catching. [1981/37]
 - Without.... words he accused him directly of treachery. A. amending. B. modifying. C. mixing. D. mincing. [1981/51]
 - After weeks of bargaining they.... a deal worth millions. A. made up. B. turned about. C. brought off. D. went in. [1981/74]
 - I was in such a hurry, I didn’t have time to ’Hello’. A. tell.B. speak. C. talk. D. say. [1981/79]
 - Eko Bridge,linking Lagos Island to Surulere, has A. many traffic. B. numerous vehicles. C. uncontrollable traffic. D. a lot of traffic. [1981/86]
 - The old shoemaker at the corner of our street is.... so I hope you will patronize him. A. mine shoemaker. B. a tight friend.C. a good customer. D. a close friend. [1982/28]
 - We were all delighted when the beautiful lady in our house.... a bouncing baby boy. A. delivered. B. born. C. brought forth. D. gave birth to. [1982/41]
 - When the policemen received....about the hide out of the armed robbers, they went there in full force to arrest them. A. full information. B. all the necessary information. C. some information.D. full information. [1982/45]
 - X: How do you want to be paid....in cash or by cheque? Y: They asked him in cash or by cheque A. how he wanted to be paid. B. whether he wanted to be paid. C. how he wants the money.D. how to pay. [1982/66]
 - The laughter.... his face for a moment. A. improved. B. controlled.C. animated. D. remade. [2014/84]
 - He was determined toall opposition into submission. A. push.B. cow. C. box . D. pound. [2009/82]
 - Bola studiously avoided the questions. A. parrying. B. answering. C. projecting. D. destroying. [2011/84]
 - The Police officer warned the communities against taking the law A. feuding/into their own. B. feudal/to their own. C. feuding/in their own. D. feudal/in their own. [2008/71]
 - His supporters rallied round him in moments of A. criticism. B. crisis. C. acrimony. D. disillusionment. [2004/49]
 - You would be well.... to listen to what the teacher says. A. informed. B. advised. C. reminded. D. warned. [1999/66]
 - The principal warned the students not to take the.... hands. A. law into their. B. laws into their. C. law into their own. D. laws into their own. [1997/84]

23. Her mother brought her some A. clothes.
B. yards. C. cloth. D. clothing. [2012/79]
24. The university has a large collection of sporting
.... A. equipment. B. equipments. C. costuming.
D. aids. [1992/77]
25. At the of the century, many ways of doing things
were introduced. A. turn. B. event . C. birth. D. sight.
[2014/67]
26. The storm havoc on several buildings in the
village. A. wreaked. B. wrecked. C. made. D. did.
[2004/45]
27. The new manager was responsible for the the
organization. A. uplift . B. upliftment. C. lifting.
D. uplifting. [2002/95]
28. More to your elbow as you campaign for press
freedom! A. power. B. effort. C. grease. D. energy.
[2001/95]
29. Immediately I entered the house, I could.... the
smell of gas from the kitchen. A. feel. B. hear.
C. detect. D. smell. [1999/62]
30. I shall work hard so that I can....a distinction in
English. A. secure. B. make . C. receive . D. grab.
[1998/98]
31. Don't....said the leader, "I want a decision now".
A. prevaricate. B. predicate. C. precipitate. D. be
pejorative. [1997/94]
32. Most of the missing jewelry were.... by the police.
A. found. B. taken. C. kept. D. recovered. [1997/95]
33. Oche should leave for New York on Fridaybeing
equal. A. all the things. B. all other things. C. other
things. D. other things all. [1993/70]
34. Good schools don't just teach their students, they
.... them. A. inform. B. instruct. C. educate. D. coach.
[1993/100]
35. I sent news to the press yesterday. A. a parcel of.
B. a flash of. C. an item of. D. a number of. [1992/76]
36. Note that only senior members of staff have them
.... of using the toilet upstairs. A. permission.
B. occasion. C. privilege. D. habit. [1991/44]
37. On getting to the seashore,.... A. it was empty.
B. nobody was there. C. people had deserted the
place. D. he found nobody there. [1991/57]
38. I have only three tubers of yam....in the store, I
cannot afford to give you any more. A. still.
B. outstanding. C. left. D. remainder. [1991/64]
39. This section of the test will.... questions on set
passages. A. consist . B. comprise of. C. contain.
D. carry. [1990/58]
40.to help him, being the only person in the vicinity.
A. it was not possible. B. There was no one. C. He
had nobody. D. No person was around. [1990/78]
41. Yemi said ' I'm coming' to her friend Biola who was
waiting for her instead of saying A. wait for me in
a moment. B. I will come . C. I 'll be with you in a
moment. D. I'll come now.. [1990/91]
42. Sociologists are concerned with the problem of man
in.... A. a society. B. the society. C. society. D. some
society. [1989/77]
43. My....brother intends to get married in December
A. senior. B. elder. C. older . D. oldest. [1987/64]
44. We are gradually to the end of the programme
this afternoon', remarked the chairman of the
wedding reception. A. arriving. B. getting.
C. approaching. D. going. [1986/89]
45. The driver of that lorry.... lost his life during the
collision. A. barely. B. hardly. C. nearly. D. closely.
[1984/76]
46. I could not believe that our team the match after
being in the lead for most of the match. A. to lose.
B. lost. C. will be losing. D. losing. [1983/42]
47. Do you mind....another minute or two? A. to wait.
B. wait. C. waiting. D. having awaited. [1983/57]
48. He has only ordered some lettuce and tea. He....on
a diet He is a bit too fat. A. can't be.. B. needn't be.
C. must be . D. shouldn't be .. [1983/70]
49.bomb had earlier been defused. A. A leaf. B. An
alive. C. A life . D. A live. [2015/67]
50. Abike must have found the very interesting movies
quite.... A. absolving. B. absorbing. C. nauseating.
D. perverting. [2014/74]
51. When the strike is over, there will probably be an
increase in wages and a increase in prices.
A. sparodic. B. concordant. C. concurrent. D. chronic.
[2014/78]
52. Everyone makes mistakes occasionally, nobody is
....A. incorrigible. B. imperfect . C. infallible.
D. indestructible. [2012/75]
53. The driver died in theroad accident. A. fatal.
B. brutal. C. serious. D. pathetic. [2012/81]
54. It is African for a younger person to show....to
elders. A. understanding. B. indifference.
C. deference. D. satisfaction. [2005/83]
55. The visitor was very uncomfortable because of his
.... nose. A. runny. B. running. C. watery. D. flowing.
[1999/60]
56. Although the officer wanted a....report on the
matter, he got A. truthful/an uninteresting.
B. factual/an unpleasant. C. genuine/a ridiculous.
D. painstaking/a half-hearted. [1999/71]
57. People dislike Jobe because he is a....young man.
A. trickery. B. tricking. C. trickful. D. tricky. [1994/61]
58. No sooner....to fall. A. did we set out when the rain
had started. B. had we set out than the rain started.
C. were we setting out than the rain started. D. we
had set out when the rain started. [1993/87]
59. If you want a successful marriage, you pray for it.
A. have better. B. better. C. had better. D. would
better. [1990/66]
60. The....car is the centre of attraction. A. small racing
light-green. B. racing small light-green. C. small light-
green racing . D. light-green small racing. [1989/84]
61. The....discouraged me from reading it. A. story's
lengths. B. length of the story. C. story length.
D. stories length. [1993/77]
62. The hotel lacks the for accommodating so many
guests. A. ability. B. capability. C. capacity.
D. competence. [2008/77]
63. In spite of Shade's good looks, her hair is always
A. unkempt. B. unkempt. C. unwashed. D. uncared
for. [2005/81]
64. Wale: Do you know where my chemistry book is?
Tom: A. Toyin is with it. B. It is with Toyin. C. Toyin
has it. D. Toyin lent it. [1997/80]
65. My shoes are worn out; I must see my.... A. grocer.
B. tanner. C. cobbler. D. hosier. [1997/86]
66. 'You cannot have a vague idea of the content of this
comprehension text unless you first the whole
passage for a few minutes' said the teacher to his
pupils. A. digest. B. decipher. C. skim through.
D. chew through. [1980/83]
67. A society....individuals each of whom has his
attributes and distinct characteristics. A. is
constituted of. B. comprises of. C. consists of.
D. contains of. [1979/98]

68. The House and The Senate will at noon next Wednesday to hear a special address by the president. A. convene. B. adjourn. C. rise. D. collude. [2014/66]
69. He went to the restaurant to enjoy the special.... A. suite. B. cuisine. C. a la carte. D. chef. [2014/70]
70. Cooking has never been Jumoke's A. recital. B. purview. C. style. D. forte. [2014/77]
71. It was very easy for the two political parties to form a government. A. collusion. B. coalition. C. co-operative. D. colonial. [2013/74]
72. Our teacher defined....as the killing of one's mother. A. matriarch. B. patricide. C. patriarch. D. matricide. [2013/82]
73. Vacancies in the company will be notified by.... A. bulletin. B. publication. C. publicity. D. advertisement. [2012/67]
74. The driver was short of petrol, so he.... down the hills with the engine switched off. A. glided. B. coasted. C. wheeled. D. taxied. [2012/68]
75. For more productivity, the company is focusing attention on the possibleof available resources. A. synergy. B. tapping. C. alignment. D. arrangement. [2012/83]
76. The Federal Government has child trafficking. A. postulated. B. projected. C. prescribed. D. proscribed. [2010/82]
77. The man was happy that his son confessed his guilt and so the others were.... A. implicated. B. accused. C. punished. D. exonerated. [2010/83]
78. Many people would always find reasons to the law. A. arrogate. B. debase. C. circumvent. D. circumspect. [2010/85]
79. The bomb was A. detonated. B. dismantled. C. deactivated. D. depleted. [2009/73]
80. The company paid some money to Abu tohim for the losses he suffered during the accident. A. indemnify. B. condole with. C. settle. D. recompense. [2009/78]
81. Government has frowned upon politicians who are out to.... wealth. A. gain. B. amass. C. steal. D. waste. [2009/80]
82. Uche has been in with his pen pal for years. A. exchange. B. correspondence. C. favour. D. cord. [2009/84]
83. Abba became about his inability to pass the examination. A. despondent. B. disenchanted. C. dogmatic. D. joyful. [2009/85]
90. The minister addressed the workers to boost theirA. morale. B. morality. C. mural. D. moral. [2004/39]
92. Musa has lived here for five years but he does not seem able to get over the enormously....and elaborate rules that govern the society. A. absurd. B. bizarre. C. fantastic. D. intricate. [2002/73]
93. As election day draws near, the party looks.... because many of its members have....other parties. A. successful/declared for. B. vulnerable/defected to. C. cheerful/moved to. D. cheerless/cross-carpeted from. [2002/74]
94. Ali has been cured of his amnesia, he no longer suffers from A. rounds of anxiety. B. loss of memory. C. pains in his arms. D. bouts of malaria. [2002/77]
95. The match gave the team a chance to show their.... A. worth. B. position. C. prowess. D. mettle. [2002/82]
96. The officer described the comment asbecause it was very amusing. A. ludicrous. B. dangerous. C. sad. D. libellous. [2002/86]
97. We did not understand what the magistrate said about and battery. A. acid. B. insult. C. assault. D. touching. [2002/92]
98. I do not think any sane person would have acted in such a manner. A. rational. B. composed. C. secret. D. cruel. [2001/76]
99. Modern dancing has become rather scientific and so requires.... A. bizarre costuming. B. some choreographic skill. C. immense instrumentation. D. a rapping voice. [2001/78]
100. A child that shows mature characteristics at an early age may be described as A. preconceived. B. premature. C. ingenuous. D. precocious. [2001/82]
101. The Company Director showed the contractor a of the proposed office complex. A. prototype. B. photograph. C. microfilm. D. photocopy. [2001/83]
102. Some scientists are trying to....human beings in their laboratories. A. imitate. B. replicate. C. implicate. D. fabricate. [2001/87]
103. Ade tried toall memory of his dead father. A. recall. B. obstruct. C. obliterate. D. eulogize. [2001/90]
104. The meeting was called to....divergent views on the subject of a national conference. A. reconcile. B. recommend. C. re-present. D. reconstitute. [2001/92]
105. The police came early enough to....the bomb planted by the rioters. A. diffuse. B. insulate. C. detonate. D. defuse. [2001/93]
106. When Ajike met her husband at the party, she felt like reconciling with him. A. estranged. B. strange. C. caring. D. loving. [2001/96]
107. Without our relentless campaigns we mightsure of victory in the race for the National Assembly. A. never have been. B. have never be. C. never had been. D. be never. [2000/41]
108. The loquacious young lad reeled off all the names of the players A. off head. B. off hand. C. at heart. D. at hand. [2000/44]
109. The man declared his intention from the A. outset. B. inset. C. onset. D. offset. [2000/47]
110. The freed robber expressed his gratitude in a prayer of thanksgiving. A. spurious. B. spasmodic. C. spontaneous. D. sporadic. [1999/55]
111. Ndem was suspended from work because he showed no in dealing with the customers. A. love. B. interest. C. character. D. finesse. [1999/59]
112. The accident was due to driving by the defendant. A. negligence. B. negligible. C. negligent. D. neglectable. [1999/63]
113. Aggrieved persons are free to seek....in the court of law. A. reparation. B. redress. C. consolation. D. acquittal. [1999/64]
114. The group never felt strong enough to act in the open hostility was the hallmark of their resistance. A. covert. B. overt. C. vicious. D. erratic. [1999/69]
115. He boasts so much about his high scores and he at the efforts of others. A. scorns. B. sneers. C. grins. D. smiles. [1999/73]
116. In moments of serious economic hardship, many people are to turn to God. A. concerned. B. inclined. C. disposed. D. propensed. [1998/74]

117. We cannot all wear expensive shoes in situation of
A. divergent demand and supply. **B.** uneven wear and tear. **C.** differing purchasing power.
D. unpredictable national income. [1998/75]
118. That centre-forward was consequently the goal was not disallowed. **A.** in an off-side position. **B.** very well positioned. **C.** a brilliant player. **D.** the captain of the team. [1998/76]
119. Soyinka's masterful of the atmosphere of his childhood helped to make his book, *Ake*, an outright success. **A.** evocation. **B.** invocation. **C.** convocation. **D.** revocation. [1998/79]
120. A university teacher is an.... **A.** academic. **B.** academics. **C.** academician. **D.** academia. [1998/91]

Word Registers II

121. He was.... by the trickster. **A.** assisted. **B.** duped. **C.** cajoled. **D.** encouraged. [1997/71]
122. When the soldiers saw that resistance was they stopped fighting. **A.** inadequate. **B.** inefficient. **C.** futile. **D.** successful. [1997/72]
123. You should read all the carefully before you decide where to go on holiday. **A.** brochures. **B.** prospectuses. **C.** tickets. **D.** handouts. [1997/73]
124. A sterile range of mountains, broken at intervals by deep ravinesalmost the whole of this small state. **A.** enclose. **B.** encloses. **C.** cover. **D.** covers. [1997/88]
125. By January 1999, Iten years in the service of this institution. **A.** should have been. **B.** would be. **C.** can be. **D.** must be. [1997/92]
126. The accused is optimistic of regaining his freedom because there is no witness to....his story. **A.** correct. **B.** challenge. **C.** corroborate. **D.** contradict. [1997/93]
127. The....of what she was cooking filled the whole compound. **A.** fragrance. **B.** scent. **C.** aroma. **D.** smell. [1997/98]
128. She has the....of being intelligent when in fact she is not. **A.** elision. **B.** illusion. **C.** delusion. **D.** allusion. [1995/70]
129. The panel'swas stretched to the limit by what they heard. **A.** credit. **B.** credence. **C.** credibility. **D.** credulity. [1995/87]
130. The minister can't come today because he has engagement. **A.** a former. **B.** a preceding. **C.** a prior. **D.** an advance. [1995/89]
131. The policeman pointed out a **A.** discrepancy. **B.** discord. **C.** distinction. **D.** disagreement. [1995/90]
132. To be extravagant is to be.... **A.** rich. **B.** luxurious. **C.** careless. **D.** wasteful. [1994/74]
133. The trader his wares at the trade fair. **A.** exhibited. **B.** displayed. **C.** spread. **D.** demonstrated. [1994/77]
134. I have decided to drinking alcohol for health reasons. **A.** abandon. **B.** give up. **C.** discard. **D.** jettison. [1994/83]
135. I would like tomy father to Kaduna. **A.** accompany. **B.** follow. **C.** escort. **D.** join. [1994/84]
136. Go straight down the hill and take the third....on the left. You can't miss it. **A.** bend. **B.** branch. **C.** junction. **D.** turning. [1994/98]
137. I hereby declare and....that, to the best of my knowledge, this statement is true in all respects. **A.** inform. **B.** confirm. **C.** affirm. **D.** conform. [1994/99]

Word Register Answers I

1A 2A 3D 4D 5A 6C 7D 8D 9A 10D 11D 12D 13D 14D 15A
 16C 17B 18B 19A 20B 21B 22C 23A 24A 25A 26A 27A 28A
 29C 30B 31A 32D 33C 34C 35C 36C 37D 38C 39C 40D 41C
 42B 43B 44B 45C 46B 47C 48C 49D 50B 51C 52C 53A 54C
 55A 56C 57D 58B 59C 60C 61B 62C 63B 64C 65C 66C 67C
 68A 69B 70B 71B 72D 73D 74B 75A 76D 77D 78C 79A
 80A 81B 82A 83A 84C 85A 86C 87A 88D 89A 90A 91C 92D
 93B 94B 95D 96A 97C 98D 99B 100D 101A 102B 103C
 104A 105D 106A 107A 108B 109A 110C 111D 112C 113B
 114A 115A 116B 117C 118B 119B 120A

138. Ali is crying because his mother was killed in a
accident. **A.** motor. **B.** traffic. **C.** motor vehicle. **D.** road. [1993/72]
139. When the teacher asked him to join the queue outside, he considered itto his dignity. **A.** an attack. **B.** an insolence. **C.** an affront. **D.** a disrespect. [1993/78]
140. When he joined the staff of the school, he had various duties to him. **A.** detailed. **B.** assigned. **C.** prescribed. **D.** enlisted. [1993/79]
141. After a long talk with the police, Baba confessed his guilt and so the other boys with whom he was accused were....**A.** vindicated. **B.** consoled. **C.** convinced. **D.** exonerated. [1993/81]
142. The company was charged with aof contract. **A.** negligence. **B.** violation. **C.** disregard. **D.** breach. [1993/88]
143. My brother got married to a woman with
manners. **A.** gorgeous. **B.** exquisite. **C.** decent. **D.** attractive. [1993/91]
144. The thief we caught yesterday wasas an official of the company. **A.** disguised. **B.** concealed. **C.** masked. **D.** veiled. [1993/92]
145. How can we believe this witness when no one will....history? **A.** collate. **B.** correlate. **C.** collaborate **D.** corroborate. [1993/96]
146. The journalist's unpopular views made him the subject of much **A.** admiration. **B.** derision. **C.** admonition. **D.** suspicion. [1993/97]
147. Tosin refused to be though he has write the same examination three times. **A.** sad. **B.** placated. **C.** frustrated. **D.** indifferent. [1992/69]
148. On his.... of office, the new president announced some drastic measures. **A.** assumption. **B.** ascension. **C.** acceptance. **D.** appointment. [1992/70]
149. The was filled the Ilorin Magistrate Court. **A.** suit/in. **B.** suit/at. **C.** case/in. **D.** case/at. [1992/71]
150. The plaintiff....the court to restrain the defendant from further action. **A.** asked. **B.** begged. **C.** demanded of. **D.** prayed. [1992/72]
151. he sea wave continue to....the cliff on the west coast constantly. **A.** impair. **B.** rub. **C.** knock. **D.** erode. [1991/42]
152. The college bus was travelling at a high....when the accident occurred. **A.** velocity. **B.** acceleration. **C.** rapidity. **D.** speed. [1991/43]
153. The chief priest will....the men into the cult today. **A.** indoctrinate. **B.** usher. **C.** convert. **D.** initiate. [1991/45]

154. The police report was to that of the eye witness. A. contrary. B. inconsistent. C. different. D. congruent. [1991/48]
155. Insects can become...to insecticides. A. immunized. B. resistant. C. reticent. D. immobilized. [1991/51]
156. The council chairman....the tension between the villagers and the tax collectors.A. dispersed. B. defused. C. diffused.D. disputed. [1991/52]
157. It was difficult to....a man walking on the moon two centuries. A. contrive. B. perceive. C. conceive. D. imagine. [1991/57]
158. Animals in....behave differently from animals living in the natural habitat. A. prison. B. bondage. C. captivity. D. slavery. [1/59]
159. After months of tedious climbing, the team reached the....of the mountain. A. end. B. summit. C. height. D. terminal . [1990/60]
160. When the farmers were found guilty of unlawful assembly and procession, their lawyer before the sentence was passed. A. begged for mercy. B. made a plea for mitigation . C. made an overture. D. made a plea for litigation. [1990/93]
161. My price for the pair of shoes is fifty naira.I cannot ... anything less than that A. bear with. B. settle for. C. agree with. D. tolerate. [1990/94]
162. I looked for you all over the campus but I could not....you. A. find. B. see. C. meet. D. catch. [1989/90]
163. The manager was angry with Dauda for....seeds of discord among the workers. A. planting. B. sewing. C. cultivating. D. sowing. [1989/91]
164. Tsado and his wife are always fighting. The.... to be drawn from this is that they are not happy together. A. reference.B. inference. C. difference. D. deference. [1989/93]
165. The child's recent training has not been very effective, he is likely to....to his old habits A. revert. B. convert. C. reverse.D. revise. [1988/56]
166. The students went on whispering in....of the teacher. A. dishonour. B. disagreement. C. defiance. D. disobedience. [1988/57]
167. You can never find Okwu; he is a very person. A. delusive.B. elusive. C. illusive. D. deceptive. [1988/58]
168. The suspect defrauded his....victims of large sums of money. A. unsuspected. B. unsuspecting. C. unexpected. D. unexpecting. [1988/60]
169. The drummers struck their drums with great efforts, and the surging crowds of dancers ...and...the grounds around the palace. A. strutted/thumped. B. kicked/ stamped. C. thumped/licked. D. stroked/ thumped. [1988/62]
170. The chairman's laughter was with noto ridicule the applicant. A. intention. B. intend. C. intendment. D. intent. [1988/63]
171. The water is not good for drinking: it's been.... by the dead rabbit. A. contaminated. B. infested. C. spoilt. D. diseased. [1988/64]
172. The austerity of the times has made people to be more in their spending. A. watchful. B. circumspect. C. miserly. D. hesitant. [1988/65]
173. Just to convince you about my commitment to the project, I shall at the office before I leave for Kano tomorrow A. put up an appearance. B. put in an appearance. C. put up appearance. D. put an appearance. [1988/69]
174. There was a of steps A. stair.B. height. C. flight. D. climb. [1988/70]
175. Many young men of nowadays do not know how to properly their clothes. A. press. B. iron. C. smoothen. D. stretch. [1988/71]
176. Mark is a very handsome fellow who informs me that he has for pretty girls A. a heart. B. a lip. C. an eye. D. a check. [1988/85]
177. The driver willall the students interested in going to Lagos tomorrow at 7 a.m outside the Main Building A. lift. B. lift up. C. pick. D. pick up . [1988/94]
178. I had not given the question a thought before my answer came.... A. momentarily. B. in an instant. C. on the spur of the moment. D. just like that. [1988/98]
179. The exercise presented us with a lot of problems but later it was all.... sailing. A. plain. B. smooth. C. rough. D. tough. [1997/100]
180. Adekunle is prepared for a....with his opponent following his defeat last season. A. show-off. B. show down. C. show-out. D. show up. [1992/68]
181. The plane overshot the in a minor accident. A. railway.B. hangar. C. tarmac. D. run way. [1985/92]
182. My wife and I were to celebrate our silver wedding anniversary last Sunday. Unfortunately on that.... day, my father -in-law died mysteriously. A. fruitless. B. faithful. C. futile. D. fateful. [1997/59]
183. Chinyere has not really described the Cabinet as irresponsible; she only....it in her speechA. alluded to. B. implied.C. suggested. D. applied. [1987/67]
184. at 9:30 for more news', said the announcer A. Switch on.B. Tune in. C. Hook on. D. Channel in. [1987/68]
185. The way that big boy bullied his sister with relish make me think he could be a.... A. bully. B. sadist. C. pugilist. D. tyrant. [1987/59]
186. My little daughter has.... sights; hence, she now wears glasses. A. diminutive. B. blurred. C. painful. D. defective. [1987/73]
187. The quarrel has got to a stage where someone has to A. interrupt. B. interfere. C. intrude. D. intervene. [1987/90]
188. Cultural patterns are modified as they are from one generation to the next. A. transported. B. transposed. C. translated.D. transmitted. [1987/95]
189. After the accused was found guilty by the court, his counsel before sentence was passed.A. begged for mercy.B. made a plea for mitigation. C. made anovation. D. made a plea for litigation. [1986/69]
190. I am to another week's holiday this year after such a tedious job. A. due. B. qualified. C. looking. D. entitled. [1986/77]
191. I forgot to bring a pen with me. Would you, please me yours? A. borrow. B. loan. C. provide. D. lend. [1986/98]
192. I am sure that my mother will not find out. She is so that she will accept anything I tell her. A. credible. B. credulous.C. creditable. D. incredible. [1984/66]
193. The government suffered a....when they lost two by-elections. A. check. B. set-back. C. hindrance. D. disturbance. [1984/74]

194. Wherever the leader went people struggled to catch a of him. A. look. B. view. C. glimpse. D. portrait. [1984/78]
195. After the initial confusion, the Manager's suggestion brought....to the depressed investors. A. a glitter of hope. B. a glimmer of hope. C. a sparkle of hope. D. a raise of hope. [1983/35]
196. The farmer has bought the insecticide because he was bent on the insects in his farm. A. exterminating. B. estimating. C. extenuating. D. extinguishing. [1983/36]
197. The situation has deteriorated sharply, and relations between the two countries may soon be A. removed. B. broken. C. withdrawn. D. eliminated. [1983/46]
198. The problems of Nigeria's worsening economy seem to havean immediate solution. A. defined. B. defied. C. rejected. D. rewarded. [1983/48]
199. The car owner does not think about the of his vehicle and the other payments involved in owning it. A. transportation. B. depreciation. C. calculation. D. appreciation. [1983/50]
200. We shall offer a good job to ato register guests in the Central Hotel. A. waiter. B. watchman. C. cashier. D. receptionist. [1983/58]
201. After the 1980 Ogunpa floods, our association received many letters from those adversely affected and we resolved to.... A. assist them. B. invite them. C. respond them. D. pity them. [1982/30]
202. When he was knocked on the head, he fell to the ground A. collapsed. B. fainted. C. unconscious. D. conscious. [1982/71]
203. The way to stop some frivolous publications is to the press. A. gag. B. shackle. C. fetter. D. handcuff. [1981/29]
204. The policemen stood the man at the corner. A. looking. B. seeing. C. sharing. D. watching. [1981/76]
205. reached 18.7% of the U.S population. A. Employed. B. Unemployment. C. Employers. D. Employees. [1981/77]
206. Now that I realize the full extent of your I am afraid it will be impossible for me to ever trust you again. A. dubiousness. B. corruption. C. deceptiveness. D. duplicity. [1980/90]
207. Legislators must be trained to....the truth. A. disguise. B. discern. C. digest. D. disturb. [1980/91]
208. He must be a good student because he is a reader. A. romanesque. B. veracious. C. voracious. D. mendacious. [1980/92]
209. It is very difficult to capture the subtle of words when translated from one language to another. A. essence. B. denotations. C. connotations. D. inflexions. [1980/93]
210. As it holds true that, unless you train your body you cannot be an athlete, so also unless you train your you cannot be a.... A. kicking/ footballer . B. voice/choirmaster. C. mind/scholar. D. courage/hero. [1980/94]
211. The giant hydro-electric project is among the of colonial rule in Southern Africa. A. inheritance. B. remnants. C. legacies. D. evidence. [1979/74]
212. During the inaugural address, the President....the activities of his government for the past four years. A. reiterated. B. reviewed. C. restated. D. recited [1979/75]
213. The World Bank team which visited the landlocked country...a bleak economic future for it. A. forecast B. thought of. C. discovered. D. prophesied [1979/76]
214. The solution to the problem has so far....the scientists. A. defied. B. allured. C. eluded. D. denied. [1979/87]
215. How will the Committee's decision.... you? A. influence. B. treat. C. bore. D. harass. [1979/90]
216. The Land Decree does not concern itself with achieving in landed property ownership, since those who already own large estates can keep them for good. A. equality. B. balance. C. fifty-fifty. D. sanity. [1979/100]
217. The boy was born before his parents actually got married and so the court has declared him A. illegal. B. illegitimate. C. illicit. D. unlawful. [1978/53]
218. Last week the....at the theatre was the largest I had ever seen. A. assembly. B. congregation. C. convention. D. audience. [1978/55]
219. Tennyson and Browning lived about the same time and are therefore poets. A. contrary. B. contractual. C. contemporaneous. D. contemporary. [1978/57]
220. The green snake which lives in the green grass is using a perfect.... A. ambush. B. under cover. C. camouflage. D. shelter. [1978/58]
221. In order to carry out the necessary examination the dead body was A. extracted. B. extradited. C. exiled. D. expelled. [1978/59]
222. The traditional folktales form an to the book. A. index. B. insertion. C. information. D. overview. [1978/69]
223. My father cannot bear the....of the concoction that emanates from my mother's soup pot. A. sweet. B. savoring. C. aroma. D. smell. [1978/74]
224. Granted you are my senior by one year, you cannot me around as if I were your servant. A. control. B. dribble. C. order. D. ask. [1978/78]
225. His horrible high-pitched laugh.... on my nerves. A. jags. B. jabs. C. jams. D. jar. [1978/85]
226. In West Africa the....of sickle cell is about 25 per cent. A. incident. B. incidence. C. accident. D. accidence. [1978/94]
227. Getting a well paid job nowadays is an task. A. utmost. B. upbeat. C. uphill. D. upfield. [2011/82]
228. The protesters, unable to pull down the statue it from its fixtures. A. wrenched. B. pushed. C. towed. D. burnt. [1997/89]
229. Sankwala is the Of Obanliku Local Government Area A. headquarter B. headquarters C. head quarter D. head quarters [0/0]
230. The In the football field enjoyed the game A. observers B. crowd C. spectators D. congregation
231. He was totally ... in his work when the telephone started to ring. A. Engrossed B. Abreast C. Embraced D. Washed [0/0]
232. To refuse ... exactly like everybody she is sometimes commendable. A. To think and be acting B. To think and act C. Thinking and acting D. To be thinking and act. [0/0]
233. The examiners are ... A. Through B. Thorough C. Though D. Throng. [0/0]
234. The business tycoon has found a new ... for his goods A. Inlet B. Outlet C. Input D. Output. [0/0]
235. Toni's popularity has ... since his latest album. A. Soared B. Swelled C. Surged D. Sored. [0/0]
236. An actor in a play production is part of the ... A.

- Crew **B.** Hero **C.** Chorus **D.** Cast.
- 237. The activities of the insurgents have been ... A.**
Received with understanding **B.** Bemused by all and
sundry **C.** Besotted with admiration **D.** Berated by
all and sundry. *[0/0]*
- 238. A sound logic must appeal to one's ... A.** Situation
B. Affection **C.** Cognition **D.** Disposition. *[0/0]*
- 239. The ... event takes place every two years. A.** Bienial
B. Biannual **C.** Biennial **D.** Bianual . *[0/0]*
- 240. The delegates were given ... A.** A two hour break **B.**
A two-hour break **C.** A two-hours break **D.** A two
hours break. v

Word Register Answers II

121B 122D 123A 124B 125B 126D 127C 128C 129D 130C
131A 132D 133A 134B 135A 136D 137C 138D 139C 140B
141D 142D 143C 144A 145D 146B 147C 148A 149C 150D
151D 152D 153D 154A 155B 156B 157D 158B 159B 160B
161B 162B 163D 164B 165A 166C 167B 168B 169A 170D
171A 172B 173A 174C 175B 176C 177D 178C 179B 180B
181D 182D 183A 184B 185D 186D 187D 188C 189B 190D
191D 192B 193B 194C 195B 196A 197B 198B 199B 200D
201A 202C 203A 204D 205B 206A 207B 208C 209C 210B
211C 212B 213A 214C 215A 216A 217B 218D 219D 220C
221D 222D 223C 224C 225D 226B 227C 228A 229B 230C
231A 232B 233A 234B 235A 236D 237D 238C 239C 240B

Use of Adverbs

Introduction

An adverb modifies a wide variety of sentence elements: a verb, an adjective, a prepositional phrase, a dependent clause or an independent clause.
Adverbs answer the question how, when, and where.

Adverb of Manner —Asks about - HOW?
1. Professor Wiley teaches enthusiastically. 2. He looks at us curiously. (modifies a verb)

Adverb of Place — WHERE?
1. He teaches at Stanford. 2. He loves it there. (modifies a verb)

Adverb of Time — WHEN
He teaches daily

Adverb of Time (FREQUENCY) — HOW OFTEN?
1. He usually draws diagrams. 2. He rarely raises his voice. (modifies a verb)

Adverb of Degree — HOW MUCH, TO WHAT EXTENT?
1. He is very talkative. 2. He is completely crazy. (modifies an adjective) 3. He writes too slowly.
4. He speaks extremely fast. 5. He does pretty well. (modifies an adverb)

For more details on the use of adverbs, download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store.

- 1. He had just entered the office the telephone rang. A.** as.**B.** before. **C.** since. **D.** when. *[1978/62]*

2. Can you buy African souvenirs in any other shops? OR:....can you buy African souvenirs? A. What place. **B.** Which place. **C.** Where. **D.** Where else. *[1982/68]*

3. The player sat on the bench the match lasted. A. since. **B.** when. **C.** that. **D.** while. *[2015/75]*

4. He travelled last week A. somewhat. **B.** some where. **C.** somewhat. **D.** somewhere. *[2015/78]*

5. His many years of success in legal practice,...didn't come without challenges A. indeed. **B.** but. **C.** in spite of it all. **D.** however. *[2012/70]*

6.she didn't trust him, she married him A. After. **B.** Much as. **C.** Since. **D.** Though. *[2012/84]*

7. Lemoti as a painter, but also as a sculptor A. is gifted only not.**B.** is only not gifted. **C.** is gifted not only. **D.** is only gifted. *[2010/66]*

8. I missed the match though it was shown on television on two nights A. concurrent. **B.** consistent **C.** concrete **D.** consecutive. *[2009/77]*

9. Kanuri is a language.... A. i can't speak it well. **B.** that I can't speak it well. **C.** of which I can't speak it well. **D.** I can't speak well. *[2008/67]*

10. By the end of this month, for three years in this school A. I will study. **B.** I will have been studying. **C.** I am studying. **D.** I had been studying. *[2008/84]*

11. Actually, he forgot the one to the job was given A. whom.**B.** who. **C.** whomever. **D.** whoever. *[2004/34]*

12. The interpreter was wrong because he gave the congregation a translation of the pastor's statement A. literal. **B.** unilateral.**C.** literary. **D.** latera l*[2004/50]*
- 13. The highly appreciative audience clapped.... hands and showeredon the lecturer A.** their/encomiums. **B.** its/ encomiums. **C.** their/invectives. **D.** its/invectives. *[2002/88]*

14. You could see that Akpan did not give his evidenceA. honestly completely. **B.** complete honestly. **C.** honest completely.**D.** completely honestly. *[1988/59]*

15. The dancers were all in before their departure A. good spirits. **B.** good spirit. **C.** high spirit. **D.** high spirits. *[1988/72]*

16. We discovered at the end of last term that we had to read...books before we could confidently go for our final examination A. more of many. **B.** very many more. **C.** very much more. **D.** more very many. *[1987/96]*

17. Tonye said that he was going to bed because he was to do any more work A. tired out. **B.** very tired. **C.** too tired. **D.** extremely tired. *[1987/100]*

18.the main points of the lecture given by the Director of the Institute A. Those were. **B.** That was. **C.** There were. **D.** This was. *[1984/65]*

19. I told himhe had no chance A. quite by frankness. **B.** quite frankly. **C.** quite in frankness. **D.** quite being frank. *[1981/44]*

20. Although he tried hard, the journalist couldn't get... Information A. several **B.** an **C.** many **D.** much

21. Chike was surprised to see so ... when he visited the city. A. Many traffics **B.** Many traffic **C.** Much traffics **D.** Much traffic
- Use of Adverbs Answers**
1D 2D 3D 4B 5D 6D 7B 8D 9D 10B 11A 12A 13B 14D 15C
16B 17D 18A 19B 20D 21D

Pronouns

Introduction

A pronoun is a word used in place of a noun or noun phrase in a sentence. It is simply a substitute for a noun. Here, having looked at JAMB past questions, we are going to treat possessive pronouns, the use of personal pronouns and finally the use of Indefinite pronouns in a sentence.

Possessive Pronoun

Possessive pronoun is used to indicate possession; that a person or thing belongs to another person. Here are some examples of possessive pronoun

Examples

1. It is responsibility to take care of their parents in old age. **A.** theirs' **B.** their **C.** theirs **D.** their's .
2004/8. The correct answer is 'B' their. There should be no apostrophe. It talks about the noun 'responsibility'.
2. The choice to go to the university or not is **A.** yours' **B.** your **C.** yours **D.** your's.
The answer is 'C' yours. No apostrophe

Personal Pronouns: The Subject / Object Pronouns

Personal Pronoun	Subject	Object	Reflective	Possessive
1 st Person Singular	I	Me	Myself	Mine, My
2 nd Person Singular	You	You	Yourself	Your
3 rd Person Singular	He, She, It	Him, Her, It, One	Himself, Herself, Itself, Oneself	His, Hers, Its, Ones
1 st Person Plural	We	Us	Ourselves	Ours
2 nd Person Plural	You	You	Yourselves	You, Yours
3 rd Person Plural	They	Them	Themselves	Their, Theirs

The objective form like 'me', her, 'him' (singular) and 'us', 'them' (plural) cannot be used subjectively in sentences. In the same way, the subjective form I, he, she, (singular) and 'we' they (plural) cannot be used in the objective form in sentences.

Thus we say:

"I visited her" *Where "I" is the subject and "her" is the object and never "He visited I"*

"The wall was painted by me" *Object forms of pronouns are also used as objects of prepositions: to, from, with, by.* Hence, it can never be "The wall was painted by I".

Problem arises when for some reason we are not sure if the pronoun is a subject or an object in a compound phrase. To understand the use of 'I' and 'me', one has to ask oneself the pronoun to use if the rest of the phrase that preceded it is left out.

More Examples

- Remember the matter is strictly.....
A. Between you and I **B.** Among you and I **C.** Among you and me **D.** Between you and me. *1978/60*
The answer is **D** between you and me, because 'me' is in the objective form. Also this is a very common phrase in English
- Baba and Participated in the tournament. **A.** him **B.** his **C.** he **D.** he's .
The answer is **C** he because 'he' should be used subjectively.
- My brother and went to market together. **A.** Myself **B.** Me **C.** I **D.** Himself.
The answer is **C** because the pronoun is used as a subject in the sentence
- The teacher invited Akpan and to his office. **A.** Myself **B.** Me **C.** I **D.** Himself.
The answer is **B** me because the pronoun is used as an object in the sentence

In compound phrases, it is considered polite to put the self last. This is very different in some languages like Igbo where we can say "I and my brother" or in pidgin where students often say "him ma self and he no fit". These uses of pronoun are not allowed in English language. The correct way of saying it in English is "My brother and I".

Indefinite Pronouns

Indefinite pronouns take singular verbs.

- Use 'each other' if those mentioned are just two.
Examples:
James and John like *each other*
Jane and Mary fought *each other*
- Use 'one another' when those mentioned are many.

Examples:

The players shook *one another*

The students like *one another*

Complements: We have to bear in mind that the verb "to be" does not take a true subject. For example: That is the hospital. This cannot be expressed passively hence the hospital is not the object of the verb "is" but rather a subject-complement referring back to the subject "That".

This is however different in everyday language as we prefer to say, "This is me" and "That is her" instead of "This is I" and "That is she". Take another example: They wanted me; it was me they wanted. While this sounds right to the ear, based on the rule of complement, the strictly correct form of usage in the lines above is "They wanted me; it is I they wanted" since the "I" is not an object but a subject that complements the pronoun "It".

The Use of "Than" "as" and "like"

The correct use of pronoun after "than" or "as" is the subject form.

Examples:

He is stronger than I am

I have never met anyone as smart as she is

However, the object form of pronoun sounds more natural in conversation like "He is stronger than me". Ensure you use the correct one which is the subject form. Only "like" takes the object form of pronoun as in this example: The society needs people like "them". Etc **For more details on the use of pronouns, download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store.**

- Remember this matter is strictly....** **A.** between you and I. **B.** among you and I. **C.** among you and me. **D.** between you and me. *[1978/60]*
- Invariably, he ends all his lettersamicably.** **A.** you. **B.** your's. **C.** yours'. **D.** yours. *[1978/67]*
- The Head of State in his New Year Broadcast to the nation emphasized the need for Nigerians to regardas members of the same family.** **A.** themselves. **B.** one another. **C.** each other. **D.** yourselves. *[1979/94]*
- Ogedengbe kept goal for his club team because there wasn't to do it.** **A.** somebody else. **B.** nobody else. **C.** any other body. **D.** anybody else. *[1980/88]*
- The schoolboy screamed loudly when he saw a snakelooked terrifying.** **A.** it. **B.** who. **C.** and. **D.** which. *[1981/81]*
- As of you as can come are welcome.** **A.** each. **B.** any. **C.** many. **D.** more. *[1981/46]*
- Jane and Jarawa love.... very much** **A.** themselves. **B.** each other. **C.** one another. **D.** theirselves. *[1982/31]*
- The wicked boy threw a stone at the bird smashingtwo legs.** **A.** its. **B.** it's. **C.** it. **D.** is. *[1982/44]*
- The boy told his mother** **A.** that was the girl he told her about. **B.** that was the girl I told you about her. **C.** that was the girl I told her about. **D.** that is the girl he told her about. *[2010/68]*
- He not only looked after the children when their**

- parents died, sponsored their education to university. A. but also. B. also he. C. but he. D. also. [2004/48]
11. If one perseveres will surely succeed. A. she. B. one. C. he. D. they. [2002/72]
12. Two young boys have been caught with parts of the stolen machine but.... admitted stealing it. A. neither of them has. B. neither of them have. C. none of them has. D. none of them have [1998/84]
13. Those men helped Dupe and A. myself. B. I. C. me. D. we. [1997/83]
14.been no official reaction to your request yet. A. There's. B. Theres'. C. Theirs'. D. Theirs'. [1997/90]
15. The hospital can now boast of more A. women doctor. B. woman doctors. C. women doctors. D. woman's doctors. [1995/78]
16. You must forbid....coming. A. he's. B. that he is. C. him for. D. his. [1993/69]
17. Baba and....participated in the tournament. A. him. B. his. C. he. D. he's. [1992/59]
18. The teacher Invited Akpan andto his office. A. myself. B. me. C. I. D. himself. [1989/94]
19.are good friends. A. He and I. B. I and him. C. I and he. D. He and me. [1988/100]
20. My wife and I met on a ship going to Liberia. A. ourselves. B. one another. C. each other. D. ourself. [1986/75]
21. We later on discovered that some members__ another meeting before the one advertised. A. were holding. B. have held. C. have been holding. D. had held. [1986/93]
22. Those are very beautiful. A. flowers of her. B. flowers of her's. C. our flowers. D. flowers of ours. [2014/76]
23. Yours is to command, is to obey A. theirs'. B. their's. C. their. D. theirs. [2013/77]
24. They are the.... dresses. A. babys'. B. baby. C. babies. D. babies'. [2010/77]
25. If anyone greets you, it is only polite to return.... greeting. A. your. B. the one's. C. anyone's. D. one's. [2009/68]
26. Did the boys enjoywhen they went on vacation? A. each other. B. one another. C. themselves. D. theirselves. [1995/83]
27. He moved out of the house because the landlord and his wife were always fighting.... A. them selves. B. theirselves. C. each other. D. one another. [1993/83]
28. It was....who fought the civil war. A. they. B. them. C. those. D. theirs. [1992/60]
29. The physicians have more people in....waiting room: than....have ever had. A. his/he. B. there/ they. C. their/they. D. them/ they. [1992/61]
30. People who live by knows what loneliness is like. A. each other know. B. one another know. C. oneself knows. D. themselves. [1992/93]
31. The choice to go to the university or not is.... A. yours'. B. your. C. yours. D. your's. [1992/95]
32. The African extended family system gives security to members. A. his. B. her. C. its. D. their. [1991/49]
33. Dan and Tina met on the ship and greeted.... A. one another. B. themselves. C. each other. D. theirselves [1990/75]
34. One can no longer take for granted today what enjoyed in the University some years ago, can A. you/you. B. one/one. C. he/he. D. one/you [1990/76]
35. is always superior to any other in town. A. There's. B. Theirs. C. Their's. D. There [1989/89]
36. guests enjoyed Joy's birthday party. A. The whole. B. All the. C. Every. D. Those very. [1987/61]
37. After we have taken our share we shall give to them. A. their. B. their's. C. theirs. D. there [1984/96]
38. Asmau, did you see the snapshot of ? A. yourself. B. you. C. yours. D. yourselves. [1981/56]
39. I can't mind the light. I don't know....about electricity. A. something. B. nothing. C. anything. D. nobody. [1981/57]
40. This is mycar A. uncles B. uncle C. uncle's D. uncles'
41. No one was killed in the disaster though were injuries A. their B. they C. there D. these
42. The choir is signingnew song. A. their B. its C. theirs D. it's
43. ... unsafe to drive at night A. It B. Its C. Its' D. It's

Pronouns Answers

1D 2D 3B 4D 5D 6C 7B 8A 9A 10A 11C 12A 13C 14A 15C 16D 17C 18B 19A 20C 21D 22D 23D 24D 25D 26C 27C 28B 29C 30D 31C 32C 33C 34C 35B 36B 37C 38A 39C 40C 41C 42B 43D

Verb (Subject-Verb Agreement)

Introduction

The subject-verb agreement is the most common grammar error in English language. In the notes below we shall analyze the different points of agreement between the subject(s) and the verb in a sentence or group of sentences. For example: When should we say, "A number of staff was available for the dinner" or "A number of staff were available for the dinner?" When the article "a" is used with the word "number", then verb is plural. Therefore, you should use "were" in that sentence: "A number of staff were available for the dinner." is correct

Tip One: The Verb must agree in Number with its subject

The Verb must agree in Number with its subject. When the subject is singular, use a singular verb and when the subject is plural, use a plural verb.

Examples:

This laptop (Subject-singular) is (Verb-singular) advanced.

These laptops (Subject-plural) are (Subject-plural) advanced.

When you are given a simple sentence as in the above example, just try and locate the subject of the sentence, and make the verb to agree with it. Beware not to be distracted by words or phrases that come between the subject and the verb.

NOTE: Most times, the phrases that come between the subject and the verb are prepositional phrases and they cannot be the subject of the sentence.

Tip Two: The Verb Agreement with pronouns

When the subject of the sentence is a singular pronoun, it should be followed by a singular verb.

The Indefinite pronouns and their negatives always attract singular verbs. Pronouns like: each, each one, either, neither, everybody, nobody, everyone, no one, everything, nothing, one, anyone, anybody, someone, somebody.

Examples:

1. Everybody (singular) in our school prays (singular) together.
2. Each (singular) of the prefects wants (singular) his or her own office.
3. Somebody (singular) in the audience is arguing (singular) with her husband.

Some pronouns can be followed by a singular or plural verb depending on the key word in the prepositional phrase that precedes them. This is the only time when the object of the preposition factors into the decision of plural or singular verb forms is when noun and pronoun subjects like; some, half, none, more, all, etc. are followed by a prepositional phrase.

Examples:

1. All of the work is (singular) completed. ("*of the work*" = the prepositional phrase, because it is singular, it goes with a singular verb)
2. None of the reports are (plural) completed. ("*of the reports*" = the prepositional phrase, because it is plural, it goes with a plural verb)

NOTE: **None** when used alone, may also be singular or plural.

When it denotes "no persons or things," the plural is used as in, The publishers checked for errors, but none were found (none = no errors).

When it denotes "not one," the singular is used as in: Of all my issues with the government, none was as well resolved (none = not one).

Tip Three: The Verb Agreement with a compound sentence

When **two or more subjects** are joined by "*and*" (a compound subject), use a plural verb.

Example: The president and the secretary (both denotes two persons) are (plural) responsible for presenting the minutes of the last meeting.

However, when the two parts of a compound subject refer to the same person or thing, a singular verb is used.

Example: My boss and father (both denotes one person) has always been (singular) influential in my life.

Also, when the **compound subject** is preceded by *each*, *every* or *no*, it is followed by a singular verb.

Examples: Every file drawer and bookcase(singular) was (singular) searched.

No smoking or drinking is allowed

Note that: When "every" comes before a plural noun to form the subject of a sentence, a plural verb should be used, but when 'every' takes a singular noun, a singular verb should be used, e.g.

Examples: 1. Every first ten people to arrive are entitled to free meals. (Plural noun follows "every" and it attracts a plural verb).

2. Every woman likes money (singular noun follows "every" and it attracts a singular verb).

When two or more singular subjects are joined by these "or", "nor", "not only", or "but also" a singular verb follows. If one of the subjects is plural and one is singular, the verb will have to agree with the subject closer to it.

Examples: 1. Neither the typist (singular) nor the secretary (singular) has received (singular) her salary.

2. Neither the secretary (singular) nor the two receptionists (plural) have received (plural) their salaries.

3. Neither the two clerks (plural) nor the receptionist (singular) has received (singular) her paycheck.

When any of the following is used in a sentence: as well as, together with, in association with, with, including, in collaboration with, etc, the subject, which usually comes before the marker of accompaniment determines the verb to be used. Therefore, if it is singular, a singular verb is required and if plural, a plural one is required.

Examples: 1. The little girls(subject) together with(accompaniment marker) their mother are (plural) here.

2. The girl (subject) as well as (accompaniment marker) her friends is (singular) in the room.

Tip Four: The Verb Agreement with Expletives ('These' or 'here')

Expletives such as "there" or "here" are not considered as the subjects in a sentence. Find the subject and make the verb agree with it.

Examples:

There is (singular verb) only one error (singular subject) in this document.

There are (plural verb) several errors (plural subject) in this document.

In cases of inverted sentences, re-arrange the sentence in your mind to find the subject and make the verb agree with it.

Examples:

Listed below is (singular verb) the winner (singular subject) of the trip to Japan.

Listed below are (plural verb) the winners (plural subject) of the personalized key rings.

For collective nouns- which stands for many units constituting a single word, a singular verbs is used if the members of the group are acting as one unit. While it is followed by a plural verb if the members are acting separately.

Examples:

The congregation (working as a unit) is worshipping today.

The congregation (acting individually) are unable to agree on a date for exorcism.

When the subject is a collective noun denoting category, it is taken as plural and it always takes a plural verb.

Examples: The poor (Collective noun denoting category) are (Plural verb) lamenting.

The black(Collective noun denoting category) are (Plural verb) sometimes rated low

In a sentence with a predicate noun, always make the verb agree with the subject, not with the predicate noun.

Example: The best part (singular subject) of the workshop (prepositional phrase) is (singular verb) the speeches (plural predicate noun).

Tip Five: Other Concord rules

When the subject is the title of a written document (article, report, etc.), use a singular verb even if the form of the subject is plural.

Example: Writing Technical Reports (one document) is (singular) an excellent article.

When “more than” is used in the position of the subject, the word that comes after it determines whether the verb to be used will be singular or plural.

Examples: More than one person (singular) knows (singular) the route to his house.

More than ten people (Plural subject) know (Plural verb) the route to his house.

The rule of proximity states that "when there is a list of nouns or pronouns acting as the subject in an ‘or’ and ‘nor’ . It is the nearest noun or pronoun to the position of the verb that will determine the choice of the verb.

Example: If the boy dies, the parents, his friends or the doctor is to blame.

If the boy dies; the doctor, his friends or his parents are to blame.

Nouns that end in ‘s’ such as physics, measles, mathematics, economics, etc, are singular and take singular verbs.

Examples: Measles is a deadly disease.

Mathematics is a rather difficult subject.

Amounts or units such as “four hundred times”, ‘ten percent’, ‘three hundred days’, Ninety-five cents, Twenty minutes, One hundred kilometres, etc are generally treated as singular subjects when in the nominative case, and should take singular verbs.

Examples: Ninety-five cents is a great bargain for a SIM card.

Twenty minutes is all I have to prepare for the meeting.

One hundred kilometres is a grueling daily commute.

All is either used to mean “everything” or “all the people”, and the meaning determines the verb that should be used with it. When “all” means “everything”, a singular verb should be used, but when it “means all the people”, a plural verb should be used.

Examples: All (meaning everything) is well with him. (It means everything is well with him).

All (meaning all the people) are seated in the lecture room already. (It means all the people are seated in the lecture room already)

For more details on subject-verb agreement and concord, download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store. For easy studies, we spilt questions under this objective into two. The first group is shown below

1. **If you travel by air you will be given an allowance to cover**A. a luggage. B. luggage. C. luggages. D. a baggage. [1978/56]
2. **The neighbour’s children always make when she is not at home.** A. noises. B. plenty of noises. C. plenty noise. D. a lot of noise. [1979/96]
3. **I would not have condescended to appease the traffic policeman but I happened.... traffic regulations.** A. to have broken.B. to be breaking. C. to break. D. to break in. [1978/75]
4. **Although he is in all respects a poor student, he has managed to buy a tape recorder to improve his.... of French.** A. mastery. B. mastering. C. speaking. D. idea. [1978/77]
5. **He bade them to his house** A. welcomed. B. welcome. C. to be welcome. D. welcome.[1981/47]
6. **Ifone day we would talk about it for weeks.** A. a lion would be coming into this room. B. a lion was coming into this room.C. a lion came into this room. D. a lion is coming into this room. [1981/48]
7. **The violent storm that occurred on Easter Monday destroyed many houses and caused in Lagos generally.**A. heavy damages. B. much damage. C. several damages. D. plenty damage. [1982/49]
8. **Would you mind the door, please?** A. to shut. B. to be shutting.C. shutting. D. to have been shutting. [1982/50]
9. **There are puddles in the road. It....** A. rains. B. will be raining.C. had to rain. D. must rain. [1982/53]
10. **....any good films lately?** A. You would like to see. B. Have you seen. C. Are you going to see. D. Would you see. [1982/56]
11. **His hair needs** A. to cut. B. to have cut. C. being cut.D. cutting. [1982/57]
12. **.... fewer strikes since the profit-sharing schemes were introduced.** A. There have been. B. There are. C. There were.D. There are going to be [1982/58]
13. **I am not used toon the left.** A. drive. B. having driven.C. driving. D. have driven. [1982/60]
14. **What made you.... that?** A. have said. B. to say. C. saying. D. say. [1982/61]
15. **Radium Maria Sklodowska Curie.** A. discovered. B. is discovering. C. has discovered. D. was discovered by. [1982/63]
16. **When next I come to see you, you....in your new home.** A. are already living. B. will already be living.

- C. will already live. D. will have lived. [1982/78]
17.to your birthday party in September? A. May I come. B. Will I come. C. Would I come. D. Might I come. [1982/79]
18. We are all hungry, we....anything to eat since morning. A. didn't have. B. hadn't. C. haven't had. D. never had. [2000/42]
19. The old man couldn't help.... A. to laugh. B. that he laughed. C. laughing. D. in laughing. [1994/69]
20. The clock 12 o'clock two hours ago. A. strikes. B. strike. C. struck. D. striking [2014/81]
21. Do you mindanother hour or two? A. wait. B. waiting. C. to wait. D. to have waited. [2013/71]
22. Instead of...., she lied. A. pleading. B. her to plead. C. her pleading. D. plead . [2011/77]
23. Long after everyone the hall, Obi still sat inside. A. left. B. is leaving. C. has left. D. had left. [2010/76]
24. If you are not careful, you wouldyour money A. loss. B. lose. C. loose. D. lost. [2008/78]
25. He the picture on the table. A. laid. B. lay. C. lied. D. lain. [2008/85]
26. I have already....the picture on the sitting-room wall. A. hanged. B. hunged. C. hang. D. hung. [1998/96]
27. I know I read more, but I am tired A. may. B. ought to. C. would. D. could. [1991/50]
28. Many streets in the town....in need of lights at night. A. stand. B. stood. C. have stood. D. are standing. [1991/89]
29. Candidates who are not accustomed to....fast will find it difficult to finish this paper. A. write. B. have written. C. be writing. D. writing. [1983/56]
30. The court ordered the lorry driver to pay for the.... to my car. A. damages. B. heavy damages. C. destruction. D. damage. [1985/97]
31. The principal went to buy some....for the physics laboratory. A. equipment. B. pieces of equipments. C. equipments . D. items of equipments. [1984/77]
32. The School Board has placed an order for A. all the furnitures and equipments required in the new schools. B. all the furniture and equipment required in the new schools. C. all of the furniture and equipments required in the new schools. D. many of the furnitures and equipment required in the new schools. [1983/39]
33. We detest these, declared the woman A. types of programme. B. type of programmes. C. types of programmes. D. type of programme. [2015/81]
34. The school authority dismissed him for but I won't tell you about it yet. A. certain reason. B. a reason. C. more reason . D. a certain reason. [2011/85]
35. People dislike Mariam because she is A. trickful. B. trickish. C. tricky. D. a tricker. [2004/32]
36. The members elected Baba.... of the committee A. chairman. B. their chairman. C. to become chairman. D. to be a chairman. [2002/84]
37. Of course we all saw the culprit....and hit the man on the head. A. approached. B. approaching. C. approach. D. approaches. [2001/81]
38.you come early to the new house, clean up my flat. A. While. B. By chance. C. Should. D. Should in case. [2001/84]
39. The Principal expressed his when the students broke the rules....and he didn't know how to stop them. A. anger/everyday. B. frustration/time and again. C. disappointment/ understandably. D. powerlessness/occasionally. [1999/61]
40. My friend's car has....to a halt A. grinded. B. grounded. C. ground. D. grind. [1999/72]
41. He is so credulous my story about the ghost A. to believe. B. that he believes. C. in order to believe. D. since he believes. [1999/74]
42. My friend and I have been quarrelling since yesterday and we haven't....yet. A. made it out B. made out. C. made it. D. made, it up. [1999/75]
43. Okonkwo is a stubborn man, he will never....his words. A. chew. B. spit . C. eat. D. bite. [1998/81]
44. Kindly.... me your book because my friend has.... mine. A. borrow/borrowed. B. borrow/lent. C. lend/ lent. D. lend/borrowed. [1998/82]
45. Emeka is now a student but it took him years to A. matured/mature. B. mature/mature. C. matur e/matured. D. matured/matured. [1998/86]
46. Ali was honest and quiet as a schoolboy, but too much drinking has now changed his....and.... his tongue. A. temperature/injured. B. character/ tightened. C. temperament/loosened. D. innocence/ worsened. [1998/88]
47. It was an.... moment for us to be....to welcome the new Vice –Chancellor. A. opportune/privileged. B. opportuned/privileged. C. opportune/opportuned . D. opportuned/ opportune. [1995/93]
48. This is to congratulate you on your success in the last examination and to wish you. A. more grease to your elbow. B. more power to your elbow C. some grease on your elbow. D. some power to your elbow. [1995/97]
49. He claimed that Mr. Okoli's utterance was tantamount to defamation of character, so he sued for.... A. damage. B. some damage. C. a damage. D. damages. [1994/71]
50. Onebe too careful these days; times are uncertain and walls have ears. A. can't. B. shouldn't. C. need not. D. dares not. [1994/85]
51. I have no respect for individuals who are too.... A. compliance. B. compliant. C. compliable. D. complicated. [1993/65]
52. The woman warned her daughter not to....with bad boys. A. move. B. be moving. C. be keeping company. D. keep company. [1993/71]
53. The President refused to shake....with the visiting Prime Minister. A. hand. B. hands. C. a hand. D. his hand. [1993/94]
54. I was so anxious to arrive early for the lecture that Imy notes in the car. A. forgot. B. left. C. dropped. D. abandoned. [1993/99]
55. Four engineers....on this system since March. A. worked. B. are working. C. had worked. D. have been working. [1992/63]
56. My experience in Lagos last week was....about. A. something to excite. B. nothing to explain a home. C. nothing to write home. D. something celebrate. [1992/73]
57. I have stopped writing letters of application because Ithat all the vacancies are filled. A. have heard. B. had heard. C. heard. D. hear. [1992/80]
58. From 7am to 9am, he....hot chocolate, often not having time for his own breakfast. A. is kept busy serving. B. keeps busy to serve. C. is busied serving.

- D. kept busy to serve. [1992/87]
59. **One of the....selective marking of errors.** A. school of thought suggests. B. schools of thought suggest. C. school of thoughts suggested. D. schools of thought suggests. [1992/88]
60. **In addition, their comments are vague and abstract, difficult to interpret.** A. which students find it. B. and students find it. C. so students find them. D. but students find them. [1992/91]
61. **He....by now, I can hear all the people shouting.** A. would have arrived. B. must have arrived. C. has arrived. D. should have arrived. [1991/85]
62. **I heard that Kayode's car was stolen last night. It.... be true because I saw him it, this morning.** A. should not/driving. B. should not/drive. C. cannot/drive. D. cannot/drivIng. [1990/79]
63. **The competitor who.... earlier on has started...again.** A. fainted/to run. B. had fainted/ to run. C. fainted/running. D. fainted/on running. [1990/80]
64. **'Be that as we are determined to get to the root of, the matter! shouted the officer.** A. you like. B. it may. C. it would. D. it might. [1990/92]
65. **Aishatu: Could you please give this book to Aminu? Chidi: Certainly, Ihim on something, so it won't be....** A. I'll see/anything. B. I'll be seeing/any worry. C. I'll be seeing /any bother. D. I can see/any serious. [1990/95]
66. **No matter to whom I...., nobody in the crowd had a clue to what was going on.** A. discussed. B. asked. C. turned. D. contacted. [1990/99]
67. **Thank you for the party, we really** A. enjoyed ourselves. B. enjoyed. C. enjoyed very much. D. enjoyed too much. [1986/95]
68. **We were trying to study for the examinations last night when the lights....** A. were taken away. B. came off. C. quenched. D. went off. [1986/96]
69. **Our Literature Master said that he would show us a film on Macbeth. The film will** A. worth seeing. B. worth seeing it. C. be worth to see. D. be worth seeing. [1984/75]
70. **....the medicine, he asked his daughter to take it according to the doctor's prescription.** A. Having to buy. B. Having bought. C. Having been bought. D. Having being bought. [1984/84]
71. **Evelyn: I've submitted eight copies. Joseph: You.... eight. Three would have been enough.** A. can't have submitted. B. couldn't have submitted. C. didn't need to submit. D. needn't have submitted. [1984/88]
72. **Ia lot when I was a student.** A. used travelling. B. was used to travel. C. used to travel. D. used travel. [1983/61]
73. **Most of his personal....stolen.** A. affects was. B. affects were. C. effect was. D. effects were. [1994/92]
74. **Tokyo is one of the most developed....of the world.** A. electronics centre. B. electronic centre. C. electronics centers. D. electronic centers. [1994/93]
75. **The judge with his sontravelling to Lagos now.** A. were. B. shall. C. is. D. are. [1998/90]
76. **Each of the housesa new look** A. have got. B. have. C. has. D. were given. [2004/38]
77. **I had hardly ... down to sleep when I heard the gunshot** A. lay. B. lied. C. lain. D. laid. [1997/85]
78. **....apologized or face the consequences** A. You are bound to B. You'd better C. You are better off to D. You better
79. **The President, with all his ministers,Ekiti tonight** A. storms B. storm C. storming D. stormed
80. **The Army Determined to probe Officers** A. are/there B. is /its C. are/it D. is/their
81. **The spectators in the football field The games as expected** A. enjoy B. enjoys C. enjoyed D. enjoying
82. **Six months enough to complete the job.** A. seems B. seem C. seemed D. are
83. **The man is staggering on the road, he ...** A. Must have drunk B. Will be drunk C. Must be drinking D. Must be drunk.
84. **Independence of the local government authorities ... facilitate speedy development.** A. Would B. Ought C. Shall D. Should
85. **Snakes and ladders always ... me happy these days.** A. Makes B. Make C. Made D. Making
86. **... a good boy, he was given a prize.** A. To being B. Been C. Being D. To been
87. **If he ... French, he ... go to France.** A. Know/can B. Knew/could C. Knew/can D. Know/could
88. **The ... on the missing child ... got the police as expected.** A. Information/have B. Informations/have C. Information/has D. Informations/has

Verb (Subject-Verb Agreement 1)Answers

1B 2D 3A 4A 5D 6C 7B 8C 9A 10B 11D 12A 13C 14D 15D
16B 17A 18C 19C 20B 21B 22A 23D 24B 25A 26D 27B 28A
29D 30D 31A 32B 33A 34D 35C 36A 37C 38C 39B 40B 41A
42D 43C 44D 45B 46C 47A 48B 49D 50A 51A 52D 53B 54A
55D 56C 57C 58A 59D 60C 61B 62D 63C 64B 65C 66C 67A
68D 69D 70B 71D 72C 73D 74C 75C 76C 77C 78B 79A 80B
81C 82A 83D 84A 85B 86C 87B 88C

Verb (Subject-Verb Agreement 2)

The questions below are based on subject-verb agreement, the tips given on subject-verb agreement still applies here.

- They.... receive visitors at short notice.** A. use to. B. are used to. C. used to. D. are always. [1978/63]
- There were so many children....** A. that she couldn't feed them all. B. than she could feed. C. that she couldn't feed. D. that she could feed them all. [1978/92]
- Isn't it high time you.... your office?** A. are leaving. B. do leave. C. leave. D. left. [1978/93]
- Do you know if the new teacher....yet?** A. is arrived. B. will be arriving. C. has arrived. D. had arrived. [1979/82]
- It is time we....** A. should be going. B. ought to go. C. are going. D. went. [1979/84]
- The benefit one gets from watching plays....** comparable to that found in taking a university course in drama. A. is. B. was. C. were. D. are. [1979/91]
- If Remi perform poorly in her forthcoming examination, then either her mother or Ito blame** A. must. B. has. C. will be. D. am. [1980/81]
- It is time we this irresponsible member.** A. expel. B. are to expel. C. will expel. D. expelled. [1981/34]
- He was reportedthe policemen** A. to be assaulting. B. to assault. C. assaulting. D. to have assaulted. [1981/36]
- When John reported the incident, the teacher remarked that he a responsible boy.** A. was.

- B. is. C. will be. D. should have been. [1981/39]
11. **A pioneer, he.... the institution from his own resources.** A. found and funded. B. founded and funded. C. was finding and funding. D. had found and funded. [1981/41]
12. **Visitors....pass beyond this point. It is forbidden.** A. needn't. B. don't have to. C. could not. D. must not. [1981/62]
13. **A policeman stopped me and I....to the police station.** A. was taken. B. took. C. am taken. D. will be taken. [1981/63]
14. **I wish I to swim when I was younger.** A. Had learnt. B. learn. C. learnt. D. was learning. [1981/70]
15. **Monisola is sure to pass in September. She.... hard since the beginning of this term.** A. had been working. B. was working. C. is working. D. has been working. [1982/26]
16. **You can go on; I what you are saying.** A. am understanding. B. may be understanding. C. was understanding. D. understand. [1982/38]
17. **The evidence of all the accused persons by the judge sitting at No 2 Assizes last week.** A. were disbelieved. B. was disbelieved. C. is disbelieved. D. has been disbelieved. [1982/52]
18. **F: Can I clean this old engine in the sitting room? T: I would rather....it in the garage.** A. you cleaned. B. you are cleaning. C. you clean. D. you will clean. [1982/62]
19. **His English was so good that he ...for an Englishman.** A. took. B. is taken. C. was taken. D. has taken. [1982/64]
20. **In the past 20 years, many patients....by the doctors in the specialist hospital.** A. are treated. B. were loved to treat. C. have been treated. D. treated. [1982/75]
21. **The catering manageress saw to it that the morning meal....by 07.00 hours every day.** A. is prepared. B. used to prepare. C. has been prepared. D. was prepared. [1982/76]
22. **It....so hard that all the cars have stopped moving.** A. rains. B. will rain. C. is raining. D. was raining [1982/77]
23. **The principal asked me** A. what is my name. B. what was my name. C. what my name was. D. what my name should be. [1995/81]
24. **The mechanic did not tell me the brakes bad.** A. were. B. are. C. is. D. was. [2015/68]
25. **Tayo could have supplied the goods but it was into two.** A. splitting. B. split. C. splited. D. splits [2015/69]
26. **I wanted to know his political beliefs, so I asked him what** A. this was. B. these are. C. this is. D. these were. [2012/85]
27. **The city as a federal capital onlythe last twenty years.** A. has existed/for. B. existed/over. C. was existing/from. D. is existing/in. [2004/41]
28. **The police claim that a number of stolen cars recovered.** A. has being. B. is being. C. has been. D. have been. [2004/44]
29. **The operations of the bank....notcottage and small-scale industries.** A. does/covered. B. does/cover. C. did/covered. D. do/cover. [2002/79]
30. **The quality of your questions whichalways attracted attention....never been in doubt.** A. have/has. B. have/have. C. has/has. D. has /have. [2002/91]
31. **Neither Agbo nor his parentsthe meetings now.** A. attended. B. attend. C. has attended. D. attends. [2001/77]
32. **The government which recruiting....workers suddenly stopped doing so.** A. are/its. B. was/its. C. is/their. D. were/their. [2001/80]
33. **These villagersto grow rice.** A. used. B. are used. C. were used. D. use. [2001/89]
34. **....told of his impending arrival, I worked hard to make his short stay very comfortable.** A. Have being. B. Having been. C. Have I been. D. Having been. [2001/94]
35. **Three quarters of the hostelbeen painted and three quarters of the students.... moved in.** A. has/has. B. has/ have. C. have/has. D. have/have [2001/99]
36. **A wide range of options.... made available to the political parties during the recently concluded elections.** A. are. B. were. C. was. D. is. [2001/100]
37. **After two years of courtship, Jide is finally....Ngozi next Sunday** A. being married to. B. marrying. C. married to. D. being married by. [1999/52]
38. **Three-quarters of the church.... painted by members the previous day.** A. were. B. was. C. is. D. are. [1998/83]
39. **The judge with his son travelling to Lagos now.** A. were. B. shall. C. is. D. are. [1998/90]
40. **The Emir and conqueror of the enemy territories.... next week.** A. arrives. B. are. C. to arrive. D. are arriving. [1997/74]
41. **Wherebuses....** A. does these/go. B. do this/goes. C. do these/go. D. does these/goes. [1997/78]
42. **Ours....based venture.** A. are a resource. B. is a resource. C. are resources. D. is a resourced. [1997/79]
43. **...., I would have helped you.** A. Has it been that you asked me. B. Had it been that you asked me. C. If you have asked me. D. If you had asked me. [1997/82]
44. **Kunle was annoyed for arriving lateput him out of temper.** A. also Kemi's rather insolent manner. B. also that Kemi's insolent manner. C. and Kemi's rather insolent manner also. D. and Kemi is also insolent which. [1997/87]
45. **His looks portend that would be unpleasant.** A. some news. B. a news. C. news. D. the news. [1997/91]
46. **All the cattle on Lamidi's farm** A. is tick-free. B. are tick-free. C. is ticks-free. D. are ticks-free. [1997/96]
47. **The teacher with his wife....here.** A. were. B. were to be. C. are. D. was. [1995/73]
48. **He is one of those who....in my school.** A. teaches. B. is teaching. C. are teaching. D. teach. [1995/79]
49. **The director, no less than his workers....to blame.** A. is. B. are. C. were. D. ought. [1995/80]
50. **It's time the room It looks awful.** A. is redecorated. B. was redecorated. C. is being redecorated. D. has been redecorated. [1995/84]
51. **Her mother said to her ' Ithe dinner now.** A. would rather you cooked. B. would rather you cook. C. would rather you not cook. D. would rather you have cooked. [1995/85]
52. **The driver of the car admitted....a license.** A. to not have. B. not having. C. to not having. D. not to

- have. [1995/86]
53. **Sa'adatu as well as the maids....** A. like plantain chips. B. are liking plantain chips. C. is liking plantain chips. D. likes plantain chips. [1994/59]
54. **Measles.... no longer impossible to manage these days.** A. is. B. are. C. were. D. was. [1994/60]
55. **The Police....happy about the dwindling crime rate.** A. says they are. B. say it is. C. say they are. D. says it is. [1994/65]
56. **A range of options....available to the political parties during the recently concluded elections** A. were made. B. is made. C. are made. D. was made [1994/70]
57. **The president of the union....for the airport by the time the riot started.** A. would have left. B. is about leaving. C. was leaving. D. has left. [1994/75]
58. **School buildings that.... in 1950....now uninhabitable** A. were build/are. B. were built/are. C. were built/is. D. are built/ are. [1994/89]
59. **Sixty per cent of the unskilled workers....yearly by the company.** A. are retain. B. is retained. C. were retained. D. are retained. [1994/90]
60. **Defects like.... in government's development plansfor extra vigilance.** A. this/calls. B. these/calls. C. this/call. D. these/call. [1994/91]
61. **Some of the food.....spoilt** A. is. B. are. C. were. D. have. [1993/74]
62. **The helpless our sympathy.** A. require B. requires C. does require. D. do requires. [1993/90]
63. **Every programming language and software packagelimitations.** A. have its. B. have their. C. has its. D. has their. [1992/57]
64. **Three quarters of the Physics class** A. improve. B. improves. C. are improving. D. is improving dramatically. [1992/65]
65. **A number of students.... missed the opportunity to re-register.** A. is. B. has. C. have. D. do. [1992/66]
66. **Ahmed is one of the boys who always.... good work.** A. does. B. would do. C. do. D. done. [1992/75]
67. **A survey of opinions on how pupils feel about their teacherscarried out.** A. has been. B. have been C. are being. D. is been. [1992/81]
68. **Our principal and chairman of the occasion....just arrived.** A. has. B. having. C. have. D. had. [1992/86]
69. **Each of the candidates that came late....to complete** A. have/this form. B. are having/these forms. C. have/ these forms. D. has/this form. [1991/54]
70. **Before the bill could be settled, Chuwang all the money.** A. has spent. B. will have spent. C. had spent D. will spend. [1991/65]
71. **Either the chief of the village or the leader of the farmers....to be held responsible for the revolt.** A. were. B. are. C. is. D. have. [1991/66]
72. **We must observe that most of the support by other states only marginal returns.** A. have yielded. B. yield. C. has yielded. D. have yield. [1991/67]
73. **She asked me whether I....the letter for her.** A. minded to post. B. mind to post. C. minded posting. D. minded to posting. [1991/68]
74. **The effort made by the principal to get the students to be serious in their studies....** A. are appreciated. B. will appreciate. C. is to appreciate. D. is appreciated. [1991/69]
75. **Only observers from the Ministry of Works.... allowed into the conference room.** A. is. B. are. C. have. D. has been. [1991/71]
76. **A panel set up to probe the organization's activities yet to sit.** A. are. B. is. C. will. D. would. [1991/72]
77. **Knowledge of figures of speech as well as of idioms and lexical itemsin this section.** A. is tested. B. have been tested. C. are tested. D. were tested. [1990/62]
78. **The buildings damaged by the rainstorm....schools, hospitals and private houses.** A. included. B. include. C. were included. D. was including. [1990/63]
79. **I would have been off to see Biola at Festac Town by the time you tomorrow.** A. returned. B. return. C. are returning. D. would return. [1990/64]
80. **We are not surprised he was not elected; every one of his constituents....that he is unreliable.** A. know. B. knows. C. will know. D. do know. [1990/71]
81. **A student's natural ability should be a.... factor in his choosing a course of study at the university.** A. determined. B. determining. C. determinant. D. determinate. [1989/67]
82. **If Kaka hadn't tried to stand up in the boat, he into the lake.** A. wouldn't have fallen. B. will not have fell. C. will not have fallen. D. wouldn't have fell. [1989/73]
83. **Many a man done without milk in.... tea these days.** A. had/their. B. has/his. C. have/their. D. had/his. [1989/83]
84. **If I had not finished my assignment, I would not the opportunity to go with the group** A. have been given. B. be given. C. be giving. D. have been giving. [1989/85]
85. **You had better....what the doctor recommended this morning.** A. done. B. do. C. did. D. be doing. [1989/86]
86. **.... with him for two years, I cannot guarantee his good behavior.** A. To work. B. Having worked. C. To have worked. D. By working. [1989/87]
87. **This is the kind of stew** A. which its taste I do not like. B. which I do not like the taste of it. C. of which taste I do not like. D. the taste of which I do not like. [1989/88]
88. **One of the rioters Who....arrested yesterday.... released.** A. was/had been. B. were/have been C. was/have been. D. were/ has been. [1989/95]
89. **Although I am watching television, I....what you are saying.** A. am hearing. B. can hear. C. have heard. D. was hearing. [1989/96]
90. **Because of thehe did to my car, I am going to sue him for....** A. damage/damages. B. damages/ damage. C. damages/damages. D. damage/damage. [1989/97]
91. **He was not a very student when I first met him but the years....his character ultimately.** A. mature/ mature. B. matured./ mature. C. mature/matured. D. matured/matured. [1989/98]
92. **Our manager has instructed thatof customers must be barred from our bank.** A. those type B. that type. C. that types. D. this types. [1989/99]
93. **I wonder how much....** A. cost these earrings. B. do these earrings cost. C. are these earrings costing. D. there earrings cost. [1988/75]
94. **The whole class looked forward to.... Kainji Dam at Christmas.** A. visiting. B. visit. C. be visiting. D. a visit. [1988/79]
95. **When I have an appointment with someone, I hate waiting.** A. to be keeping. B. for being kept C. being kept. D. in being kept. [1988/87]
96. **It's no good....about the result until you have sat for the examination.** A. to worry. B. for worrying.

- C. worrying. D. to have worried. [1988/88]
97. If you don't want toyour car to robbers, then don't travel in the night. A. loose. B. loss. C. lose. D. lost. [1988/89]
98. Many a candidate.... to realize the difference between written and spoken English. A. fails. B. fail. C. have failed. D. is failing. [1987/66]
99. All....well with Peter. A. are not. B. have not been. C. were not. D. is not. [1987/70]
100. One....so if she had thought it necessary. A. would have said. B. would say. C. may have said. D. could say. [1987/71]
101. We have done three quarters of the journey already; we....as well see the end of it A. can. B. might. C. could. D. may. [1987/72]
102. One of the ladies who....in the premises been asked to withdraw. A. sells/have. B. sell/have. C. sells/has. D. sell/has.[1987/78]
103. A Tale of Two Cities the we are studying for the examination. A. are/novels. B. was/novel. C. were/novels. D. is/novel. [1987/79]
104. We must not take with us the feelings of inadequacy.... experienced during our preparations for the debate. A. that were. B. those were. C. that was. D. that is. [1987/80]
105. Omogbai reported that the examinations.... before he arrived in the hall. A. started. B. have started. C. had started. D. are started. [1987/81]
106. In my opinion, neither the players nor the coachpraise for the result of the match. A. deserves. B. deserve.C. are deserving. D. is deserving. [1987/82]
107. No one has said anything yet, but I think I be getting a salary increase next month. A. must. B. can. C. would. D. may. [1987/83]
108. He did not stop to ask himself why such thing. A. should he do. B. he should do. C. should he have done. D. did he do. [1987/89]
109. No wonder those plants are dying. They any water for ages!A. didn't have. B. hadn't. C. haven't had. D. haven't. [1986/73]
110. Darling, do send the children to bed. I can't.... their noise any longer he said to his wife. A. make do with. B. make up. C. deal with.D. put up with. [1986/74]
111. yet about the principal? A. Are there any news. B. Are there some news. C. Is there any news. D. Is their any news. [1986/76]
112. Gone are the days when he....enjoy patronage. A. would. B. will. C. used to. D. could. [1986/80]
113. If you want peace, you.... prepared for war. A. had better.B. have better. C. had better got. D. had better get. [1986/87]
114. If only we....we could have overcome the difficulty. A. had persevered. B. have persevered. C. had persevere. D. persevered. [1986/88]
115. We saw him.... over a wall as the police approached. A. leaped. B. leap. C. leapt. D. leaping [1986/90]
116. The only set of loud speakers available....to be connected according to the instruction. A. is. B. are. C. were. D. have. [1986/92]
117. It all depended on what A. does he want. B. he wants. C. he does want. D. he wanted. [1985/81]
118. Samuel: Would you please come here, John? John: No I'm busyin my farm. A. I am working. B. I'm working. C. I am to work. D. I shall have worked. [1985/82]
119. My colleagues before I arrived. A. started writing. B. wrote.C. had started writing. D. have written. [1985/83]
120. After the team had conceded two goals, their enthusiasm.... A. was beginning to wane. B. was waning.C. began to wane. D. had begun to wane. [1985/84]
121. The Government....the initial value of the hotel complex at ten million naira. A. costed. B. had cost. C. had valued. D. had constructed. [1985/85]
122. James....reminding that not all that glitters is gold. A. needs.B. need. C. needing. D. needs'. [1985/86]
123. Do you mind if I wait for the reply? I'd rather you again tomorrow. A. called. B. will call. C. can call. D. call. [1984/69]
124. Olu: How do you want the money in cash or in traveler's cheques? Ali: Beg your pardon? Olu: I was asking you how....the money? A. do you want. B. you want. C. you wanted. D. you are wanting. [1984/70]
125. The Governor hasto the people on many occasions. A. broadcast. B. been broadcast. C. broadcasted. D. being broadcast. [1984/82]
126. The present wanton display of riches morality of our society. A. will be affecting. B. are affecting. C. is affecting. D. was affecting. [1984/89]
127. Town authorities have put up a railing in front of the exits people.... out of the stadium and straight across the road. A. prevent rush/dashing. B. preventing/ rushing to dash. C. to prevent/rushing dashing. D. to prevent/rush dash. [1984/91]
128. I was still sleeping ,when the national news....this morning. A. were broadcast. B. were C. was broadcast. D. were being broadcasted. [1984/97]
129. Each of the contestants.... a chance to win. A. has. B. have.C. get. D. gets. [1984/98]
130. We hold that the nation, both in its public and private sectors the best consultancy service and advice in all its endeavours. A. deserve. B. is deserving. C. deserves. D. are deserving. [1983/45]
131. One of the men round the lawn three times every evening. A. use to run. B. are use to run. C. is used to running. D. are used to running. [1983/47]
132. The very moment sheher folly, she will come back to apologize. A. realized. B. is realizing. C. will realize. D. realizes. [1983/51]
133. The lazy candidate suggested that it A. is time we do away with JAMB. B. was time we do away with JAMB. C. is time we did away with JAMB. D. was time we did away with JAMB. [1983/52]
134. I wish I.... your age. A. to be. B. were. C. to have been.D. would be. [1983/62]
135. I am looking forward toyou. A. seeing. B. see. C. have seen.D. will see. [1983/63]
136. Don't....the teacher that he that! A. tell, said. B. say, tells.C. talk/spoke. D. speak, talked. [1983/68]
137. He is very tired. He really is....staying up late. A. getting used to. B. not used to. C. got used to. D. used to. [1983/69]
138. My....is for you to refuse the....of the wicked. A. advise/advice.B. advice/advice. C. advice/advise. D. advise/ advise. [1994/97]
139. I am told that the market is in to the interests of people from allof life. A. tuned/walks. B. constructed/places. C. designed/places.D. set/wo

- rks. [2009/83]
140. **My teacher asked me** A. if the food is ready
B. if the food was ready C. is the food ready D.
whether the food is ready
141. **Your driving was very dangerous** A. you might even
have been killed B. you might have killed even C.
you might have been even killed. D. you even might
have been killed

Verb (Subject-Verb Agreement 2) Answers
1C 2A 3D 4C 5D 6A 7D 8D 9D 10A 11B 12D 13A 14A 15D
16D 17D 18A 19C 20C 21D 22C 23B 24D 25C 26D 27A 28C

29D 30C 31B 32A 33A 34B 35B 36C 37B 38B 39C 40A 41C
42B 43D 44C 45D 46B 47D 48D 49A 50B 51B 52B 53D 54A
55D 56D 57C 58B 59B 60D 61A 62A 63B 64D 65C 66A 67
A 68A 69D 70C 71C 72A 73C 74D 75B 76B 77A 78A 79B 80
B 81B 82A 83B 84A 85A 86B 87D 88A 89B 90A 91C 92A 93
D 94A 95C 96C 97C 98B 99D 100A 101A 102D 103D 104C
105C 106C 107C 108B 109C 110D 111C 112C 113D 114D
115B 116A 117D 118B 119C 120C 121A 122A 123A 124C
125A 126C 127C 128C 129A 130C 131C 132D 133D 134B
135A 136A 137B 138B 139A 140D 141D

Verb (Tenses)

Tip One: The past participle is formed by adding “_ed/en’ to the base form but will go with the auxiliary ‘has’ or ‘have’ as in: ‘has/have played’, has/have eaten’. When the auxiliary ‘has or have’ is used to indicate an action that has taken place in the past, the main verb that will follow should be the past participle.

- Examples.** i. He has eaten the food (Singular, Subject) -----Not He has ate the food.
ii. They have done the work (Plural, Subject) -----Not they have do the work.
iii. You have seen it (Plural, Subject). -----Not you have saw it.

Brain Teaser: Let’s see if you can really answer these ones below taken from JAMB past Questions

1. His chances in the games _____ jeopardized. A. have been B. has been C. have being D. has being
1999/65.
The answer is ‘A’ have been because the sentence has a plural subject ‘His chances’ and should take ‘have’ and ‘been’ which is the past participle should be used.
2. Simbi _____ novels since she came home. A. is reading B. had been reading C. has read D. has been reading
1991/91
The answer is ‘D’ ‘has been reading’ because the sentence has a singular subject and therefore, should take ‘has’ with the past participle ‘been’

Tip Two

The verb ‘had’ which is the past form of ‘has’ and ‘have’ should be used when we have two actions expressed in the past form. One, an action expressed in a distance past and the other, in recent past.

Examples: 1. The train had left when he got to the station. (The train had left) Distance past.
(when he got to the station) Recent past

Note

Another action must take place after an action that has taken place in the distance past.

Brain Teaser: Omogbai reported that the examination _____ before he arrived in the hall.

A. Started B. Have started C. Had started D. Are started. **1987/81**
The answer is ‘C’ has started’

Tip Three

Always use the past form of the main verb whenever you use “it’s high time” or “it is time” in sentences. The fact that it’s meaning is present or future notwithstanding.

Examples.

1. Isn’t it high time you your office? A. Are leaving B. Do leave C. Leave D. Left E. Did leave. *1978/93.*
The correct answer is ‘D’ ‘left’
2. It is time we _____ A. Should be going B. Ought to go C. Are going D. Went E. Go. *1979/84*
The correct answer is ‘D’ went.

Tip Four

Always use the continuous form of the main verb whenever you use ‘look forward to’

Example: I am looking _____ seeing your family. A. ahead at B. Forward to C. Forward on D. For to
E. Ahead to. *1984/47.* The correct answer is ‘B’ went.

Tip Five

Note the difference among the following:

Present	Present Participle	Past Participle	Meaning of the word
Lie	Lying	Lied	False statement
Lie	Lying	Lay/lain	To take horizontal position
Lay	Laying	Laid	Process of reproduction of birds (eggs)

Sometimes students get confused with the usage of these words.

Brain Teasers: 1. Wada said that two of his chicken eggs yesterday morning A. Layed B. Lied C. Laid D. Lain. *1986/100.* The correct answer is ‘C’ ‘laid’

2. I had hardly down to sleep when I heard the gunshot. A. Lay B. Lied C. Lain D. Laid. *1997/85*
The correct answer is ‘C’ ‘Lain’.

For detailed study of verb tenses, download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store.

1. When the beggar was tired he down by the roadside. A. lied. B. laid. C. layed. D. lay. *[1978/49]*

2. **Before the operation the dentist found that his patient's teeth** A. have long decayed. B. have long been decayed. C. have long being decayed. D. had long decayed. [1978/51]
3. **The employer, not the salesman and his representative responsible for the loss.** A. are. B. are being. C. are never. D. is. [1978/52]
4. **If I went to the cinema I early.** A. shall return. B. am returning. C. would return. D. had returned. [1978/68]
5. **If this had happened to you, what?** A. would you do. B. have you done. C. would you have done. D. will you do. [1978/88]
6. **What a relief that the strike when it did!** A. would end. B. was ending. C. ended. D. has ended. [1978/89]
7. **By the time the rainy season ended, all the young cocoa trees in size.** A. have double. B. had doubled. C. were doubling. D. doubled. [1978/91]
8. **We got to the hall after the play** A. is started. B. was starting. C. had started. D. has started. [1978/95]
9. **Had he known he away** A. will go. B. will be going. C. would have gone. D. may be going. [1979/83]
10. **The teacher asked if she seen her boyfriend recently.** A. has. B. have. C. was. D. had. [1979/88]
11. **You to know better than an illiterate farmer.** A. are suppose. B. are supposed. C. suppose. D. have supposed. [1979/89]
12. **Dume in Abraka for three years when I met her.** A. lived. B. had lived. C. would have lived. D. was living. [1980/79]
13. **If I were the Head of the English Department in my school, I make oral English a compulsory subject.** A. would. B. could. C. should. D. might. [1980/80]
14. **The prefect came to the class five minutes after the lesson** A. has started. B. had started. C. have started. D. is started. [1980/84]
15. **Had he known in advance, he** A. should prepare for the interview. B. was going to prepare for the interview. C. would have prepared for the interview. D. will have been preparing for the interview. [1981/35]
16. **These six employees absent from work since New Year's Day.** A. are. B. have been. C. were. D. had been. [1981/69]
17. **By the end of June, I six examinations this year.** A. shall take. B. have taken. C. shall have taken. D. am taking. [1981/71]
18. **The guests breakfast by the time the bus arrives.** A. are finishing. B. have finished. C. shall have finished. D. will have finished. [1981/82]
19. **I him before he came into the room.** A. have seen. B. have not. C. used to see. D. had seen. [1982/36]
20. **Musa asked Asmau what she since, he last saw her.** A. has been doing. B. had been doing. C. has done. D. was doing. [1982/48]
21. **By next June he four novels.** A. will write. B. is writing. C. will have written. D. had written. [1982/54]
22. **Do come tonight, but don't expect me to speak to you because I an interesting programme on television when you arrive.** A. am watching. B. watch. C. watched. D. shall be watching. [1982/55]
23. **If you me that you had run out of petrol, I would have given you some.** A. were to tell. B. tell. C. have told. D. had told. [1982/65]
24. **The invigilator to know how long the examination going on.** A. wanted/has been. B. wants/had been. C. wants/have been. D. wanted/had been. [2014/71]
25. **The words divided between the end of one line.** A. have been. B. have being. C. has been. D. has being. [2014/75]
26. **When his car tyre on the way, he did not know what to do.** A. has burst. B. had burst. C. bursted. D. burst. [2011/66]
27. **Lami's father as a gardener when he was young, but now he is a driver.** A. had been working. B. use to work. C. has worked. D. used to work. [2011/67]
28. **Ife asked me** A. what time it was. B. what is it by my time. C. what time is it. D. what time it is. [2011/73]
29. **Last Monday his father asked me** A. if I had come some days before. B. if I had come the day before. C. did you come yesterday. D. had I come yesterday. [2010/69]
30. **A wide range of options made available to students in their final year last year.** A. is. B. were. C. are. D. was. [2010/71]
31. **One of the women who in the premises, been ordered to quit.** A. sells/have. B. sell/has. C. sell/have. D. sells/has. [2010/72]
32. **He is really very mean, He not lend me the money I wanted.** A. should. B. could. C. would. D. won't. [2009/66]
33. **An acceptance of the offer would be a departure from the several rejections that** A. had taken place. B. have taken place. C. will take place. D. took place. [2009/70]
34. **Last Tuesday, Ochonu asked me** A. had I come yesterday. B. did you come yesterday. C. whether I had come the day before. D. If I had come yesterday. [2008/68]
35. **The young man has to sober after being drunk.** A. began/up. B. begun/in. C. begun/up. D. began/down. [2008/69]
36. **By the end of the football match today, we the best player.** A. could have known. B. might have known. C. will have known. D. would have known. [2005/82]
37. **This imposing edifice a fortune to build.** A. had costed. B. have cost. C. costed. D. cost. [2001/85]
38. **Most of us will attend the conference at Ibadan later this year.** A. holding. B. held. C. being held. D. to hold. [1998/97]
39. **What saved her was that she to the side of the boat.** A. had dinged. B. clung. C. dinged. D. clang. [1995/75]
40. **The keepers themselves are sometimes by the bees.** A. stinged. B. stang. C. stung. D. sting. [1994/66]
41. **I now realize I you before** A. had met. B. have met. C. met. D. meet. [1994/67]
42. **Before mechanization, workers water out of fabric with their hands.** A. wring. B. wrung. C. wrang. D. wringed. [1992/62]
43. **Having worked all night, the security man a sense of accomplishment.** A. had felt. B. felt. C. is feeling. D. has felt. [1992/64]
44. **Atuk, without giving any hint as to what he intended to do, went and Himself.** A. hung.

- B. hang. C. hanged. D. hunged. [1991/83]
45. We saw Ifueko an egg on the wall. A. smashed. B. smash . C. smashing. D. smashes. [1991/88]
46. After Jerry had made the bed, he on it A. layed. B. laid. C. lied . D. lay. [1990/61]
47. When he had arranged the furniture, he the picture on the wall. A. hanged. B. hung. C. hang. D. hunged. [1986/97]
48. Wada said that two of his chickens eggs yesterday morning. A. layed. B. lied. C. laid. D. lain. [0/1]
49. The dead body of the armed robber has in the street for three days. A. laid. B. lain . C. layed. D. lied . [1983/55]
50. Had Aisha realized what marriage entails she A. could have not rush into it. B. would have rushes into it. C. would not have rushes into it. D. would not have rushed into it. [2015/70]
51. By this time next year, I twenty years old. A. would have been. B. will be. C. could have been . D. will have been. [2002/78]
52. Had he considered his public image carefully, he for his opponent in the election. A. might have stood aside. B. would have stepped aside. C. should have stepped down. D. would have stood down. [2001/79]
53. His chances in the games seriously jeopardized. A. have been. B. has been . C. have being. D. has being. [1999/65]
54. Either Ekaette or you to go A. was. B. are. C. has. D. is. [1995/69]
55. he would have been convicted. A. if he did this. B. if he could do this. C. if he were doing this. D. if he had done this. [1995/74]
56. If the boys arrived early enough, the match A. would have been played. B. will be played. C. will have to be played. D. would be played. [1994/62]
57. As you have been here before lead the way. A. it were better you. B. it is you who will. C. you'd better. D. you would better. [1994/87]
58. My friend me for many years when I met him last week. A. never saw. B. did not see. C. had not seen. D. had never seen. [1994/88]
59. You should not need twice A. to tell. B. telling. C. tell. D. to have been told. [1993/76]
60. The trader complained that he robbed. A. had been. B. has been. C. was being. D. is being. [1993/95]
61. him around, I would have informed you. A. Had I seen. B. Have I seen. C. Should see. D. If I saw. [1992/74]
62. It easier if he told us himself. A. would be. B. would have been. C. would had been. D. will be. [1992/85]
63. It has been confirmed that the election held in July. A. will be. B. is being. C. has been. D. have being [1992/94]
64. If had been told of the matter earlier, I there so late. A. would not go. B. should not go. C. will not have gone. D. would not have gone. [1991/53]
65. I would have been surprised if you the orange A. plucked. B. have plucked. C. had plucked. D. did pluck. [1991/56]
66. him in the crowd, I would have told you at once. A. if I will see. B. If I saw. C. had I seen. D. should I see. [1991/61]
67. How I wish I my mother's advice. A. had heeded. B. have heeded. C. heed. D. will heed. [1991/70]
68. When we got to the president's house, we were told that he two days earlier. A. may have left. B. left. C. had left. D. has left. [1991/82]
69. Provided you to the market very soon, we shall be able to eat early enough. A. shall go. B. would go. C. went. D. go. [1991/84]
70. By the time the plane reaches Harare, it in the air for twelve hours. A. has been. B. would be. C. would have been. D. should be. [1991/86]
71. If only Adoyi what was good for him he could easily have avoided the tragedy. A. has known. B. have known. C. knew. D. had known. [1991/87]
72. I did not enjoy the party. If you had invited Tariere, it better organized. A. had been. B. would have been. C. would be. D. could be. [1991/90]
73. Sibi novels since she came home. A. is reading. B. had been reading. C. has read. D. has been reading. [1991/91]
74. Asabe is overdue for retirement as she in this college since 1954. A. is teaching. B. has been teaching. C. taught. D. was teaching . [1991/92]
75. If they had not all jumped out of the car just in time, they A. might have been perished. B. wilt have perished. C. were all going to perish. D. would have perished. [1991/100]
76. The lecturer said that we be able to finish the next chapter this evening. A. must. B. can. C. shall. D. should. [1990/65]
77. I could have agreed with your action if I not you promised to increase the worker's salaries. A. have/heard. B. had/heard. C. were/hearing. D. was/hearing. [1990/67]
78. The chemistry teacher seized the girl's comic during the laboratory work. A. which she had been reading. B. which she has been reading. C. which she had read. D. which she is reading. [1990/68]
79. He during the whole of last month. A. was sick. B. has been sick. C. had been sick. D. had sicken. [1990/69]
80. When I met Amadi yesterday it was the first time I him for six months. A. had seen. B. saw. C. have seen. D. have been seeing. [1989/66]
81. If only I insured! But I wasn't. Now I have to pay a lot of money. A. am. B. have been. C. had been. D. would be. [1984/68]
82. I meant a pencil but there was no one there. A. buying /selling. B. to buy/to sell. C. buying /to sell. D. buy/to sell. [1984/80]
83. Mrs. Okoro in this school since 1975. A. taught. B. is teaching. C. was teaching. D. has been teaching. [1984/81]
84. Paulina arrived late, she the right route. A. cannot have taken. B. could not have taking. C. cannot take. D. could not have taken. [1984/83]
85. It was a funny episode, so I A. can't help to laugh. B. couldn't help laugh. C. couldn't help laughing. D. couldn't help to laugh. [1984/85]
86. By the end of this year I twenty books. A. read. B. would have read. C. will read. D. have read. [1984/86]
87. Leonard: We went to a hotel and had a very good dinner for N1,00. Geoffrey: You a very good dinner if you paid N1.00. A. must had had. B. needn't have had. C. couldn't have had. D. had to have. [1984/87]
88. Someone the radio cassette since 6 p.m. I wish

- he **turn it off.** **A.** has been playing/would. **B.** is playing/would. **C.** played/will. **D.** has played/should. *[1984/92]*
89. **If the armed robbers caught, they would have been lynched.** **A.** would be. **B.** have been. **C.** are. **D.** had been. *[1984/93]*
90. **‘Had he known that it would rain’, he his umbrella with him.** **A.** would have taking. **B.** was going to take. **C.** would be taking. **D.** would have taken. *[1984/94]*
91. **I told you, you would miss the bus. You left home earlier.** **A.** can’t have. **B.** must have. **C.** will have. **D.** should have. *[1983/65]*
92. **He the book to the library last week.** **A.** has returned. **B.** had returned. **C.** was returning. **D.** returned. *[1984/79]*
93. **When he from his journey, tell him I want to see him.** **A.** returns. **B.** might have returned. **C.** returned. **D.** must have returned. *[2008/73]*
94. **I knocked at his door, but he** **A.** has already left. **B.** left already. **C.** would already leave. **D.** had already

- left. *[2008/74]*
95. **You, who convicted, should appeal.** **A.** has been. **B.** is. **C.** was. **D.** are. *[2005/85]*
96. **Ann goes to the stadium regularly, but he to the church for months.** **A.** hasn’t been. **B.** haven’t been. **C.** didn’t go. **D.** hadn’t been. *[2004/37]*
97. **I shall never be so tired to write to you.** **A.** as not to be able. **B.** that I shan’t be able. **C.** and so be unable. **D.** such that I will be unable. *[1994/86]*
98. **Amina ... she were a beauty queen.** **A.** Wish **B.** Wishes **C.** Wishing **D.** Wished
- Verb (Tenses) Answers**
1D 2D 3D 4C 5C 6C 7B 8C 9C 10D 11B 12B 13A 14B 15C 16B 17C 18D 19D 20B 21C 22D 23D 24A 25A 26D 27D 28A 29A 30D 31B 32C 33A 34C 35C 36D 37D 38A 39B 40C 41A 42C 43B 44C 45B 46D 47B 48C 49B 50D 51D 52C 53A 54C 55D 56A 57C 58C 59D 60A 61A 62B 63A 64D 65C 66C 67A 68C 69D 70C 71D 72B 73D 74B 75D 76D 77B 78A 79C 80B 81C 82A 83D 84D 85C 86B 87C 88A 89D 90D 91D 92D 93A 94D 95A 96A 97A 98B

Adjectives

Adjectives describe or give information about nouns or pronouns. They usually tell us about colour, size, quality or classification of a noun or pronoun. Sometimes the need arises for one to use two or more objectives in a sentence. There is the tendency for them to be placed or arranged in a certain order before the noun head.

Ordering of Adjectives

- 1. First is the determiner Eg. a/an, the, fens etc
- 2. Next is the Ordinator Eg. One, two, ten, hundred
- 3. Next is the General/Other Adjectives Eg: pretty, tall
- 4. Next is the quantity, length, weight, size, shape, colour.
- 5. Next is the nominator Eg: Nationality or make up of a thing
- 6. Then follows other nouns used as adjectives before the Noun head

See table adapted from “Siloquent Testimony Handbook”

Determiner	Ordinator	General	Length	Weight	Size	Age	Shape	Colour	Source	Materia l	Noun head
A	One	lazy	short	Heavy	big	young	oval	black	Nigerian	silk	-
-	Two	ugly	long	Light	small	Old	square	white	French	cotton	-
The	Three	pretty	tall	Thick	fat	new	oblong	green	British	iron	-
-	Five	Beautiful	-	-	huge	-	triangular	red	Japanese	leather	-
(She’s) an	-	ugly	-	-	fat	Old	-	-	Ghanaian	-	lady
(It was) a	-	beautiful	-	-	small	new	-	white	Korean	straw	hat

Note: Where the adjectives have equivalent grammatical value, the short one comes first.
Examples: She is a quiet, intelligent girl.
I’ve just finished reading a short, interesting novel.

Brain Teasers: Let’s see if you can really answer these ones below

1. The tourist bought pot.
A. a brown small Nigerian earthen B. a small brown Nigerian earthen C. an earthen brown small Nigerian
D. a Nigerian small brown earthen
"B" is the answer because small is No 6, brown is No 9, Nigeria is no 10 and earthen is No 11.
2. The car is the centre of attraction.
A. small racing light green B. racing small light green C. small light green racing D. light green small racing
"C" is the correct option because small is No 6, light green is No 9, and racing is No 11

Use of Little/ A Little and Few/ A few

"Little" and "few" without the article "a" connotes negative while when there is the article "a", it depicts a positive Little; draws one's attention to something that is lacking. It literally means "not much".

Examples:

Although the problem was simple.....students were able to solve it
A. little B. small C. few D. a few. **Ans. C** 1981/67
I can’t offer you another loan, I have.....money left in my account
A. a few B. a little C. little D. few **Ans. C** 1983/64
We use "a little" and "a few" when something is present or to show we have a certain amount of something.

Examples:

I'm sorry, I can't give you any of the oranges. I have..... left

A. a few B. little C. only D. a little **Ans.** 1986/72

For more details on the use of adjectives, download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store.

1. He went up quickly and returned A. fastest. B. fastly. C. as fastly. D. as fast. [1978/66]
2. Because the referee was partial and his opponent rough, the loser of the wrestling match received.... cheers than the winner. A. thunderous. B. many more. C. overwhelming. D. a little more. [1978/80]
3. No sooner had the examination ended....the students started vacating the halls of residence. A. when. B. that. C. than.D. before. [1980/87]
4. You surely want.... in your tea, don't you? A. all milk. B. a milk. C. some milk. D. every milk. [1981/31]
5. Although the problem was simple.... students were able to solve it. A. little. B. small. C. few. D. a were [1981/67]
6. He passed so well .. he was awarded a scholarship. A. since.B. because. C. that. D. while. [1981/42]
7. He is easily the....of the lot A. brightest.B. brighter. C. more bright. D. most brightest. [1981/52]
8. There was....much noise at night that we couldn't sleep. A. such a. B. such. C. that. D. so. [1981/61]
9. We talked quietly....wake the baby. A. so that not. B. in order to. C. so as to. D. so as not to. [1981/68]
10. It was a blind alley, I could not walk any A. far. B. farthest. C. furthest. D. further. [1981/73]
11. My younger brother looked ill last night, and was evidently....this morning. A. worse. B. worst. C. more ill. D. learner. [1981/80]
12. lawyers enrolled at the Nigerian Bar last yearthe year. A. As much/as. B. Very many/than. C. More/than.D. Some/as. [1981/83]
13. They promised to cause fuss.... possible A. as little/as. B. a little/if. C. a few/as. D. the least/ that. [1981/84]
14. From one's daily experience, one can see that many people havemoney.... they really need A. fewer/than. B. more/than.C. as much/ than. D. much/than. [1981/85]
15. The students in my junior class seem to have performed....they did last year. A. as brilliant as. B. more brilliant than. C. as brilliantly. D. brilliant than. [1982/29]
16. The angry woman shouted and cursed in language shocking for words. A. very. B. far. C. so. D. too. [1982/51]
17. The chairman addressed the A. one hundred university French teachers. B. university one hundred French teachers. C. French one hundred university teachers. D. university French one hundred teachers. [2008/66]
18. I'm sorry I can't give you any of the oranges' I have.. left A. a few. B. little. C. only. D. a little. [0/1986]
19. I can't offer you another loan, I have.... money left in my account. A. a few. B. a little. C. little. D. few. [1983/64]
20. My father told me to take the money from It. A. whomever offers. B. whomsoever offer. C. ever who offers . D. whoever offers.[2013/81]
21. Ladies and gentlemen, our guest speaker, Dr. Oni also a resident doctor at the teaching hospital. A. who is. B. which is. C. who was. D. is. [1990/70]
22. The market women....profit ranges from thirty fifty per cent are making....difficult for the ordinary people. A. for who/to live. B. for whom/lives. C. by whose/living. D. whose/life. [1984/90]
23. I gave the book to the library attendant....I think works in the evenings. A. whom . B. whose. C. which. D. who. [1984/99]
24. My mother was annoyed with me for coming late. A. very.B. neither. C. hotly. D. just. [2014/79]
25. There are lots of in a park. A. moving fast luxury buses. B. last-moving luxury buses. C. luxury buses moving fast. D. luxury buses fast moving. [2013/76]
26. The woman would not part with herpot. A. discarded earthen black. B. discarded black earthen. C. earthen discarded black. D. black earthen discarded. [2012/76]
27. Of the three girls, Uka is the A. so much notorious B. notorious. C. naughty. D. naughtiest. [2011/78]
28. The new trade agreement should facilitate.... A. more economic rapid growth. B. economic more rapid growth. C. rapid economic more growth. D. more rapid economic growth. [2010/73]
29. Each producer is able to place a price on his product by considering its A. worth . B. choice. C. judgment. D. assessment. [2004/43]
30. The future of the company is.... though many seem....about it. A. okay/optimistic. B. promising /nostalgic. C. rosy/pessimistic. D. dicey/unsatisfied. [2002/76]
31. Whenever we have...., we feel better A. a long good talk together. B. a good long talk together. C. together a long good talk. D. together a good long talk. [2002/81]
32. Mrs Ojo was, one ofin my village A. the first two enlightened young ladies. B. the two first enlightened young ladies. C. the two first young enlightened ladies. D. the first two young enlightened ladies. [1999/58]
33. AIDS is....disease that it kills slowly but surely. A. too much a deadly. B. very deadly. C. so deadly D. such deadly.[1998/77]
34. We had a dull evening because.... A. hardly the talk had begun when the lights went off. B. hardly had the talk begun when the light went off. C. the talk had hardly begun when the lights had gone out.D. the lights had hardly gone out when the talk began. [1998/78]
35. The tourist bought.... A. a brown small Nigerian earthen pot. B. a small brown Nigerian earthen pot. C. an earthen brown small Nigerian pot. D. a Nigerian small brown earthen pot. [1998/95]
36. I hope I have not....too much on your time. A. invaded.B. encroached. C. intruded. D. trespassed. [1997/99]
37. He was weakhe could not climb the stairs. A. so/that.B. too/that. C. very/that. D. so/when. [1995/77]
38. The poor man was pleased to find....tyre A. a rubber old discarded. B. an old discarded rubber. C. a discarded rubber old. D. an old rubber discarded. [1995/88]

39. When we visited him, he offered us a variety ofdrinks such as whisky and brandy.
A. hot. B. local. C. hard. D. soft. [1994/81]

40. The police are looking forwe, as politicians, are identified with the masses. A. two big cars black. B. two cars big black. C. two big black cars. D. two black big cars. [1992/82]

41. The company representative in Nigeria is a A. smart little Japanese. B. little smart Japanese. C. smart Japanese little. D. little Japanese smart. [1990/96]

42. My younger brother is going to the stream with ... boys A. two other little. B. other little two. C. two little other. D. other two little. [1989/75]

43. Okoro intends to wear his....dress to the zoo this afternoon. A. white cotton new. B. white new cotton. C. new white cotton. D. cotton white new. [1989/76]

44. The small girl....than her elder sister. A. more cleverer. B. very cleverer. C. much cleverer. D. much more cleverer. [1988/99]

45. He decided to wait for the bus because he had A. too many luggage. B. many luggages. C. a lot of luggage. D. plenty luggages. [1986/94]

46. The boy thought that driving a car was not dangerous than riding a bicycle. A. so very. B. particularly.C. very. D. anymore. [1985/88]

47. The hotel.... is at Wurno Road A. which I am staying. B. in where I am staying. C. that I am staying. D. at which I am staying. [1984/64]

48. On his way back the boy ran into a long procession of men, women and children in....
A. white beautiful exceedingly flowing gowns.
B. exceedingly flowing white beautiful gowns.

C. exceedingly beautiful white flowing gowns.
D. white flowing exceedingly beautiful gowns. [1983/40]

49. North Africa is than Northern Europe
A. hotter. B. more hot.C. more hotter. D. the hottest. [1983/60]

50.of the students turned up, so the lecture was cancelled A. Few. B. Little. C. A few. D. A little. [2008/75]

51. You think she hasn't got any friends? Of course she's got....A. many more. B. quite much. C. quite a few. D. few. [1993/82]

52. Mrs. Audu wept when she discovered that she had lost her..... Ring A. very expensive wedding gold B. gold wedding very expensive C. gold very expensive wedding D. very expensive gold wedding

53. The fountain pen costs ... A. Half as the ballpoint as much again B. Much again as half the ballpoint C. Half as much as the ballpoint again D. half as much again as the ballpoint.

54. Mr Orua was a good speaker. It was a pity that there were ... there to hear him. A. So few people B. As few people C. Some few people D. Quite a few people

55. This dress is ... yours. A. Only elegant just as B. Elegant only just as C. Only just as elegant as D. Just as only elegant as

Adjectives Answers
1D 2D 3C 4C 5C 6C 7A 8D 9D 10D 11A 12C 13A 14B 15C 16D 17A 18A 19C 20D 21C 22D 23D 24A 25B 26B 27D 28D 29A 30C 31B 32A 33C 34B 35B 36B 37A 38B 39C 40C 41A 42A 43C 44C 45C 46D 47D 48C 49A 50A 51C 52D 53D 54C 55D
- Question tags
- Introduction
- A question tag is a short question added at the end of a statement which also requires a response. There are rules governing the tag. The rules are enumerated below.
- Rule 1:** When a statement is in the positive, the tag will be in the negative and the response will be positive.
Positive statement ---> Negative tag ---> Positive response .
- Example:** We shall be afraid of him. Shan't we? Yes, we shall.
- Rule 2:** When the statement is negative. The tag will be positive and the response will be negative.
Negative statement ---> positive tag ---> Negative response
- Example:** The plane didn't take off. Did it? No, it didn't
- Rule 3:** If the main clause has an auxiliary, the question tag maintains the auxiliary.
1. He can draw. Can't he? Yes, he can

2. She is coming. Isn't she? Yes, she is.
- But when the main clause has no auxiliary, the verb, 'do' must be used in the tag if the subject is in the plural form, 'does' if in the singular and 'did' if the sentence is in the past form.
- Examples:
1. The offices close at half past three in the evening. Don't they? Yes, they do.

2. The girl loves sweets. Doesn't she? Yes, she does.

3. Musa won. Didn't he? Yes, he did.
- Brain Teaser:** Let's see if you can really answer these question tags problem from 1979/38
1. She doesn't have to attend the lecture.? A. Doesn't she? B. Is she? C. Has she? D. Does she?
- The answer is 'D' 'does she' because the statement is in the negative, therefore the tag should be in the positive.
2. Students will always blame their teachers when examinations results are unfavorable.? (1998/80)
- A. Won't they? B. Wouldn't they? C. Isn't it? D. Can't they
- The answer is 'B' 'wouldn't they' because the statement is in the positive therefore, the tag should be in the negative 'wouldn't' because it is used to expressed probability (the state of being probable or likelihood).
- For more details on the use of question tags, download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store.**
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1. **The Managing Director did not pay his staff last month.....?** A. didn't he. B. had he not. C. is not it. D. did he. [1978/76]
2. **You would have thought that somebody would've informed me,....** A. shouldn't they.. B. wouldn't you. C. I should think. D. you agree. [1978/87]
3. **Bimbo sings beautifully....?** A. Isn't it. B. doesn't she. C. isn't she. D. does she. [1980/85]
4. **.....a good film wasn't it?** A. it is. B. was it. C. there is. D. it was. [1981/58]
5. **We used to go to that club on Saturday night,.....?** A. isn't it. B. didn't we. C. don't we. D. aren't we. [1981/72]
6. **S: I translated the story into Hausa for him. T: Youhave translated. He knows Hausa very well.** A. mustn't.. B. needn't.. C. can't. D. wouldn't. [1982/67]
7. **You may not have heard the last word on the matter,.** A. may you have. B. haven't you.. C. have you. D. mayn't have you.. [2004/35]
8. **He ran out when he saw the teacher..... ?** A. didn't he. B. isn't he. C. does he. D. is he. [2015/76]
9. **He was present at the party,?** A. wasn't he. B. did he. C. could he. D. didn't he. [2015/79]
10. **Lima doesn't like working in the dark,....?** A. has she. B. does she. C. will she. D. did she. [2015/82]
11. **One should be careful how ... behaves in public, shouldn't...** A. one/one. B. he/he. C. she/one. D. one/hep. [2012/71]
12. **We stood up when the principal came in,..?** A. isn't it. B. didn't we. C. not so. D. did us. [2012/77]
13. **Suara needn't come with us,...?** A. does she. B. will she. C. can she. D. need she. [2011/71]
14. **You are just putting the hat on A.** don't you. B. isn't it. C. aren't you. D. not so. [2009/79]
15. **He does not seem to know how to solve the problem....?** A. does not he. B. does he not. C. does he. D. doesn't he. [2001/88]
16. **Students will always blame their teachers when examination results are unfavourable...?** A. won't they. B. wouldn't they. C. isn't it. D. can't they. [1998/80]
17. **We ought to have visited the Governor.....?** A. isn't it. B. oughtn't we. C. shouldn't we. D. haven't we. [1997/75]
18. **He-didn't sense Obi's presence in the room, did he?....** A. Yes, he did. B. No, he did. C. Yes, he didn't.. D. No, he didn't.. [1997/76]
19. **It is clear to me that you won't visit Okoro this holiday, will you?.....** A. Yes, I won't.. B. Yes, I will visit. C. No, I won't D. No.. D. I will not visit. [1994/58]
20. **I don't think he can.....** A. can't he.. B. isn't it. C. can he. D. don't I.. [1994/72]
21. **A number of teachers in secondary schools are not so well disposed to....these days,....they?** A. teach/aren't.. B. teaching/are. C. teach/do. D. teach/are. [1990/81]
22. **If it had rained, we would have had to postpone the concert. It didn't rain, so.....** A. we won't have to. B. we would have had to. C. we wouldn't have to. D. we didn't have to. [1990/82]
23. **Let's have a cup of coffee,** A. shall we?. B. will we?. C. should we?. D. could we?. [1990/98]
24. **Student: Excuse me sir, must we complete the assignment before lunch? Teacher: No you...** A. needn't. B. mustn't. C. can't. D. shouldn't. [1987/84]
25. **You had to stand in the corridor all the way? Poor you! I don't suppose you enjoyed the journey..... ?** A. don't you. B. did you. C. didn't you. D. don't. [1986/71]
26. **A number of doctors are not so well disposed toin government hospitals these days... they?** A. working/do. B. work/are. C. working/are. D. work/aren't. [1986/91]
27. **The boys are very naughty. They have started fighting again,....** A. haven't they?.. B. isn't it?.. C. not so?. D. have they. [1984/67]
28. **The students haven't come back from the library...** A. isn't it?.. B. have they?. C. is it?. D. had they?. [1984/72]
29. **The proprietors should be blamed for such a deplorable condition in the nursery schools.....** A. isn't it?.. B. shouldn't they?.. C. should they?. D. is it?. [1983/41]
30. **You don't like Mathematics, ... you?** A. do. B. don't. C. can't. D. can. [2008/81]
31. **He saw the play and so.....** A. was she. B. had she. C. should she. D. did she. [1997/97]
32. **He isn't coming home, is he? ...he isn't** A. yes. B. no. C. why. D. now. [2004/40]
33. **She said you would eat there, ...?** A. Wouldn't she. B. Doesn't she C. Won't she D. Didn't she

Question tags Answers

1D 2B 3B 4D 5B 6B 7C 8A 9A 10B 11A 12B 13D 14C 15C 16A 17C 18C 19C 20C 21B 22D 23A 24A 25B 26C 27A 28B 29B 30A 31D 32B 33D

Punctuation and spelling

This objective tests you on correct spelling and usage of words. Download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store to study punctuation and spelling.

1. **For their part in the unsuccessful....the mutineers were court-martialled** A. coopes. B. coupes. C. coupe. D. coup. [1981/26]
2. **The passenger waited patiently whilst they transferred his.... from the taxi to the bus.** A. properties. B. baggages. C. luggage. D. luggages. [1981/87]
3. **Will you know if that dog is.....? He has lost a brown and black one.** A. Adebowale's. B. Adebowales'. C. Adebowale's own. D. the Adebowales. [1982/27]
4. **She got into trouble because she refused to listen to the given by her friends and relatives.** A. many of the advice. B. series of advices. C. pieces of advices. D. advice. [1982/34]
5. **I have refused to give him my pen because I don't want him to....it again.** A. loss. B. loose. C. lose. D. lost. [1982/40]
6. **I'm sorry I can't go to the theatre with you as I have....to do.** A. many works. B. a work. C. plenty work. D. much work. [1982/43]
7. **On such an important.... all the guests were expected to be at their best.** A. occassion. B. occasion. C. ocaasion. D. ocasion. [1982/46]
8. **A nursery rhyme is used to teach pupils how to spell the word** A. hipoppotemus. B. hippoppotemus. C. hipoppotamus. D. hippopotamus. [2005/84]

9. **My MOTHER served rice and fresh fish stew for dinner.** A. Did your mother serve rice and fresh fish stew for lunch? B. Who served rice and fresh fish stew for dinner? C. What kind of meal did your mother serve for dinner? D. What kind of stew did your mother serve for dinner? [2003/80]
10. **He keeps his clean always** A. surroudings. B. surrounding. C. premise. D. environments. [1992/78]
11. **She has a set of gold....** A. earing. B. earrings. C. earrings. D. ear-ring. [1992/79]
12. **Dapo has made good use of some useful....on the chemical composition of chalk.** A. information. B. piece of information. C. informations. D. pieces of informations. [1987/99]
13. **I do not want.....from such a friend as Jimoh** A. any more advices. B. no more advice. C. any advices. D. any advice. [1985/89]
14. **Journalists always collect and publish....** A. informations. B. an information. C. some informations. D. information. [1985/98]
15. **.....woman was attacked by a group of bandits** A. a 90- years old. B. a 90 - year-old. C. a 90 year-old. D. a 90-year old. [1995/71]
16. **A very popular ruler is at the....** A. helms of affair. B. helm of affair. C. realm of affair. D. helm of affairs. [1995/100]
17. **When the driver lost control of his vehicle, the pedestrians began to run for....** A. their dear lives. B. their dear life. C. dear lives. D. dear life. [1989/70]
18. **What bothered me about the lecture was that the speaker....too many irrelevant works** A. slighted. B. sighted. C. sited. D. cited. [1988/95]
19. **The students were suspended because they were..** A. indisciplined. B. undisciplined. C. undiscipled. D. disciplinary. [1988/96]
20. **The hunter brought home.... antelope** A. alive. B. a life. C. a live. D. a living. [1987/92]
21. **He brought a ...against his neighbour** A. complaint. B. complains. C. complain. D. complaining. [2008/76]
22. **Our teacher defined ...in his introductory Lesson.** A. onomatopoeia. B. onomatopeia. C. onomntopion. D. onomatopaeia. [2013/67]
23. **The students had a on Independence Day** A. march pass. B. match past. C. march past. D. match pass. [2013/70]
24. **Local governments are authorized to pass ...** A. bye-laws. B. byes'-laws. C. bye's-law. D. bye-law. [2013/78]
25. **We should try to help....** A. the less fortunates. B. less fortunates. C. the loss fortunate. D. this less fortunate. [2013/85]
26. **He started his career as an ...teacher** A. auxiliary. B. auxilliary. C. auxiliary. D. auxiliay. [2012/69]
27. **....a good leader must have two characteristics** A. First and formost. B. First and formust. C. First and farmost. D. First and foremost. [2012/72]
28. **This professor of... medicine has ...the mystery of bird flu** A. vetinary/unraveled. B. vertrinary/unravelled. C. veterinary/unraveled. D. veterinary/unravelled. [2012/78]
29. **It is important that you clear the refuse in front of your house every...** A. fournight. B. fortnight. C. fourthninght. D. forthnight. [2011/69]
30. **The policemen became suspicious as the hoodlums... in their office** A. ferreted. B. ferretted. C. ferreted about. D. ferretted about. [2011/70]
31. **Unoka... the whole house to find his missing wristwatch** A. scourged. B. scoured. C. scored. D. scouted. [2011/72]
32. **There are many ways to kill a rat, so we should be... in our approach to the task ahead of us** A. eclectic. B. eclectic. C. eclektic. D. eclectic. [2011/74]
33. **Here is Mr Odumusu who teaches English ... in our school** A. pronuntiation. B. pronunciation. C. pronunciation. D. pronountiation. [2011/76]
34. **Please sit on the ...** A. carier. B. career. C. carrier. D. carrear. [2011/80]
35. **I want to ... this chance to acquaint you with the latest development** A. size. B. seize. C. sieze. D. cease. [2011/81]
36. **When we looked up, we the plane some miles away** A. site. B. cited. C. sited. D. sighted. [2010/79]
37. **The.....part of a new book is often written by a more experienced writer than the author** A. foreward. B. foreword. C. forward. D. forword. [2009/71]
38. **You must practise in order to...perfection** A. obtain. B. have. C. get. D. achieve. [2008/79]
39. **The condition of the room was so...so I went outside** A. intolerant. B. intolerable. C. inconstant. D. invariable. [2008/80]
40. **No teacher of honour would subject his student to any form of ...** A. harasement. B. harassment. C. harrasment. D. harrassment. [2004/42]
41. **The chairman refused to shake ...with the Secretary** A. hand. B. his hand. C. hands. D. his hands. [2004/46]
42. **The poor widow who could not buy the clothes was seen .. her wool into..yesterday** A. to spin/yards. B. spinning/yarn. C. making/tailoring. D. to spill/clothes. [2004/47]
43. **The army officer said that more...would be needed to prosecute the war** A. guerrilas. B. guerrillas. C. geurrilas. D. geurrillas. [2002/71]
44. **These..... must have....the World Bank Officials.** A. analyses/attract. B. analyses/attracted. C. analysis/attract. D. analysis/ attracted. [2002/83]
45. **To check desertification in the arid zones...tress should be planted** A. drought-proof. B. drought-resisting. C. drought-effective. D. drought-resistant. [2000/43]
46. **The old man's speech has become completely** A. uncomprehensible. B. uncomprehensive. C. incomprehensive. D. incomprehensible. [1999/54]
47. **By twelve midnight, we will be.....en route for Britian** A. airbourned. B. airborne. C. air borned. D. airburne. [1999/56]
48. **They were all behaving like a bunch of... Children** A. querulous. B. querrulous. C. querrullous. D. quarrelous. [1999/57]
49. **The adventurers ran into many.....in the forest** A. dear. B. dears. C. deers. D. deer. [1998/92]
50. **The argument between the two neighbours degenerated into....** A. a free for all. B. a free fight. C. a flee for all. D. a free for all fight. [1998/93]
51. **The.. .engineer was unhappy** A. cite. B. sight. C. site. D. side. [1995/91]
52. **One of the vice... in an interim capacity** A. president acts. B. presidents act. C. president's acts. D. presidents acts. [1995/98]
53. **The development is to be carried to the.....level** A. grass root. B. grass root. C. grass roots.

- D. grass-root. [1995/99]
54. When I was in the secondary school, my parents were active members of the..... A. Parents-Teachers Association. B. Parents-Teachers' Association. C. Parent -Teacher Association. D. Parent's Teacher's Association.. [1994/56]
55. The pen which you have just picked up is.A. Charle's. B. Charles'. C. Charless'.. D. Charles's.. [1994/57]
56. There are.....on spelling and pronunciation at the end of the book A. appendixes. B. appendix. C. appendices. D. appendixes. [1994/63]
57. She usually works hard, but.....she could be very lazy A. at times. B. atimes. C. attimes. D. at time. [1994/64]
58. The exercise will be easily accomplished by the team if members....their... A. pull/resources together. B. pool/resources together. C. pull/resources. D. pool/ resources [1994/82]
59. They spent the last holiday with their.. A. sister in-laws.B. sisters-in-law. C. sisters-in-laws. D. sisters-inlaws. [1993/75]
60. Do you think all..not enough to help the investigators? A. these informations are. B. this informations are. C. this information is. D. these information are. [1993/85]
61. The army ran short of.... A. arm and ammunitions. B. arms and ammunitions. C. arms and ammunition. D. arm and ammunition. [1993/89]
62. The carpenter asked for ten packets of.....nails. A. fifteen-centimetre. B. fifteen centimetres. C. fifteen- centimetres. D. fifteen-centimetres'. [1993/93]
63. The man rose to an important position as a result of.... hard work A. sheer. B. cheer. C. share. D. shear. [1991/77]
64. Ebun Ojo.... international fame as an actress A. aquired.B. acquired. C. acquared. D. aquired. [1991/788]
65. The story on the lost jewel was quite.. A. unbelievable.B. unbeliveable. C. unbelieveable. D. unbelivable. [1991/79]
66. The patient is suffering from..... A. reumatism. B. rheumantism.C. rheumatism. D. rheumatism. [1991/80]
67. The attitude of my students to.....baffles me A. pronunciation.B. pronounciation. C. pro nouceation. D. pronounceation. [1991/81]
68. Many students have joined the.... movement A. revivalists.B. revival. C. revivalist. D. revivalist's.. [1991/99]
69. Why do you worry about such.... matters? A. insignificant.B. significant. C. non-significant. D. unsignificant. [1990/56]
70. I have the.....of meeting him A. previlege. B. privilege.C. previledge. D. priviledge. [1990/72]
71. The pastor said lay..... your hearts to God' A. bie. B. bear.C. bare. D. bar. [1990/73]
72. Olu, Akpan and Ovbiagele's.....make people to believe that they belong to the same school of thought A. philosophy.B. philosophys.C. philosophies D. philosophy's.. [1990/100]
73. Many unrelated issues were touched upon in the..... of the discussion A. cause. B. course. C. coarse. D. curse. [1989/68]
74. The traveller had to run.....in order to.....the train A. fast/cash.B. first/catch. C. fast/catch. D. first/cash.
75. My uncle is one of the.....of the society A. elitists. B. elites.C. elite.D. elitist. [1989/71]
76. The new singlet factory is built on the.....of Aba township A. outstretch. B. outskates. C. outskirts. D. outskirt. [1989/72]
77. The soldiers were sufficiently equipped with.. A. arms and ammunition. B. arms and ammunitions. C. arm and ammunitions.D. arm and ammunition. [1989/74]
78. The government has provided new....for the local government polls A. guard lines. B. guide lines. C. guardlines. D. guidelines. [1989/92]
79. The.....of the participating countries will hold a pre conference on the eve of the conference A. Auditor Generals.B. Auditors General. C. Auditors Generals. D. Auditors Generals. [1988/61]
80. There is no point getting upset by problems; I take them..... A. in my stride. B. on the spur of the moment. C. by leaps and bounds. D. in a jiffy. [1988/92]
81. The first graduation ceremony of the university was attended by men from all... of life A. works. B. areas. C. walks. D. parts. [1987/60]
82. The.....Affairs Officer is expecting all of us in the dining room A. Student. B. Student's.. C. Students. D. Students. [1987/65]
83. My boss is usually a charming man but.....he can be very irritable A. atimes. B. at times. C. those times. D. with times. [1987/75]
84. We surely ought to have an... arrangement in case somebody discovers the present strategy A. alternative.B. alternant. C. alt. D. alternate. [1987/76]
85. The man insisted on giving unsolicited... A. advice. B. advices.C. advise. D. advises. [1987/94]
86. Four persons accused of currency..., are being held by the security agents A. traficking. B. traviking. C. trafficking. D. traffiking. [1986/70]
87. The committee was frustrated because the Chief withheld his..... A. accent. B. access. C. assent. D. ascent. [1986/79]
88. He-did not Eittend the final burial..... A. rite. B. rights. C. rites.D. right. [1986/81]
89. The officer was compelled to the suspect's car A. seize.B. cease. C. sieze. D. sease. [0/82]
90. He missed the point because he took the statement....A. literally. B. literarily. C. literary D. uniliterally. [1986/83]
91. Their high was an advantage A. moral. B. morality. C. morale.D. morals. [1986/84]
92. The brave officer.the time bomb A. diffused. B. devuised.C. defused. D. difused. [1986/85]
93. Very few students have satisfactory.....these days because the student population has increased tremendously A. accomodation. B. accomodation. C. accommodation.D. accomodation. [1985/90]
94. That single....was enough to spoil a whole lifetime of good living A. occurence. B. ocurence. C. occurrence. D. occurrense. [1985/93]
95. Whilst the thief was.....the passengers, he kept apologizing for the inconvenience he was causing them A. robbing. B. rubbing. C. robing. D. rubing. [1985/95]
96. I have received the answer scripts of Peter and John What about.....? A. Ngozi. B. Ngozi's own.C. Ngozis. D. Ngozi's..[1985/99]
97. I.....a lot when I was a student A. used travelling. B. was used to travel. C. used to travel. D. used

- travel. [1984/61]
98. I have applied for..... on the campus and almost certain I shall get it A. accommdation. B. accommdation. C. accomodation. D. accommodation. [1983/54]
99. My mother had...the fire wood before it began to rain A. split.B. splited. C. splitted. D. spiking. [2008/70]
100. Uncle Ochai now has enough money to complete his ...building A. two storey. B. two-storeyed. C. two-story. D. two storeyed. [2008/83]
101. All God's prophets were given the great ...to preach salvation to people A. commision. B. commition. C. comission. D. commission. [2004/36]
102. I like the character that played the role of a political.....at the last convention of our party A. thorncoat.B. torncoat. C. turncoat. D. turnedcoat. [2000/45]
103. The old man's speech has become completely.... A. uncomprehensible. B. uncomprehensive. C. incom

- prehensive. D. incomprehensible. [1999/53]
104. Ikorodu is riot far from here, it is only an... A. hour of driving.B. hour's drive. C. hour by driving. D. hour in driving. [1979/81]
105. Some of the victims look ... A. Hindered B. Haphazard C. Hazard D. Haggard
106. He ... his father in high esteem. A. Hails B. Hales C. Heeds D. Holds
107. The ... of the beauty queen is captivating. A. Poisture B. Pasture C. Posture D. Postern

Punctuation and spelling Answers

1D 2C 3A 4D 5C 6D 7B 8D 9B 10A 11C 12A 13D 14D 15D1
6D 17A 18D 19B 20C 21A 22A 23C 24A 25A 26D 27D 28D
29B 30C 31B 32B 33C 34C 35B 36D 37B 38D 39B 40B 41
C 42B 43B 44B 45D 46D 47B 48A 49D 50A 51C 52D 53C
54A 55B 56C 57A 58B 59B 60C 61C 62A 63A 64B 65A 66
D 67A 68B 69A 70B 71C 72C 73B 74C 75B 76C 77A 78D
79A 80A 81C 82A 83B 84A 85A 86C 87B 88C 89A 90A 91
C 92C 93C 94C 95A 96D 97C 98D 99A 100A 101D 102C 1
03D 104B 105D 106D 107C

Idiomatic Expression

INTRODUCTION

The word idiom is a fixed phrase or sentence, whose meaning is different from the meaning of the individual words. They are quite a useful and fascinating aspect of the English language. They form an integral part of UTME on Use of English as five questions will be asked from here. There is no simple formular for mastering idioms, you just have to practice them diligently. To ease your studies of idioms, we have grouped the past questions on them into three.

Idiom 1

Fill in the blank space in the following sentences making use of the best of the options.

- Everyone was ready to play the devil's advocate in the impeachment controversy** A. everyone was willing to speak against the impeachment to encourage discussion on it. B. everyone was willing to defend an unpopular point of view concerning the impeachment. C. everyone was willing to fight for the defenceless citizens no matter the consequences. D. everyone was willing to be an evil genius in the controversy. [2004/54]
- The stadium had a capacity crowd in spite of the weather** A. The weather favoured the crowd at the stadium. B. The crowd defied the weather to fill the stadium. C. The stadium was not filled because of the weather. D. The crowd loved the weather at the stadium. [1997/26]
- Imona couldn't have attended lectures yesterday** A. It was possible that Imona 'attended lectures yesterday. B. It was possible that Imona didn't attend lectures yesterday. C. It was impossible that Imona attended lectures yesterday. D. It was impossible that Imona didn't attend lectures yesterday. [1997/27]
- The conference is biennial** A. The conference is held twice every year. B. The conference is held twice every two years. C. The conference is held once every other year. D. The conference lasts for two years. [1997/28]
- Only two ministers survived the recent cabinet reshuffle** A. In the recent changes in government, only two ministers were sacked. B. In the recent changes in government, all but two ministers remained alive. C. In the recent changes in government, all but two ministers retained their posts. D. In the recent changes in government, all but two ministers were sacked. [1997/29]
- Bassey is as hard as nails** A. Bassey is very strong. B. Bassey is very brave. C. Bassey is determined. D. Bassey is unsympathetic. [1997/30]
- Most of the time, their presence is a menace.** A. Their presence is always meaningful. B. Their presence is seldom a bother. C. Their presence is usually of great concern. D. their presence is frequently a threat. [1995/26]
- My son, who is in the U.S. A. is studying Engineering** A. my only son is in the U.S.A studying Engineering. B. one of my sons is in the U.S.A. studying Engineering. C. my sons are in the U.S.A but only one is studying Engineering. D. only my son is in U.S.A studying Engineering. [1995/27]
- I was one of those who actively believed in his development programmes** A. I was part of those who renounced the programmes. B. I was the originator of the programmes. C. I was one of the people who embraced the programmes. D. I was one of the great number who developed his programmes actively. [1995/28]
- The mills of God grind slowly, but they grind exceedingly small** A. God has a mill where every material in life is thoroughly ground. B. God may seem slow in action, but he adequately rewards every bit of injustice. C. The world is like a food factory where God takes His time in grinding all raw materials properly. D. Even though God is never in a hurry, He achieves all things. [1995/29]
- People are not interested in who rules** A. People who rule are not interested in the ruled. B. The rulers are not indifferent about the people. C. People are indifferent about the rulers. D. People are not ruled by the people they are interested in. [1995/30]
- Had he come that day, the problem would still not have been solved** A. He came that day, but the problem was not solved. B. He did not come that day, but the ptaolem was solved. C. He did not come that day, and the problem was not solved. D. He did not

- come that day, but his presence would not have solved the problem. [1994/27]
- 13. He is now the megaphone of the people's oppressors** **A.** He now speaks on behalf of the oppressors. **B.** He now carries the megaphone when the oppressors speak. **C.** He is now the oppressor with the loudest voice. **D.** He is the oppressor who now speaks with a megaphone. [1994/28]
- 14. Here is Mr Pam the tailor** **A.** He is the only person known as Mr Pam, and he is a tailor. **B.** He is one of those known as Mr Pam, and he is a tailor. **C.** He is the only tailor, and he is Mr Pam. **D.** He is one of many tailors, and he is Mr Pam. [1994/29]
- 15. One of the guarantors shall sign here** **A.** It is desirable that one of the guarantors signs here. **B.** It is reasonable that one of the guarantors signs here. **C.** It is obligatory that one of the guarantors signs here. **D.** It is advisable that one of the guarantors signs here. [1994/30]
- 16. Between you and me, I would say that the equipment has outlived its usefulness.** **A.** I believe that the equipment is no longer useful to either of us. **B.** I believe that the equipment continues to be useful to either you or me. **C.** My idea of the usefulness of the equipment should remain known only to the two of us. **D.** My idea of the usefulness of the equipment is shared by both of us. [1993/26]
- 17. Emeka wished he had started school early** **A.** Emeka started school early as he wished. **B.** Emeka regretted starting school early. **C.** Emeka regretted not starting school early. **D.** Emeka could have started school early if he had wished. [1993/27]
- 18. He was between the devil and the deep blue sea** **A.** He was in danger. **B.** He was scared. **C.** He stood between the devil and the sea. **D.** He was in a dilemma. [1993/28]
- 19. The boys who rioted, were suspended by the principal** **A.** Only some of the boys rioted and they were suspended. **B.** All the boys rioted and were suspended. **C.** Many boys rioted and were suspended. **D.** A few boys rioted and were suspended. [1993/29]
- 20. Whoever would have thought that he would lose the presidential election?** **A.** Everyone believed that he would lose the election. **B.** It was commonly believed that he would win the election. **C.** He was supposed to lose the election. **D.** No one believed that he would win the election. [1993/30]
- 21. It's wonderful that Musa is already out of hospital** **A.** The fact that Musa is out of hospital causes great wonder. **B.** The fact that Musa is out of hospital is a miracle. **C.** It is surprising that Musa is out of hospital. **D.** It is very pleasing that Musa is out of hospital. [1993/31]
- 22. You could have heard the sound if you weren't asleep** **A.** You were not asleep so you heard the sound. **B.** You were asleep so you did not hear the sound. **C.** You heard the sound though you were asleep. **D.** You did not hear the sound though you were not asleep. [1993/32]
- 23. Had Aminu been a dull student, his failure wouldn't have surprised anybody** **A.** Aminu failed and it surprised everybody since he was dull. **B.** Aminu was not a dull student and so everybody was surprised that he failed. **C.** Because Aminu was a dull student, everybody was surprised that he failed. **D.** Aminu had been a dull student, and so nobody was surprised that he failed. [1993/33]
- 24. The president of the club said that he would cross the bridge on getting there** **A.** He was waiting for an opportunity to take a decision. **B.** When he got to the river he would build a bridge across it. **C.** He would take a decision at the appropriate time. **D.** When he got to the river he would cross at the bridge. [1993/34]
- 25. His refusal to help us, dealt a death-blow to our plans** **A.** because he did not help, our plans did not materialize. **B.** He helped and our plans materialized. **C.** He blew our plans to pieces. **D.** He supported our plans so it worked. [1993/35]
- 26. People may not pick flowers in this park** **A.** People can pick flowers in this park. **B.** People may not wish to pick flowers in this park. **C.** People are prohibited from picking flowers in this park. **D.** People cannot pick flowers from this park. [1992/96]
- 27. Tom ought not to have told me** **A.** Tom did not tell me but he should. **B.** Perhaps Tom was wrong to have told me. **C.** Tom told me but it was wrong of him. **D.** It was necessary for Tom not to tell me. [1992/97]
- 28. He can't be swimming all day** **A.** It's possible he is not swimming now. **B.** It's very likely he is swimming now. **C.** He does not have the ability to swim all day. **D.** He would not like to swim all day. [1992/98]
- 29. Bolade would make a mess of cooking the rice** **A.** It was typical of Bolade to make a mess of things. **B.** Bolade cannot cook. **C.** Bolade will not cook the rice well. **D.** Bolade does not like cooking rice. [1992/99]
- 30. If I were the captain, I would have led the team to victory** **A.** I was not the captain but I led the team to victory. **B.** I was the captain but I did not lead the team to victory. **C.** I was not the captain and I did not lead the team to victory. **D.** I was the captain and I led the team to victory. [1992/100]
- 31. My uncle told me, 'I have a large house and you are welcome to the protection it offers'. O My uncle told me that....** **A.** he had a large house, and you are welcome to the protection it offers. **B.** he have a large house, and I was welcome to the protection it offered. **C.** had a large house and he was welcomed to the protection it offers. **D.** he had a large house, and I was welcome to the protection it offered. [1984/41]
- 32. The manager said that unless the employees worked harder the factory would have to be closed. The manager said that....** **A.** the employees were not working hard, and so the factory would be closed. **B.** the employees should not close early so that they could produce more. **C.** the factory was not productive because the employees were lazy. **D.** the factory would be shut if the employees did not increase their output. [1984/42]
- Each of the questions consists of a sentence with a phrase or word underline, select the option that best express the meaning of the phrase or word underline**
- 33. The thought of his admission to the University keyed Olu up to a state of great excitement.** **A.** stimulated Olu. **B.** ushered Olu. **C.** Opened Olu. **D.** frightened Olu. [1983/95]
- 34. After a careful review of Adamu's last examination result, the Principal concluded that his performance left much to be desired.** **A.** Was very

- unsatisfactory. **B.** was very satisfactory. **C.** was extremely desirable. **D.** was very brilliant. [1983/96]
35. The president stood his ground because the Committee members would not be persuaded to arrive at a compromise on the issue being debated **A.** yielded his position. **B.** shifted his position. **C.** Maintained his position. **D.** defended his position. [1983/97]
36. The take home pay of many workers is such that they can hardly make both ends meet **A.** live an honest life. **B.** finish their schedule of work. **C.** keep two jobs at a time. **D.** live within their income. [1983/98]
37. When kerosene was poured on the fire, the effect was instantaneous **A.** momentary. **B.** momentous. **C.** amazing. **D.** Immediate. [1983/99]
38. It was interesting to observe the likeness between the pupil and his teacher **A.** similarity. **B.** relationship. **C.** fondness. **D.** affection. [1983/100]
39. The vote of thanks which was elaborately moved by the social secretary did not ring true particularly as the fund raising had been a big failure **A.** was all lies. **B.** was not honest. **C.** Was inaudible. **D.** was not genuine. [1980/68]
40. I listened with rapt attention as he spoke and he never suspected that I knew he was telling me a cock and bull story **A.** a story about a cock. **B.** a story about a bull. **C.** an incredible story. **D.** an interesting story. [1980/69]
41. The two boxers were neck and neck up till the sixth round but in the seventh and final round, the bigger one lost ground **A.** could no longer stand on his feet. **B.** failed to maintain his position. **C.** was beaten. **D.** became dizzy. [1980/71]
42. While the mother and father were arguing furiously their small boy sat patiently taking in everything they said **A.** absorbing. **B.** accommodating. **C.** embracing. **D.** accepting. [1980/72]
43. In the match against the Uplanders team, the Submariners turned out to be the darkhorse **A.** played most brilliantly. **B.** played below their usual form. **C.** won unexpectedly. **D.** lost as expected. [1978/26]
44. Only the small fry get punished for such social misdemeanours **A.** small boys. **B.** unimportant people. **C.** frightened people. **D.** frivolous people. [1978/27]
45. He spoke with his heart in his mouth **A.** courageously. **B.** with such unusual cowardice. **C.** with a lot of confusion in his speech. **D.** with fright and agitation. [1978/28]
46. The leader in today's issue of our popular newspaper focuses on inflation **A.** president. **B.** headline. **C.** editorial. **D.** Columnist. [1978/29]
47. From the ways my friend talks, you can see he is such a bore **A.** rude. **B.** brilliant. **C.** uninteresting. **D.** overbearing. [1978/30]
48. His jail terms were to run concurrently **A.** simultaneously. **B.** uniformly. **C.** laboriously. **D.** consecutively. [1978/31]
49. There is some obvious symmetry in the whole presentation **A.** confusion. **B.** hesitation. **C.** excitement. **D.** orderliness. [1978/32]
50. This bill has to wait as we are now insolvent **A.** overworked. **B.** bankrupt. **C.** unsettled. **D.** insoluble. [1978/33]
51. All his plans fell through **A.** failed. **B.** were accomplished. **C.** had to be reviewed. **D.** were rejected. [1978/34]
52. The balance sheet at the end of the business year shows that we broke even. **A.** lost heavily. **B.** made profit. **C.** neither lost nor gained. **D.** had no money to continue business. [1978/35]
53. He was appointed specifically to put the recruits through **A.** assign them to work. **B.** train them. **C.** discipline them. **D.** assist them at work. [1978/36]
54. The result of his experiment represents a breakthrough in medical science **A.** an outstanding success. **B.** catastrophe. **C.** an end to such experiments. **D.** a breaking point. [1978/37]
55. Being an optimist, our professor always sees the Brightside of most things **A.** charming. **B.** illumined. **C.** brilliant. **D.** cheerful. [1978/38]
56. The State Government appointed a Commission of inquiry to go into the community's complaints carefully and without prejudice **A.** investigate. **B.** search. **C.** look for. **D.** account for. [1978/39]
57. The traffic situation in Lagos can lead to disastrous consequences a man lost a very lucrative job because he was held up by it **A.** confused. **B.** delayed. **C.** annoyed. **D.** intrigued. [1978/40]
58. Mrs. Dada has been deserted by her husband because he feels she has a heart of stone **A.** She has a heavy heart. **B.** she has little warmth of feeling. **C.** she has a hard heart. **D.** she is hard hearted. [1978/41]
59. Mr. Jack could be a successful businessman if he paid more attention to the more intricate aspects of his account **A.** Mr Jack will undoubtedly succeed. **B.** Mr Jack cannot succeed. **C.** Jack will have a very good chance of succeeding. **D.** Mr. Jack will find it difficult to succeed. [1978/42]
60. If my father had not arrived, I would have starved. This sentence means **A.** my father did arrive and I didn't starve. **B.** I had to starve because my father didn't come. **C.** my father didn't arrive and I didn't starve. **D.** I should have starved but I didn't. [1978/43]
61. The two sprinters were running neck and neck **A.** exactly level. **B.** very slowly. **C.** very fast. **D.** with their necks together. [1978/44]
62. He stared at her **A.** glanced. **B.** peeped. **C.** looked. **D.** gazed. [1978/45]
63. When the man was caught by the police he presented a bold front **A.** he attacked the policemen boldly. **B.** he walked up to the policemen. **C.** he faced the situation with apparent boldness. **D.** he bravely attempted to give them a present. [1978/46]
64. I have been able to observe him at close quarters **A.** in government houses nearby. **B.** within a short space of time. **C.** in a small family house. **D.** at close range. [1978/47]
65. At the sight of the ghastly accident the poor woman's hair stood on end **A.** the woman's hair became straight. **B.** the wind blew her hair upwards. **C.** the woman was unmoved. **D.** the woman was frightened. [1978/48]
- Idioms 1 Answers**
 1A 2B 3C 4C 5D 6A 7D 8B 9C 10D 11C 12D 13A 14A 15C 16A 17C 18D 19A 20B 21C 22B 23B 24C 25A 26C 27C 28B 29C 30C 31D 32D 33A 34A 35C 36D 37D 38A 39D 40C 41B 42A 43C 44B 45D 46C 47C 48A 49D 50B 51A 52B 53B 54A 55D 56A 57B 58D 59C 60A 61A 62B 63C 64D 65D

Idioms 2

In each questions, select the option that best explains the information conveyed in the sentence.

1. **In our college, the regulations concerning resist are a grey area** **A.** The regulations have just been revised. **B.** The regulations have often been ignored. **C.** The regulations are perfectly clear. **D.** The regulations are not very clear. [2006/55]
2. **Ogiri takes after his father, he fawns upon anyone with influence.** **A.** Like his father, Ogiri likes to flatter people with influence in society. **B.** Like his father, Ogiri hates influential people. **C.** Ogiri, who always follows his father, tries to act like an influential man. **D.** Ogiri, who looks like his father, follows rich and influential people about. [2006/56]
3. **You are to write a report and give it to the security office** **A.** After writing your report, give it to the security office. **B.** You are writing a report, as the security office directed. **C.** The report you are writing should be given to the security office. **D.** You have been ordered to write a report, which you will give to the security office. [2006/57]
4. **After the war, the victors became increasingly vindictive** **A.** Vengeful attacks were incessantly carried out on those who lost the war. **B.** Friendly measures were taken to heal the wounds. **C.** Repressive measures were taken against those who lost the war. **D.** Those who won the war became treacherous. [2006/58]
5. **The prefect reeled off the names of all the students who broke the library law.** **A.** The prefect gave a disjointed list of the students in the law library. **B.** The prefect omitted the names of the students who broke into the law library. **C.** The prefect submitted a complete list of the students who stole library books. **D.** The prefect gave an accurate list of the students who disobeyed library regulations. [2006/59]
6. **I owe you far less than you owe me** **A.** My debt to you is greater than yours to me. **B.** Your debt is not much greater than mine. **C.** What we owe each other is approximately the same. **D.** I owe you something, but you owe me much more. [2006/60]
7. **The dispute over land acquisition has now come to a head** **A.** The problem has reached crisis proportions. **B.** The problem has now been referred to the headquarters. **C.** Because of the dispute, land acquisition has now been halted. **D.** The problem has now been solved. [2006/61]
8. **He had hardly spoken when the bell rang** **A.** He found it difficult to speak, and then the bell rang. **B.** When the bell rang, he was still speaking. **C.** The bell rang very soon after he spoke. **D.** He spoke in a harsh manner and the bell rang. [2006/62]
9. **I think she takes her guardian's support for granted** **A.** Her guardian has been helping her for a long time, and she is very grateful to him. **B.** She wants her guardian to grant her more support. **C.** She thinks her guardian will no longer support her as he has been doing. **D.** Her guardian has been helping her for a long time, but she does not show enough gratitude. [2006/63]
10. **The class has fallen in with the teacher's plans.** **A.** The class has ignored the plans. **B.** The class has rejected the plans. **C.** The class has accepted the plans. **D.** The class has modified the plans. [2006/64]
11. **If the rain hadn't fallen, we wouldn't have missed the match** **A.** The rain is falling, so we will miss the match. **B.** The rain fell, so we didn't watch the match. **C.** The rain fell, so we watched the match. **D.** The rain didn't fall, so we didn't watch the match. [2005/26]
12. **The class was tired of the new boy jawing away all the time.** **A.** He bit off people's jaws. **B.** He was always chewing in the class. **C.** He was always making trouble for the class. **D.** He talked continuously in the class. [2005/27]
13. **The new Headmaster hoped that his men would pull together** **A.** He expected that the men would cooperate with him. **B.** He thought that the men would compose themselves at work. **C.** He was certain that they would resign en masse. **D.** He was certain that their condition would improve under him. [2005/28]
14. **If the trader paid in full, his order was not pruned down.** **A.** The trader who made full payment did not have his order reduced. **B.** The trader who made some payment did not have his order delayed. **C.** Unless the trader paid in full his order would be rejected. **D.** As the trader did not increase his order, he did not need to pay in full. [2005/29]
15. **The men were not pawns in someone else's political game** **A.** The action they executed was their idea. **B.** The men used someone else's plan. **C.** They were used by someone's political game. **D.** They loved playing political games. [2005/30]
16. **The crisis ended as suddenly as it began** **A.** The crisis had suddenly begun. **B.** The crisis will not end suddenly. **C.** The crisis stopped almost immediately. **D.** The crisis will stop immediately. [2005/31]
17. **One thing I will not be complaining about in my new job is a lack of excitement** **A.** The job is bad. **B.** The job is exciting. **C.** The job is not too exciting. **D.** The job has been previously done. [2005/32]
18. **The Governor parried all the questions put to him by the journalist** **A.** The Governor answered all the questions brilliantly. **B.** the Governor evaded all the questions. **C.** the Governor failed all the questions. **D.** the Governor mastered all the questions. [2005/33]
19. **If I visited England, I might go to Manchester City** **A.** When I go to England, I could go to Manchester City. **B.** Whenever I visit England, I must go to Manchester City. **C.** I did not go to England and could not go to Manchester City. **D.** I could not visit Manchester City because I did not want to go to England. [2005/34]
20. **The man puts his foot down whenever he is convinced of his action** **A.** He desires to assert his will in the situation. **B.** He makes his mark wherever he goes. **C.** His attitude demonstrates someone who likes to oppress others around him. **D.** He demonstrates firmness of character. [2005/35]
21. **Everyone was ready to play the devil's advocate in the impeachment controversy.** **A.** everyone was willing to speak against the impeachment to encourage discussion on it. **B.** everyone was willing to defend an unpopular point of view concerning the impeachment. **C.** everyone was willing to fight for the defenceless citizens no matter the consequences.

- D. everyone was willing to be an evil genius in the controversy. [2004/54]
- 22. Adamu's father is a key figure in that ministry** A. the ministry trusts Adamu's father as a central figure. B. Adamu's father is a figurehead in the ministry. C. Adamu's father's position is essential in the ministry. D. Adamu's father keeps the key to the ministry. [2004/55]
- 23. The government warns that drink-driving is punishable under the law.** A. a drunkard driving can be punished. B. driving while drunk is an offence. C. driving while drinking is an offence. D. drinking and driving is an offence. [2004/56]
- 24. In many countries, democracy is ostensibly being practised.** A. democracy is indeed being practised in many countries. B. many countries have effective democracy. C. many countries have democracy in practice. D. democracy is apparently practised in many countries. [2004/57]
- 25. The investigators stated clearly that they had reached a dead end in their scrutiny of suspects in the murder case.** A. the investigators did not know what to do with the suspects' murder. B. the investigators had evidence to sentence the suspects to death in the end. C. there was no further progress in the investigation of the murder suspects. D. the end had come for the suspects in the murder case. [2004/58]
- 26. If he went to London, he would see the Queen** A. He did not go to London and did not see the Queen. B. He would like to see the Queen when he goes to London. C. When he goes to London, he will see the Queen. D. He did not see the Queen when he went to London. [2003/56]
- 27. Ngozi has always considered her father to be an impassioned man** A. Her father is a very strict man. B. Her father is a very lively man. C. Her father is an emotional man. D. Her father is a disciplined man. [2003/57]
- 28. The manager paid us in hard currency** A. We were paid in a strong and stable currency. B. We were paid in dollars and pound sterling. C. We were paid in new notes. D. We were paid in foreign currency. [2003/58]
- 29. The elders rebuked Olu for taking issue with his principal.** A. Olu was scolded for acting in collusion with his principal. B. Olu was reprimanded for arguing with his principal. C. Olu was blamed for issuing a statement denying his principal. D. Olu was cautioned for shouting at his principal. [2003/59]
- 30. In spite of his humble beginning, Audu now throws his weight around** A. His noble birth notwithstanding Audu is a corrupt man. B. From his poor background, Audu is now a rich man. C. Despite his obvious poverty, Audu is a proud man. D. Audu is arrogant despite his simple upbringing. [2003/60]
- 31. The organization is constantly in a state of flux** A. There are periodic changes in the organization. B. The organization is facing a difficult period. C. The organization is experiencing good times. D. The organization is moribund. [2002/96]
- 32. His meteoric rise to fame surprised everyone.** A. His rise to fame was only temporary. B. People were amazed at his rapid success. C. He became successful very suddenly. D. He rose to the top quite unexpectedly. [2002/97]
- 33. The politician was pilloried by the press for his inflammatory remarks** A. The politician was snubbed by the press for his remarks. B. The politician was criticized by the press for his remarks. C. The politician was closely questioned by the press for his remarks. D. The politician was ridiculed by the press for his remarks. [2002/98]
- 34. After the successful operation, he recovered by leaps and bounds** A. He got well very rapidly. B. His well-bound wounds aided his recovery. C. He did a lot of keep-fit exercises. D. He used to jog regularly. [2002/99]
- 35. Audu was taken bad in the middle of the night** A. He was caught. B. He was robbed. C. He was ill. D. He was drunk. [2002/100]
- 36. Oche's chief idiosyncrasy is a passion for pounded yam** A. Oche's chief hates pounded yam. B. Oche hates pounded yam. C. Oche has a penchant for pounded yam. D. Oche's chief likes pounded yam. [2001/41]
- 37. You must not attend the end-of-year party** A. It is not necessary that you attend the party. B. It is necessary that you do not attend the party. C. You do not have to decide whether to attend the party or not. D. You have to decide whether to attend the party or not. [2001/42]
- 38. The man reasoned that there ought to be a limit to sycophancy** A. there can be no favour beyond a reasonable point. B. sycophants need not talk all the time. C. people should know when not to use flattery. D. sycophants should know when to grant people's requests. [2001/43]
- 39. Adawo is an imp** A. Adawo behaves queerly. B. Adawo behaves decently. C. Adawo behaves differently. D. Adawo behaves badly. [2001/44]
- 40. The solution lies in choosing between various negative alternatives** A. the solution can be found in one of negative options. B. the solution lies in choosing between the positive and the negative. C. the solutions are many. D. the solution is a negative one. [2001/45]
- 41. If he were here it could be more fun** A. He did not show up and so the occasion lacked much fun. B. He was being expected to supply more fun. C. There was not fun because he was not present. D. He was expected but did not show up to liven up the occasion. [2000/63]
- 42. Though he is our elected representative he often takes a rather jaundiced view of our problems** A. He takes a rather hazy view of our problems. B. He takes an unfavourable position concerning our problems. C. He takes a rather forceful view of our problems. D. He takes a sickly view of our problems. [2000/64]
- 43. When I visited James I only gave him a congratulatory card on account of his promotion** A. The only person I visited was James and nobody else. B. It was only James that I gave a congratulatory card to. C. All I gave James when I visited him was a congratulatory card. D. All I did when I visited James was give him a congratulatory card. [2000/65]
- 44. The events of last Friday show that there is no love lost between the Principal and the Vice-Principal** A. They like each other. B. They work independently. C. They cannot part company. D. they dislike each other. [2000/66]
- 45. The politician's inflammatory remarks were heavily criticized** A. The politician's rude remarks were heavily criticized. B. The politician's provocative remarks were heavily

- criticized. **C.** The politician's bombastic remarks were heavily criticized. **D.** The politician's tribalistic remarks were heavily criticized. [2000/67]
- 46. The manager said that the new loaf was the last word in bakery** **A.** The loaf was the best ever baked. **B.** The loaf was the last to be baked. **C.** The loaf was the worst to have been baked. **D.** The loaf was the last in the baker's directory. [1999/96]
- 47. The reformists say elections cannot be free and fair unless a number of constitutional changes are effected** **A.** Reformation depends on constitutional changes. **B.** Free and fair elections depend on law reforms. **C.** Free and fair and elections are the primary concern of the reformists. **D.** Effecting constitutional changes is dependent on electoral reforms. [1999/97]
- 48. Hundreds of used items will go under the hammer during the weekend** **A.** Unserviceable goods will be publicly destroyed at the weekend. **B.** Impounded household items will be sold to the public before the weekend. **C.** Damaged items will be sold next weekend. **D.** Many old items will be auctioned this weekend. [1999/98]
- 49. The crowd in the hall is intimidating.** **A.** The crowd is frightening. **B.** The crowd is angry. **C.** The crowd is overwhelming. **D.** The crowd is riotous. [1999/99]
- 50. The horizon may not be clear now, but the troubled spots have certainly been noted** **A.** The horizon is dependent on the troubled spots. **B.** Clarity of the horizon is dependent on the perception of the troubled spots. **C.** The troubled spots are more perceptible than the horizon. **D.** Horizon, clarity of the troubled spots and certainty are remarkably noted. [1999/100]
- 51. If I left the country, I would arrange for my family to join me.** **A.** He left the country and his family joined him. **B.** in the event of his leaving the country, his family would join him. **C.** He did not leave the country and his family did not join him. **D.** He may not leave the country. [1998/26]
- 52. A state of mutual hatred existed for years between the two villages of Umuna and Ogboma** **A.** Umuna hated Ogboma. **B.** Ogboma hated Umuna. **C.** Ogboma and Umuna hated themselves. **D.** Umuna and Ogboma hated each other. [1998/27]
- 53. The painting in the museum was beautifully faked** **A.** The painting was a good deceptive replica. **B.** The painting was well-framed and displayed. **C.** The painting was deceptively decorated in the museum. **D.** The painting was carefully hung in the museum. [1998/28]
- 54. Ade: Do you mind if I sit down here? Bola: Well, yes I do actually** **A.** Bola is reluctantly granting the request. **B.** Bola is willingly accepting the request. **C.** Bola is certainly rejecting the request. **D.** Bola is objecting to the request. [1998/29]
- 55. The President held forth for several minutes on the need for patriotism** **A.** The President was silent for some minutes when patriotism was being discussed. **B.** the President whispered a few things about patriotism. **C.** the President spent time saying a few things about patriots. **D.** the President gave a rather long speech on the importance of patriotism. [1998/30]
- 56. The slide in the price of gold in the world market has left the industry reeling** **A.** The gradual fall in gold price is making the industry unstable. **B.** The stability in gold price is making the industry stagnant. **C.** decline in gold price is making the industry redundant. **D.** The increase in gold price is making the industry to boom. [1998/31]
- 57. Fabricated statements published as truths amount to an abuse of press freedom** **A.** To make known what is not true is aggressive to press freedom. **B.** Publishing formulated untruths is misused press freedom. **C.** Unplanned publicized untruths are a misuse of the freedom of the pre. **D.** Press freedom is based on published untruths. [1998/32]
- 58. The expected guests arrived at the eleventh hour** **A.** A. The guests arrived at the last minute. **B.** The guests arrived 11 O'clock. **C.** The guests arrived at the expected time. **D.** The guests arrived eleven hours behind schedule. [1998/33]
- 59. After addressing the court for two hours, the defence counsel rested her case** **A.** The defence counsel was tired after speaking for two hours, so she took a break. **B.** The judge adjourned the defence counsel's case after listening for two hours. **C.** The defence counsel concluded her defence after speaking for two hours. **D.** The judge advised the defence counsel to rest after two hours of address. [1998/34]
- 60. Benjamin exclaimed, 'If it is Napoleon Who said it, it must be right'** **A.** Benjamin never believes what Napoleon says. **B.** Benjamin does not know what is right unless Napoleon says it. **C.** Napoleon always says what Benjamin believes to be right. **D.** Benjamin thinks that Napoleon always says the right thing. [1998/35]
- 61. The stadium had a capacity crowd in spite of the weather** **A.** The weather favoured the crowd at the stadium. **B.** The crowd defied the weather to fill the stadium. **C.** The stadium was not filled because of the weather. **D.** The crowd loved the weather at the stadium. [1998/26]
- 62. Imona couldn't have attended lectures Yesterday** **A.** It was possible that Imona attended lectures yesterday. **B.** B. It was possible that Imona didn't attend lectures yesterday. **C.** It was impossible that Imona attended lectures yesterday. **D.** It was impossible that Imona didn't attend lectures yesterday. [1998/27]
- 63. The conference is biennial** **A.** The conference is held twice every year. **B.** The conference is held twice every two years. **C.** The conference is held once every other year. **D.** The conference lasts for two years. [1998/28]
- 64. Only two ministers survived the recent cabinet reshuffle** **A.** In the recent changes in government, only two ministers were sacked. **B.** In the recent changes in government, all but two ministers remained alive. **C.** In the recent changes in government, all but two ministers retained their posts. **D.** In the recent changes in government, all but two ministers were sacked. [1998/29]
- 65. Bassey is as hard as nails** **A.** Bassey is very strong. **B.** Bassey is very brave. **C.** Bassey is determined. **D.** Bassey is unsympathetic. [1998/30]
- 66. Wouldn't it have been better to accept the referee's decision, Tunde?** **A.** Tunde did not agree with the referee **B.** The referee's decision was fair **C.** Tunde had to accept the referee's decision **D.** The referee's decision was better than Tunde's
- 67. Dangana put the screw on his sister** **A.** He

- pressurized and encouraged her **B.** He hindered and discouraged his sister **C.** He frightened and threatened her **D.** He flogged and injured his sister
- 68. You had better do as the doctor says and stay in bed** **A.** It is better to stay in bed when listening to the doctor **B.** It is wiser to listen to the doctor than to stay in bed **C.** It is wiser to wait in bed for the doctor **D.** The wisest thing to do is to stay in bed.
- 69. Kunle was allowed to stew in his own juice** **A.** He enjoyed the fruit of his labour **B.** He suffered the consequences of his action **C.** He associated with the rich in the society **D.** He suffered untold hardship
- 70. Mula was told that if he behaved badly he would go to bed without any supper** **A.** Mula had not yet had his supper **B.** Mula was behaving badly because he had no supper **C.** Mula had had no supper because he had behaved badly **D.** Mula had had supper and had gone to bed.
- 71. Musa lost his deposit in the last election** **A.** He misplaced his money in the last election **B.** He spent a lot of money in the last election **C.** He lost the last election **D.** He forfeited his candidature in the last election
- 72. Mr. Okonkwo's main problem is how to make the company break even** **A.** His problem is how to break up the company **B.** His problem is how to make the company make profit **C.** His problem is how to make the company go on break **D.** His problem is how to coordinate the company evenly.
- 73. Abdul and Sule have mended fences** **A.** They have repaired the fences **B.** They have settled their differences **C.** They have identified their differences **D.** They have constructed their fences
- 74. The tiles should be laid in an attractive pattern** **A.** It should be laid in a free manner **B.** It should be laid in the traditional manner **C.** It should be laid in a logical form **D.** It should be laid in a colourful form
- 75. Mr Udoh's diary is an indispensable record.** **A.** His diary is irreplaceable **B.** His diary is indestructible **C.** His diary is immovable **D.** His diary is indigestible
- 76. Bolanle's certificate was mortgaged to pay the hospital bill.** **A.** Bolanle's certificate was sold. **B.** Bolanle's certificate was used as deposit. **C.** The hospital bill was paid with Bolanle's certificate. **D.** Bolanle gave the certificate to the doctor.
- 77. 'My husband is my life', the woman declared.** **A.** He is the most important person to her. **B.** He donated blood to save her life. **C.** He rescued her from a domestic accident. **D.** The woman is on life support.
- 78. Nana felt out of her element at the rally.** **A.** She is happy with the rally. **B.** She is uncomfortable at the rally. **C.** She is good at organizing rally. **D.** She is out to campaign for the rally.
- 79. Biola squeezed Tola dry at the workshop.** **A.** Biola teased Tola at the workshop. **B.** Biola blackmailed Tola at the workshop. **C.** Biola got enough information out of Tola at the workshop. **D.** Biola embraced Tola at the workshop by squeezing her.
- 80. Suliati was tarred in the same brush as Ayo.** **A.** It was thought they had the same fault. **B.** They travelled on the same route. **C.** They used the same tooth brush. **D.** It was thought they lived close to each other.
- 81. He took the high road in his campaign.** **A.** He took his campaign to highbrow areas **B.** He took a bold step in his campaign **C.** He took a positive action in his campaign **D.** He took important personalities to his campaigns.
- 82. Bala got a job by paying hush money.** **A.** Bala was well paid for the job **B.** Bala gave a bribe to get a job **C.** Bala stole money to pay for the job **D.** Bala threatened them harshly.
- 83. There are many bookshops close at hand.** **A.** There are many closed bookshops. **B.** The bookshop can be reached easily. **C.** The book shop can be reached with difficulty. **D.** The bookshops are well stocked.
- 84. Tolu lost her nerves when Ada appeared.** **A.** Tolu became sad on seeing Ada **B.** Tolu lost control of herself on seeing Ada **C.** Tolu ran away on seeing Ada **D.** Tolu became worried on seeing Ada
- 85. The protesters were urged to keep a sense of proportion.** **A.** They should not go beyond the college gate with their protest. **B.** They should divide into groups for a good protest. **C.** They should do what is important in the protest. **D.** They should reduce the number in the group.
- 86. Ibrahim made me feel small.** **A.** Ibrahim made me look stupid **B.** Ibrahim made me to look humble **C.** Ibrahim made me feel relevant **D.** Ibrahim made me feel unimportant
- 87. The letter was being written by the principal.** **A.** The letter had been written by the principal. **B.** The principal was writing the letter. **C.** The principal wanted to write the letter. **D.** The principal wrote the letter.
- 88. The man's Achilles' heel is women** **A.** His weakness is women **B.** His strength is women **C.** He fights women **D.** He respects women
- 89. The painting was beautifully faked.** **A.** The painting was a good deceptive replica. **B.** The painting was well-framed and displayed. **C.** The painting was deceptively decorated. **D.** The painting was carefully designed.
- 90. Advising Olu to break his bad habit is like knocking your head against a brick wall.** **A.** It is making a fool of you. **B.** It is trying the impossible. **C.** It is making him your enemy. **D.** It is making him to beat you.

Idioms 2 Answers

1D 2A 3D 4A 5D 6D 7A 8C 9D 10C 11B 12D 13A 14A 15A1
 6C 17B 18B 19A 20D 21A 22C 23B 24D 25C 26C 27C 28A
 29B 30D 31A 32B 33B 34A 35C 36C 37B 38C 39D 40A 4
 1A 42B 43C 44D 45B 46A 47B 48D 49C 50C 51B 52D 53A
 54D 55C 56A 57B 58A 59C 60D 61B 62C 63C 64D 65A 6
 6A 67C 68D 69B 70A 71C 72B 73B 74D 75A 76C 77A 78B
 79C 80A 81C 82B 83B 84B 85C 86D 87D 88A 89A 90B

Idioms 3

In each questions, select the option that best explains the information conveyed in the sentence.

- The workers tightened their hold on the capital.**
A. They tightened a rope round the capital. **B.** They controlled the capital more strictly. **C.** They held onto other workers in the capital. **D.** They stretched their hold on the capital and beyond. [2015/36]
- Amedu's action provoked several criticism.** **A.** His actions were seriously rejected. **B.** His actions were severe and accepted. **C.** His actions were itemized because he was young. **D.** His actions provoked the humour. [2015/37]
- I haven't seen the movie and my brother haven't either.** **A.** I have seen the movie but neither of my brothers have. **B.** My brother and I haven't seen the

- movie. **C.** Only my brother has seen the movie. **D.** I was the only one that has seen the movie. [2015/38]
- 4. Sule would have been given the car if his father had not complained.** **A.** He wasn't given the car because his father complained. **B.** He was given the car because his father complained. **C.** His father complained about the car and he was given. **D.** He was given the car even though his father didn't complained. [2015/39]
- 5. Adayi cannot halt the march of time** **A.** She is willing to march on. **B.** She cannot change the way things happen. **C.** She halts the march on time. **D.** She cannot alter the peace march. [2015/40]
- 6. The lecture is Uye's road to Damascus** **A.** The lecture is an opportunity to travel to Damascus. **B.** The lecture is an experience that changes the way she thinks. **C.** The lecture talks exclusively about Damascus. **D.** The lecture is an experience that cannot be changed. [2015/41]
- 7. Ado is one of the backwoodsmen.** **A.** He is one of those that live in a distance and underdeveloped area. **B.** He is one of the active member of the community. **C.** He is one of the honest men that lives in the community. **D.** He is one of those that live in the most developed part of the city. [2015/42]
- 8. Bello said he would pitch his tent with the club.** **A.** He would support the club. **B.** He would build a pitch in the club. **C.** He would build a tent on the pitch. **D.** He would distance himself from the club. [2015/43]
- 9. Try not to lose heart, said the man.** **A.** Try not to be bold and weak. **B.** Try not to become sad and hopeless. **C.** Try not to be happy and feeble. **D.** Try not to be timid and hopeful. [2015/44]
- 10. Kasim would have attended the party if he had been invited.** **A.** He would not have attended even if he was invited. **B.** He attended the party before he was invited. **C.** He was not invited and so, he did not attend. **D.** He attended the party without invitation. [2015/45]
- 11. The minister considered the ministry's budget to be a drop in the ocean in view of the number of projects in the pipeline** **A.** The amount available may be inadequate for projected expenditure. **B.** The minister may be dropped for failing to complete a number of projects. **C.** The money approved cannot complete the pipeline project across the ocean. **D.** The pipeline project across the ocean will be abandoned unless budgetary allocation improves. [2014/36]
- 12. The police are looking for the woman who farmed her children out to her neighbours** **A.** The woman and her children are in the habit of working in neighbours' farms and the police are not well disposed to this. **B.** The police may arrest the woman for allowing her neighbours to take care of her children. **C.** The woman may be arrested for allowing her children to be a nuisance to her neighbours. The police wanted the woman for allowing her children to destroy her neighbours' crops. [2014/37]
- 13. Jummai's father remarked that pigs would fly before she passed.** **A.** It would be possible to pass only if she worked harder. **B.** It would never be possible for her to pass. **C.** He would have to bribe her teachers to enable her to pass. **D.** She would have to cheat in order to pass. [2014/38]
- 14. The president said that he found himself between a rock and a hard place when the press said that he had resigned.** **A.** He dreamt that he was abandoned. **B.** He thought that hard places were unsafe. **C.** He had a hard decision to make. **D.** Hard places are dangerous for the president. [2014/39]
- 15. Kunana is like a bear with a sore head** **A.** He is a bully. **B.** He is grumpy. **C.** He is ugly. **D.** He is quiet. [2014/40]
- 16. Olu gave his brother a bumpy ride.** **A.** Olu's brother rode on Olu's back to success. **B.** Olu took his brother on a bumpy road. **C.** Olu gave his brother a difficult time. **D.** Olu gave his brother a ride in his car. [2014/41]
- 17. Adeola doesn't have to go to the farm today.** **A.** Adeola may go to the farm today if he so wishes. **B.** Adeola ought not to have gone to the farm today. **C.** Adeola must not go to the farm today. **D.** Adeola should not go to the farm today. [2014/42]
- 18. My boss asked me to take my eyes off the ball.** **A.** I should stop paying attention to what is most important. **B.** I should be focused when I am about to stay off football. **C.** I should stay off football after sustaining an injury. **D.** I should be focused when playing football. [2014/43]
- 19. The robber was hedged in by the people.** **A.** The robber was surrounded by the people. **B.** The robber was killed by the people. **C.** The robber was exposed by the people. **D.** The robber was caught by the people. [2014/44]
- 20. Many workers are not happy because they live a hand-to-mouth life.** **A.** They work hard with their hands. **B.** They are voracious and avaricious. **C.** They are barely surviving. **D.** They have rejected the use of spoons. [2014/45]
- 21. The team's poor performance at the tournament plumb the depths of horror.** **A.** The team's performance was enjoyed by all. **B.** The team's performance was full of disappointment. **C.** The team's performance was rewarded. **D.** The team's performance took them to the next round. [2013/36]
- 22. Tolu and Chinedu live in each other's pockets.** **A.** They steal from each other. **B.** They blackmail each other. **C.** They are very close to each other. **D.** They are long-term business partners. [2013/37]
- 23. As the drama unfolded, Olatinuke was advised to keep her shirt on.** **A.** She was advised to commit herself. **B.** She was advised to stay calm. **C.** She was advised to join the club. **D.** She was advised to wear her shirt. [2013/39]
- 24. He is a clinging child.** **A.** He is possessive. **B.** He likes to cling with his sister. **C.** He is a bully. **D.** He is a handsome young man. [2013/39]
- 25. Zinana's examination result was not unfavourable.** **A.** Her examination did not meet her expectation. **B.** She was successful in the examination. **C.** Her result could not earn her admission. **D.** She failed her examination. [2013/40]
- 26. You need to brush up on your Spanish.** **A.** You need to improve your skills. **B.** You need a brush from Spain. **C.** You need to learn to play with a Spaniard. **D.** You need to study the history of Spain. [2013/41]
- 27. Amaka would pass for a beauty queen.** **A.** She would be accepted by all as a beauty queen. **B.** She walked past the beauty queen. **C.** She was acting as a beauty

- queen. **D.** She would pass the drink to the queen who is sitting next to her. [2013/42]
- 28. 'I can't wait to become a mother', the new bride declared.** **A.** She is excited about motherhood. **B.** She is not keen on becoming a mother. **C.** She will be patient as a mother. **D.** She sees motherhood as a burden. [2013/43]
- 29. Usman needs to get his act together if he wants to pass the examination.** **A.** He needs to organize himself. **B.** He needs to be fast when writing the examination. **C.** He needs to put on his stage costume. **D.** He needs to pull all points down in the examination. [2013/44]
- 30. Ramatu expressed her feelings in no uncertain terms.** **A.** She expressed it secretly and courageously. **B.** She expressed it quietly and cautiously. **C.** She expressed it feebly and sickly. **D.** She expressed it clearly and strongly. [2013/45]
- 31. Hardworking students must not have a finger in every pie at school.** **A.** Hardworking students must have a role to play in most activities in the school. **B.** Only hardworking students must participate in all activities in the school. **C.** Hardworking students do not participate in all activities in the school. **D.** Hardworking students must ask others to participate in school activities. [2012/26]
- 32. The vice chancellor is riding the crest of the last quarter of his administration.** **A.** The vice chancellor enjoys the acknowledgement of the success of his administration. **B.** The vice chancellor does not enjoy the people's criticism of his administration. **C.** The vice chancellor hopes to overcome soon, the poor comments on his administration. **D.** The vice chancellor does not talk of his success in office. [2012/27]
- 33. She was absolved by the court from the charge.** **A.** She was convicted for the charge. **B.** She was blamed and charged to court. **C.** Her case was resolved by the court. **D.** She was declared free from the charge. [2012/28]
- 34. The landlord is fond of throwing his weight about.** **A.** The landlord likes healthy exercise. **B.** The landlord is overweight. **C.** The landlord gives orders to people. **D.** The landlord is respected by his tenants. [2012/29]
- 35. The company ought to have issued warrants for one billion shares.** **A.** The company has issued one billion shares. **B.** The management expected the company to issue more than one billion shares. **C.** Members of the Company bought less than one billion shares. **D.** The company did not issue one billion shares. [2012/30]
- 36. He needed not to have played in the position of quarterback in volley ball.** **A.** He participated in the game in his unusual position. **B.** Nobody expected him to have participated in the game. **C.** He wanted to play in a position other than the one he was offered. **D.** Someone did not want him to play in the position that he played. [2012/31]
- 37. I wouldn't have responded, to his rude talk, if I were you** **A.** The advice was taken by the respondent, so he did not respond to the talk. **B.** The adviser put himself in the respondent's position, so he did not respond to the talk. **C.** The respondent replied to the speaker's talk, although he ought not to have done so. **D.** What was advisable was that the respondent gave it back to the speaker. [2012/32]
- 38. He could not speak out because he had a feet of clay** **A.** His feet was muddy. **B.** He was weak and cowardly. **C.** He was clumsy and lazy. **D.** He was shy and timid. [2012/33]
- 39. The player wasted a golden opportunity during the penalty shoot-out.** **A.** The player first hit the bar. **B.** The player did not score the shot. **C.** The player scored the shot that made them win the gold cup. **D.** Instead of a silver cup, they received the golden one. [2012/34]
- 40. As far as Abu is concerned, Mero should be given fifty naira at the most** **A.** All Abu is saying is that Mero probably deserves more than fifty naira and not less. **B.** All Abu is concerned with is that Mero should be given nothing more than fifty naira. **C.** in Abu's estimation, Mero merits not more than fifty naira. **D.** in Abu's opinion, Mero deserves fifty naira or probably more. [2012/35]
- 41. If he were here, could be more fun.** **A.** He was expected but did not show up to make the occasion lively. **B.** There was no fun because he was not present. **C.** He did not show up and so the occasion lacked much fun. **D.** He was being expected to supply more fun. [2011/41]
- 42. The secretary said that the postponement of the meeting was due to unforeseen circumstances.** **A.** The date of the meeting was shifted as a result of unexpected reasons. **B.** The meeting's date was cut off for strange reasons. **C.** he meeting was called as a result of obstacles hitherto unknown. **D.** the meeting broke off as a result of unusual difficulties. [2011/42]
- 43. The hunter has a bird's eye view of the animals.** **A.** He views animals from a high position. **B.** He views the bird's eye. **C.** He views the birds on tree with one eye. **D.** He watches animals and birds closely [2011/43]
- 44. Even though Susan was the last in the examination, her result wasn't too different from what had been expected.** **A.** Her result was poor. **B.** Her result was a disappointment. **C.** Her result was as expected. **D.** She had not been serious with her studies. [2011/44]
- 45. Mrs. Adasu does all her work with more haste, less speed.** **A.** She accepts whatever she does with more haste and speed. **B.** She approaches whatever she does hurriedly. **C.** She addresses everything she does very quickly to avoid mistakes. **D.** She does everything carefully to avoid mistakes. [2011/45]
- 46. She stopped her education as her uncle left her in the lurch.** **A.** Her uncle deceived her. **B.** Her uncle disinherited her. **C.** Her uncle refused to help her. **D.** Her uncle disrespected her. [2011/46]
- 47. The plan to upgrade the dispensary to a general hospital did not materialize.** **A.** The plan did not meet the required specifications. **B.** The arrangement did not work out as wished. **C.** It was difficult to obtain the materials. **D.** The materials purchased were not the right ones. [2011/47]
- 48. Okon's company took a hit last year.** **A.** His company improved last year. **B.** His company made a huge success last year. **C.** His company was badly damaged last year. **D.** His company was established last year. [2011/48]
- 49. My eldest son, who is in Lagos, studying English.** **A.** Only my son is in Lagos studying English. **B.** My only son is in Lagos studying English. **C.** One of my

- sons is in Lagos studying English. **D.** My sons are in Lagos but only one is studying English. [2011/49]
- 50. If I went to the village I would visit the king.**
A. If I go to the village, I will visit the king. **B.** I did not go to the village and I did not visit the king. **C.** All the times I went to the village I also visited the king. **D.** I will visit the king when I go to the village. [2011/50]
- 51. Though Mr. Iro is our new chairman, he views other members with jaundiced eye.**
A. He takes a rather forceful position on dealing with his members. **B.** He takes an unfavourable position concerning his members. **C.** He takes a sickly view of his members. **D.** He takes a rather hazy view of his members. [2010/26]
- 52. People are not interested in who rules**
A. People are not ruled by the leaders they want. **B.** People are not concerned about who rules them. **C.** The rulers are not concerned about the people. **D.** People who rule are not interested in the ruled. [2010/27]
- 53. It is always good to steer a middle course in whatever one does**
A. It is always good to get midway in anything one does. **B.** It is always good to act with moderation. **C.** It is always good to move away from the forefront. **D.** It is always good to work very hard. [2010/28]
- 54. The witness said he had no axe to grind with his brothers.**
A. He had no hatred for the brothers. **B.** He had no axe and therefore stole the matchet. **C.** He had no axe and therefore borrowed their matchet. **D.** He had no vested interest in the brothers. [2010/29]
- 55. The footballers moved with their tails between their legs**
A. They moved happily because they won the match. **B.** They were unhappy because they had been despised by their opponents. **C.** They were ashamed because they had been defeated. **D.** They moved with their tails between their legs. [2010/30]
- 56. The headmaster managed to talk his way out of having to give a speech**
A. He delivered a speech despite the difficulty. **B.** He managed to give a speech out of a difficult situation. **C.** He managed to get himself out of a difficult situation. **D.** He managed to talk on his way. [2010/31]
- 57. As regards the matter, we have crossed the rubicon**
A. We are completely at a loss. **B.** We are irrevocably committed. **C.** We are already qualified. **D.** We are perfectly committed. [2010/32]
- 58. Uche is full of himself**
A. He is conceited. **B.** He is complete. **C.** He is a rich man. **D.** He is careful. [2010/33]
- 59. As debutants in that tournament, the Super Eagles were up against their first opponents by three goals to nil.**
A. the Super Eagles were playing in the tournament for the first time, but they won their match by three goals to nothing. **B.** Though the Super Eagles were rated as the weakest side in the tournament, they won their first match by three goals to nil. **C.** Even though the Super Eagles-were playing without some of their regulars, they won their match by three goals to nil. **D.** As the best attackers in the match, the Super Eagles easily defeated their opponents by three goals to nothing. [2010/34]
- 60. The woman was mournful as her husband was found dead drunk**
A. She was sad because her husband was absolutely drunk. **B.** She was apprehensive that her husband would drink again as soon as he recovered from the drunken stupor. **C.** She was sad because her husband was drunk and always as helpless as a dead man. **D.** She was mourning because her husband drank and died. [2010/35]
- 61. It was our collective idea but Ado was doing everything to steal the show.**
A. Ado was not part of the planning but he tried to rub us of the benefits of it. **B.** We planned the show together but Ado was trying to abort it. **C.** It was a joint project but Ado is trying to attract the most attention. **D.** We collated the idea for the show but Ado was trying to steal the programme. [2009/26]
- 62. As we watched, he just popped along to the shop for some bread.**
A. He has walked slowly to the shop. **B.** He stole some bread from the shop but we could not stop him. **C.** He broke into the bread shop before our very eyes. **D.** He went quickly to the shop for some bread. [2009/27]
- 63. In all ramifications, Chief Adeyemi was a successful principal of the school**
A. He was partly a failure and partly a success. **B.** Everyone admitted that he was largely successful during his tenure. **C.** He was not totally successful in the school. **D.** His tenure witnessed a huge success. [2009/28]
- 64. I couldn't buy the biscuit because of the hold-up in the supermarket.**
A. The shop had not opened. **B.** The attendant was slow. **C.** armed robbers were there. **D.** There was nobody to attend to me. [2009/29]
- 65. You could have heard the sound, if you weren't asleep.**
A. You were not asleep so you heard the sound. **B.** You were asleep so you did not hear the sound. **C.** You heard the sound though you were asleep. **D.** You did not hear the sound though you were not asleep. [2009/30]
- 66. Musa will not do the job well because he has an itching palm.**
A. He has rashes in his palm. **B.** He is always looking for something to touch. **C.** He is always ready to accept bribe. **D.** He is always tapping people on the back. [2009/31]
- 67. Emeka was always conspicuous by his absence when it came to attending lectures.**
A. That Emeka always attended lectures made him conspicuous at school. **B.** Emeka's absence from lectures was all too glaring. **C.** It was obvious that Emeka was not present at lectures. **D.** What made Emeka conspicuous was his occasional absence from school. [2009/32]
- 68. He was injured by friendly fire.**
A. He was wounded in a war by a friend of his who fired a shot mistakenly. **B.** He was injured by a gunshot that was fired by a friend. **C.** He was hit in a war by a weapon fired by his own side. **D.** It was a war and he was hit by a bomb fired by an unknown soldier. [2009/33]
- 69. Kola visits us on occasions, and I don't like that.**
A. I do not like Kola because he visits us only when an event is being celebrated. **B.** I hate the fact that Kola only visits us when something is being celebrated. **C.** That Kola does not visit us often is something I object to. **D.** Kola seldom visits us and that is because he is a fair-weather friend. [2009/34]
- 70. At the time I arrived, Olu was lying in third place.**
A. Olu's third position coincided with my arrival. **B.** When I arrived, Olu was sleeping in the space reserved for him. **C.** It was a competition and Olu was in third position when I arrived. **D.** On my

- arrival at the competition, Olu went to sleep. [2009/35]
71. **He needn't have bought that new table** **A.** It isn't possible that he bought the table. **B.** He bought the table, but it wasn't necessary. **C.** He didn't buy the table because it wasn't necessary. **D.** He doesn't need to buy the table. [2009/26]
72. **Thanks to that phone call, I was able to obtain the visa.** **A.** In spite of that phone call, I obtained the visa. **B.** It was because of that phone call that I obtained the visa. **C.** I am grateful to whoever phoned me, and I obtained the visa. **D.** If I had not received that phone call, I would not have obtained the visa. [2008/27]
73. **It is likely that the governor will exact his pound of flesh** **A.** He will probably demand a hefty bribe. **B.** He will probably engineer the assassination of his opponents. **C.** He will probably impose crushing new taxes. **D.** He will probably demand for and get all that is due to him. [2008/28]
74. **It was too cold for him to go out.** **A.** He had a bad cold, and did not go out. **B.** Although it was very cold, he still went out. **C.** As it was very cold, he did not go out. **D.** He was afraid to go out that day. [2008/29]
75. **Ado and Abu are always together these days. They must be up to something** **A.** They must have reconciled after their quarrel. **B.** They are probably planning something bad. **C.** They are capable of a praiseworthy achievement. **D.** They bear some responsibility for what has happened. [2008/30]
76. **He wants the meeting to be adjourned.** **A.** He wants the meeting closed. **B.** He wants the meeting cancelled. **C.** He wants the meeting to continue till another day. **D.** He wants the meeting to commence another day without delay. [2008/31]
77. **My father is one of the vociferous few challenging the company's appointment of the manager.** **A.** My father is the one who shouts with a loud voice against the appointment of the manager. **B.** My father and others speak on behalf of the company against the appointment of the manager. **C.** My father is one of those objecting to the appointment of the manager. **D.** My father is agitated by the appointment of the manager. [2008/32]
78. **The voyagers fetched up in Nigeria** **A.** The foreigners finally settled in Nigeria. **B.** The journey by sea ended in Nigeria. **C.** The travellers made a stopover in Nigeria. **D.** The discoverers landed in Nigeria after a long journey. [2008/33]
79. **In those days in this school, everyone who spoke in a language other than English paid a fine of ten naira** **A.** Every one of us paid a fine of ten naira because we did not always speak in English. **B.** Everyone would pay a fine often naira for wanting to use a language other than English. **C.** Those who spoke a language other than English on the premises paid a fine of ten naira. **D.** Those who intended to speak other languages on the school premises were required to pay ten naira. [2008/34]
80. **The officer has discussed the vexed issue of incessant power failure** **A.** In anger, the officer explained the problem of constant power failure. **B.** The officer added his voice to the much discussed problem of power cut. **C.** The officer's explanations angered those who have suffered the effects of frequent power failure. **D.** The officer told the people not to be angered by the frequent power cut. [2008/35]
81. **He could not have rewarded them more handsomely.** **A.** He did not reward them very well. **B.** He rewarded them well, and he was also a good-looking man. **C.** He rewarded them very well. **D.** He spoke to them in a very generous way. [2007/91]
82. **My advice to Tolu was: 'Look before you leap'** **A.** Tolu was advised to consider her opinions before reaching any decisions. **B.** Tolu was advised to consider the possible consequences before taking action. **C.** Tolu was advised to weigh her decisions by looking and leaping. **D.** Tolu was advised to leap only after looking. [2007/92]
83. **The official had allegedly been taking bribes** **A.** Some people accused the official of taking bribes. **B.** The official had been taking bribes without feeling any guilt. **C.** It was proved that the official had been taking bribes. **D.** The official accused some people of taking bribes. [2007/93]
84. **Emeka hardly ever holds with my view on good governance.** **A.** Emeka sometimes opposes my idea of good governance. **B.** My view on what good governance is conforms with that of Emeka. **C.** Emeka never really supports my opinion of good governance. **D.** Emeka may never hold a view which conflicts with mine on good governance. [2007/94]
85. **The next village is at least 30 kilometres away.** **A.** The next village is 30 kilometres away, possibly less. **B.** The next village is approximately 30 kilometres away. **C.** The next village is only 30 kilometres away. **D.** The next village is 30 kilometres away, or possibly more. [2007/95]
86. **The woman won't have lived through the night.** **A.** It was likely that the woman died before morning. **B.** The woman survived her ordeal but not without some help. **C.** From all indications, the woman was taken much worse, though she overcame her ordeal. **D.** The woman might not have lived if she hadn't got the right support. [2007/96]
87. **There's a door at either end of the building.** **A.** The building has two ends and two doors. **B.** The building has two ends, but only one door. **C.** The building has two ends, but I do not know which of the two has a door. **D.** The building has many ends, each with a door. [2007/97]
88. **We have to iron out our differences at once.** **A.** We must clear up without delay our misunderstanding. **B.** We must ensure that our problems are eliminated at all costs. **C.** We have to settle our disagreement once and for all. **D.** We have to solve some of our problems for now. [2007/98]
89. **There should be a level playing field for women entering politics.** **A.** Women should not be allowed to enter politics. **B.** Sports facilities should be provided for women entering politics. **C.** Special privileges should be given to women who want to enter politics. **D.** Men and women should be able to compete in the political arena on an equal basis. [2007/99]
90. **The country is holding its first free elections for five years.** **A.** The last time the country held free elections was five years ago. **B.** The first free elections in the country have now taken five years to conduct. **C.** The country held elections five years ago but they were

not free. D. There were elections in the country five years ago. [2007/100]

29A 30D 31C 32A 33D 34C 35D 36A 37C 38B 39B 40C 41C 42A 43A 44C 45B 46C 47B 48C 49C 50A 51B 52B 53B 54D 55C 56C 57B 58A 59A 60A 61C 62D 63B 64B 65B 66C 67B 68C 69B 70C 71B 72B 73D 74C 75B 76D 77C 78D79C 80B 81C 82B 83A 84C 85D 86A 87A 88A 89D 90A

Idioms 3 Answers

1B 2A 3B 4A 5B 6B 7A 8A 9B 10C 11A 12B 13B 14C 15B 16C 17D 18A 19A 20C 21B 22C 23B 24A 25B 26A 27A 28A

Stress (Word, Sentence and Emphatic)

Introduction

One of the ways in which spoken English differs from many spoken African languages is the system of stressing. Stress is of utmost importance in spoken English.

Stress ordinarily means “force”. It is the extra force used when pronouncing a particular word or syllable. When we produce English sounds, we do not exert the same amount of effort for the production of all the sounds. Some syllables are uttered with greater energy or emphasis and are consequently louder and longer while others do not require such energy. Those that require greater energy are said to be stressed and those that do not require such force are said to be unstressed.

For example the “TA/ble” /“tei/ble has two syllables. The force used in pronouncing the first syllable is stronger than that used on the second, it then follows that the first syllable is stressed while the second is not. In words of two syllables or more, one of the syllables must carry greater force or emphasis (stress) than the other(s).

The placement of English stress is very complex and irregular. Many writers have formulated rules and guidelines for stress placement. These rules are however full of exceptions.

Please note that words of one syllable (monosyllabic words) do not carry stress in English, as well as affixes (prefix and suffix). For example, in the word “remarkable” re and able do not carry stress.

Note also that most Examining Bodies use capital letters to indicate the syllable that carries greater force. For examples: re-MAR-able, po-li-TI-cian. Other ways or methods of indicating stress include under lining and placement of a stroke before the stressed syllable. For examples: Underlining – abuse, frequent, reading, table, baby; Stroke method- a’buse, ‘frequent, ‘reading, ‘table, ‘baby

Words of Two Syllables (Disyllabic Words)

There are rules guiding the placement of stress on words of two syllables. Some of them are;

Rule 1: If a word comprises two syllables, the first syllable is usually stressed. For examples: TEA/cher, DOC/tor; HOS/tel; CO/ver; PAR/ty; GI/ven; WIN/dow; MA/dam

Rule2: If the first syllable is a prefix, the second syllable attracts the stress while the first syllable is unstressed. For example: un/LESS; de/FEAT; to/DAY; be/LOW; im/PURE; un/TRUE; be/HIND

Rule 3: Where a verb of 2 syllables ends in “-ate”; the –ATE is stressed. For examples: col /LATE; dic/TATE, be/RATE; se/DATE; lo/CATE; es/TATE; cre/MATE

Shifting word stress in two syllable words.

A word may function as a verb in one context and as noun or adjective in another, etc. The stress pattern changes to reflect the change in the function and meaning of such a word. For example:

Verb	Adjective	Noun	Verb
pre/SENT	PRE/sent	CON/test	con/TEST
fre/QUENT	FRE/quent	PRO/test	pro/TEST
ab/SENT	AB/sent	A/ddict	a/DDICT
per/FECT	PER/fect	ES/cort	es/CORT
		IM/port	im/PORT
		OB/ject	ob/JECT
		CON/vert	con/VERT
		EX/tract	ex/TRACT

Note: It is not every two syllable word that shows this variable stress to different noun and verb, etc. Some words of the noun / verb type, maintain the same stress pattern, this means that the stress is generally on the second syllable For example: ex/CUSE, de/MAND; ex/CHANG; re/PORT; re/QUEST; re/POSE; a/LARM; al/PPEAL; pro/FIT; pre/VIEW; mis/TRUST; a/TTACK; a/CCORD; em/BRACE; a/CCOUNT; re/PORT.

Download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store for more details on stress of two syllabic words.

In each of the questions 1 – 3, identify the word that has a different stress pattern from the others

1. A. classroom. B. brother. C. programme. D. July. [2001/27]

2. A. suffer. B. success. C. blackboard. D. calendar. [2002/58]

3. A. impound. B. canoe. C. subject(verb). D. knowledge. [2005/98]

In each of the questions 4 – 8, choose the option that has the same stress pattern as the given word

4. cement A. interest. B. perfect (adjective).

- C. employ (noun).D. include. [2003/97]
5. **typist** A. rebel (verb). B. superb. C. refuse (noun). D. propose. [2003/98]
6. **Refuse (noun)** A. reform. B. intact. C. obscure. D. phantom. [2005/95]
7. **downtrodden** A. downgrading.B. prescribing. C. functional.D. internal. [2005/96]
8. **dovetail** A. proviso. B. jargon. C. simplicity. D. psychiatry. [2006/62]
- In each of the questions 9 – 17, identify the word that has the stress on the first syllable**
9. A. misread. B. resign. C. competent. D. compel. [2001/57]
10. A. suffer. B. blackboard. C. success. D. calendar. [2002/58]
11. A. comment. B. dismiss. C. intact.D. confuse. [02/74]
12. A. commute. B. import (verb). C. intend. D. export (noun). [2002/75]
13. A. mature. B. madam. C. frequent (verb). D. convict (verb). [2006/65]
14. A. pronounce. B. prepare. C. provoke. D. insult (noun). [2006/66]
15. A. madam. B. eighteen. C. invent. D. command. [2012/95]
16. A. nineteen. B. mother. C. estate. D. announce. [2012/96]
17. A. commute. B. import(verb). C. intend. D. export (noun). [2012/97]
18. **Choose the option that has same stress pattern as the given word.refuse(noun)** A. reform. B. intact. C. obscure. D. phantom. [2005/95]
19. **identify the word that has the stress on the second syllable** A. tomato. B. photograph. C. yesterday. D. tranquil. [2000/38]
20. **choose the option that has the same stress pattern as the given word(typist)** A. refuse (noun). B. superb. C. preoise.D. rebel(verb). [2003/99]
21. **select the word that has the same pattern of stress as the given word HONOUR** A. hotel. B. hyena. C. human. D. humane. [2000/34]
22. **choose the option that has a different stress pattern from the others**A. impound. B. canoe. C. subject(verb). D. knowledge. [2005/98]

Words of Two Syllables Answers

1C 2A 3C 4D 5C 6B 7B 8B 9C 10A 11C 12D 13B 14D 15A 16B 17D 18D 19A 20A 21C 22D

Polysyllabic Words

These are words made up of three or more syllables. A word could even be made up of up to eight syllables. Note that generally and suffixes are usually not stressed.

Rule 1: Mainly stress the second syllable from the end of a word which ends in any of the following:

“-ion”, “-ian”, “-ial”, “-ish”, “-ic”, “-ior”, “-ture”, “-nce)

Examples:

3 syllable words: dra/MA/tic, es/TA/blish, em-/BEL-ish, pro/PO/sal In/FE/rrior, co/ME/dian, tu/TO/rial, Stra/TE/gic, gra/MMA/rian, pho/NE/tics, a/TTEN/tion, em/PHA/tic, po/Sl/tion, to/MO/rrow, cen/TU/rion, to/GE/ther.

4 syllable words: de/mo/CRA/tic, e/co/NO/mic, a/ca/DE/mic e/du/CA/tion, in/for/MA/tion, ex/hi/BI/tion, ac/ci/DEN/tal, fun/da/MEN/tal, el/ec/TRI/cian, po/li/TI/cian, in/de/PEN/dence, a/do/LES/cence, con/fi/DEN/tial, pa/ra/Sl/tic, su/per/Fl/cial, con/ver/SA/tion.

5 syllable words: a/po/lo/GE/tic, con/fe/de/RA/tion, or/ga/ni/SA/tion, con/si/de/RA/tion, cha/rac/ter/IS/tic, un/ce/re/MO/nious ma/ni/fe/STA/tion.

6 syllable words: di/ver/si/fi/CA/tion, un/cha/rac/ter/IS/tic, ex/ter/na/li/SA/tion, ex/pe/ri/men/TA/tion, na/tio/na/li/SA/tion, el/ec/tri/fi/CA/tion, pre/de/ter/mi/NA/tion, dis/qua/li/fi/CA/tion.

However, there are some exceptions to this rule.

For example: CON/fi/de/nce, LU/na/tic, sa/BA/ti/cal,

Rule 2: Mainly stress the third syllable from the end of the word which ends in any of the following:

“-ate”, “-ity”, “-ify”, “-al”, “-lly”, “-ary”, “-ive”, “-ism”.

Examples:

4 Syllable Words: Cer/TI/fi/cate, hu/MI/li/ty, in/TE/gr/ity, ju/DI/ci/ary Pro/FES/sio/nal, tri/BA/li/sm, con/SER/va/tion, ma/JO/ri/ty, re/CI/pro/cal, po/LI/ti/cal, cap/TI/vi/ty, in/TEN/si/fy, es/PE/cia/lly, ne/PO/t/ism, ab/SUR/di/ty, ac/TI/vi/ty.

5 Syllable Words: sa/tis/FAC/to/ry, in/for/MA/li/ty, op/por/TU/ni/ty, el/ec/TRI/ci/ty, cre/di/BI/li/ty, in/ter/NA/tio/nal, ob/jec/TI/vi/ty, po/ssi/BI/li/ty.

6 Syllable Words: res/pon/si/BI/li/ty, fun/da/men/TA/li/ty, im/po/ssi/BI/li/ty, parc/ti/ca/BI/li/ty, ad/vi/sa/BI/li/ty, in/fe/ri/O/ri/ty, au/to/bi/O/gra/phy, un/der/de/VE/lop/ment.

However, there are some exceptions to this rule.

For example: DIC/tio/na/ry, VI/sio/na/ry, MIS/sio/na/ry, TEM/po/ra/y, con/TEM/po/ra/ry, AR/bit/ra/ry, re/vo/lu/tio/na/ry, PER/so/nal

Rule 3: Stress the first syllable from the end of a word which ends in any of the following:

“-stand”, “-duce”, “-tain”, “-noon”, “-ese”, “-pose”, “-ployed”, “-xert”, “-come”, “-ree”, “-plete”, “-obey”.

Examples:

3 Syllable Words: un/der/STAND, in/tro/DUCE, en/ter/TAIN, af/ter/NOON, ja/pa/NESE, de/com/POSE, o/ver/COME, re/fe/REE, in/com/PLETE, d/is/OBEY.

4 Syllable Words: mis/un/der/STAND, un/der/em/PLOYED

Rule 4: Many words ending in ‘ism’ are usually stressed on the first syllable at the beginning of a word

Examples : JOUR/na/li/sm, VAN/da/li/sm, SO/cia/li/sm, MAN/ne/ri/sm, CA/pi/ta/li/sm, EU/phe/mi/sm, RA/di/ca/li/sm, PES/si/mi/sm, TRI/ba/li/sm, COM/mu/ni/sm, CRI/ti/ci/sm, E/go/li/sm.

However, there are some exceptions to this rule. For example: ca/THO/li/ci/sm, im/PE/ria/li/sm, pro/VIN/cia/li/sm, in/di/VI/dua/li/sm and con/sti/tu/tio/na/li/sm.

In each of the questions 1 – 10, identify the word that has a different stress pattern from the others

1. A. legislate. B. navigate. C. envelop. D. liberate. [2000/57]
2. A. discourse. B. intimate. C. accelerate. D. integral. [2000/58]
3. A. administrative. B. temperamental. C. circulation. D. consideration. [2001/26]
4. A. convenient. B. contribute. C. embarrass. D. madam. [2002/57]
5. A. interpreter. B. remarkable. C. impossible. D. criticism. [2005/97]
6. A. syllabus. B. competent. C. quality. D. represent. [2006/69]
7. A. registration. B. quadruplicate. C. ability. D. revivalist. [2006/70]
8. A. agriculture. B. Cinderella. C. education. D. individual. [2007/92]
9. A. European. B. cigarette. C. expedite. D. evacuee. [2007/93]
10. A. slaughter. B. superior. C. superman. D. surcharge. [2007/94]

In each of the questions 11 – 44, choose the option that has the same stress pattern as the given word

11. EDUCATION A. duplicity. B. conjectural. C. economics. D. elaborate. [2000/53]
12. HONOUR A. human. B. hyena. C. humane. D. hotel. [2000/54]
13. ENORMOUS A. interest. B. stupidly. C. character. D. solution. [2000/55]
14. QUALITY A. accepted. B. bachelor. C. guarantee. D. relation. [2000/56]
15. expostulate A. exposTulate. B. Expostulate. C. expostuLATE. D. expostulate. [2004/76]
16. sufficiency A. sufFiciency. B. sufficienCY. C. SUFFiciency. D. suffiCIENCY. [2004/77]
17. jurisprudence A. Jurisprudence. B. juRISprudence. C. jurisPRUdence. D. jurispruDENCE. [2005/92]
18. suburbanite A. Suburbanite. B. suBURbanite. C. suburBANite. D. suburbaNITE. [2005/93]
19. departmentalize A. departMENTalize. B. dePARTmentalize. C. DEpartmentalize. D. departmenTAlize. [2005/94]
20. apparent A. paragraph. B. arrested. C. appetite. D. telephone. [2006/63]
21. association A. associaTION. B. aSSOciation. C. Association. D. associAtion. [2007/98]
22. capitalism A. capitalIsm. B. caPitalism. C. CApitalism. D. capiTAlism. [2007/99]
23. advertisement A. adverTISEment. B. ADvertisement. C. adVERTisement. D. advertiseMENT. [2007/100]
24. comfortable A. COMfortable. B. comFORtable. C. comfortABLE. D. comforTAbLe. [2008/95]
25. incapacitate A. inCApacitate. B. incaPAcitate. C. INcapacitate. D. incapaciTATE. [2008/96]
26. encouragement A. ENcouragement. B. enCOUragement. C. encouRAGEMENT. D. encourageMENT. [2008/97]
27. ceremoniously A. CEremoniously. B. ceREmoniously. C. cereMOnicusly. D. ceremoNiously. [2009/95]

28. understandable A. unDERstandable. B. understandABLE. C. UNderstandable. D. underSTANDdable. [2009/96]
29. management A. MANagement. B. maNAgeMENT. C. manaGEMENT. D. manageMENT. [2009/97]
30. political A. politiCAL. B. poliTIcal. C. Political. D. poLItical. [2010/95]
31. satisfactory A. satisfacTORY. B. saTISfactory. C. SATisfactory. D. satisFACTory. [2010/96]
32. captivity A. captiviTY. B. captiVItY. C. captivity. D. CAPtivity. [2010/97]
33. termination A. terminaTION. B. TERmination. C. termiNAtion. D. terMInation. [2011/95]
34. meditative A. meDItative. B. mediTAtive. C. M Editative. D. meditaTIVE. [2011/96]
35. suggestible A. suggeSTIBLE. B. Suggestible. C. suGGEstible. D. suggestiBLE. [2011/97]
36. demarcation A. demarCAtion. B. DEMarcation. C. deMARcation. D. demarcaTION. [2012/92]
37. impossible A. imPOSSible. B. IMpossible. C. imposSIble. D. impossIBLE. [2012/93]
38. imperialism A. IMperialism. B. imPERialism. C. impeRIAlism. D. imperialiSM. [2012/94]
39. dedication A. deDication. B. dediCAtion. C. DEdication. D. dedicaTION. [2013/95]
40. international A. internaTIONal. B. INternational. C. inTERNational. D. interNAtional. [2013/96]
41. information A. informaTION. B. inFORmation. C. INformation. D. inforMAtion. [2013/97]
42. valedictory A. valedicTORY. B. VAledictory. C. vaLEdictory. D. valeDICTory. [2014/95]
43. congratulation A. congratuLAtion. B. CONgratulation. C. conGRAtulation. D. congraTULation. [2014/96]
44. conspiracy A. conspiracy. B. conspiracy. C. CONspiracy. D. conspiRACY. [2014/97]
45. aggregation A. AGgrgation. B. aggREgation. C. AggreGAtion. D. aggregaTION.
46. prohibition A. prohibition. B. prohiBItion. C. PROhibition. D. prohibition.
47. responsible A. REsponsible. B. responSIble. C. reSPONSible. D. responsIBLE.
48. reproduction A. REproduction. B. rePROduction. C. reproDUCTION. D. reproducTION.
49. Constellation A. CONstellation. B. constELLation. C. consteLLAtion. D. constellaTION.
50. Motivation A. motiVAtion. B. MOTivation. C. MoTlVation. D. MotivaTION.
51. justification A. JUSTification. B. jusTIfication. C. justIfIcation. D. justificAtion.
52. admittedly A. adMIttedly. B. ADmittedly. C. adMIttEDly. D. admittedly.
53. judiciary A. JudiCIARY. B. JudiciaRY. C. JUdiciary. D. JuDiciary.
54. departmental A. DEpartmental. B. dePARTmental. C. departMENTal. D. departmenTAL.

In each of the questions 45 – 51, choose the option that has the stress on the first syllable

55. A. resist. B. intact. C. confirm. D. salon. [2001/58]
56. A. convenient. B. contribute. C. embarrass.

- D. madam. [2002/57]
 57. A. circulation. B. eleven. C. impossible .
 D. criticism. [2004/97]
 58. A. bachelor. B. condemn. C. afternoon.
 D. intact. [2004/98]
 59. A. afternoon. B. taxi. C. address.
 D. understand. [2007/95]
 60. A. about. B. negotiate. C. intact.
 D. integral. [2007/96]
 61. A. renewal. B. calendar. C. reproduce.
 D. conduce. [2007/97]

In questions 52 and 53, Identify the word that has the stress on the second syllable

62. A. always. B. result . C. reproduce.
 D. understand. [2000/59]
 63. yesterday. B. tomato. C. photograph.
 D. tranquil. [2000/60]

In questions 54 and 55, select the word that has the same pattern of stress as the given word

64. **(ENORMOUS)**..... A. interest. B. solution.
 C. stupidly.D. character. [2000/33]
 65. **(QUALITY)** A. guarantee. B. accepted.
 C. bachelor.D. relation. [2000/35]
 66. Identify the word that has a different stress pattern from the others A. navigate.
 B. envelop. C. legislate. D. liberate. [2000/40]
 67. Select the word that has the same pattern of stress as the given word **(EDUCATION)**
 A. duplicity. B. economics. C. elaborate.
 D. conjectural. [2000/36]

Polysyllabic Words Answers

1C 2C 3A 4D 5D 6D 7A 8B 9D 10A 11C 12A 13D 14B 15D 16A 17C 18B 19A 20B 21D 22C 23A 24B 25B 26B 27C 28D 29A 30D 31D 32C 33C 34B 35C 36A 37A 38A 39B 40D 41D 42D 43A 44B 45C 46B 47C 48C 49C 50A 51D 52A 53D 54C 55D 56D 57D 58D 59A 60C 61D 62C 63B 64B 65C 66B 67B

Compound Words

A compound word is made up of two or more smaller words. There are three kinds of compound words:

Emphatic Stress

This is placement of emphasis on a particular word in a sentence. A particular word in a sentence can be given an extra stress, depending on the meaning which the speaker wishes to convey.

Apart from emphasizing a word as the centre of information, a special contrast may be intended. To bring out the contrast clearly, the word, which indicates the contrast, is stressed while the stress on the other words of the sentence is generally reduced. This intentional extra stressing of a particular word is called emphatic or contrastive stress. In essence even a grammatical word which is not normally stressed can be the centre (focus) of the information, depending on the context and the meaning intended. Any word in a sentence can be marked as the focus (nucleus) of the information, and in such context, it becomes stressed and emphasized.

Examples:

The driver turned to the LEFT (not to the right)
 Mr Obi bought a NEW house (not an old one)
 She BORROWED my book (she did not steal it)
 Obinna went FOUR times into the kitchen (not three times)
 The SENIOR boys beat up the girls (not the junior boys)
 The PROSECUTING lawyers asked for an adjournment (not the Defence lawyer)

Exercises

In each of the following sentences, the word that receives the emphatic stress is written in capital letters. From the questions lettered A to D, choose the one to which the given sentence is the appropriate answer

- The driver turned to the LEFT Did the driver turn? A. Did the driver turn? B. Who turned to the left? C. Did the driver turn to the right? D. Did the driver dance to the left? **Correct Option C**
- He BORROWED my news paper

- **True compounds:** written as one word. Examples handwriting, cardboard, telecast, bridesmaid
- **Hyphenated compounds:** separated by hyphens. Examples are office –boy, full-grown, cut-throat, south-east
- **Phrasal compounds:** written as two separate words. Examples mid air, blood thirsty, gas cooker, tea spoon.

Whatever the type of compound word, you should know where to assign the stress.

The rules are as follows:

Rule1: Generally, the stress is on the first word in compound nouns. Examples GAS cooker, TAPE recorder, HEADache, CORN flower, BREAD knife, GOD fearing.

Rule 2: The stress however, can be on the second part of the compound adjectives, verbs and numbers etc.

Examples

- Adjective : first- CLASS, good- LOOKING, far- FETCHED, stark- NAKED, self Employed, dark RED, cock SURE
- Numbers: thirty- ONE , fifty –EIGHT, forty- FOUR
- Food and menu – pepper SOUP, toast BREAD, roast CHICKEN
- Compass points- south –EAST, north-EAST, north-WEST

In the questions below, choose the option that has same stress pattern as the given word.

1. **unfair** A. first-class. B. instant. C. insight.
 D. towards. [2006/64]
2. **downtrodden** A. downgrading. B. functional.
 C. prescribing.D. internal. [2005/96]

Compound Words Answers

1D 2D

A. What did he borrow? B. Did he steal my newspaper? C. Who borrowed my newspaper? D. What did he borrow?

Correct Option B

3. Mr Obinna bought a NEW house.

A. Who bought a new house? B. What did Mr Obinna buy? C. Did Mr Obinna buy an old house? D. Did Mr Obinna sell a new house? **Correct Option A**

4. Our HOUSE won the football competition.

A. Did our house win the netball competition? B. Did our house lose the football competition?

C. Did our house win the football competition? D. Did our school win the football competition? **Correct Option D**

In each of the questions below, the word in capital letters has an emphatic stress. Choose the option that best fits the expression in the sentence.

1. **YOUR** sister should come with us

tomorrow A. Should your brother come with us tomorrow? B. Should our brother come with us tomorrow? C. Should Ado's sister come with us tomorrow? D. Should my sister come with us tomorrow? [2001/79]

2. **They FLEW** to Abuja. A. Where did they fly to? B. Did they go to Abuja by road? C. How will they get to Abuja? D. Did they fly to Jos? [2001/78]

3. **My neighbour BRUISED** his thigh while playing football? A. Did your neighbour fracture his thigh while playing football? B. Did your neighbour break his leg while playing tennis? C. Did your neighbour play football yesterday? D. Did your neighbour watched football. [2001/80]

4. **The university has been TEMPORARILY** closed. **Has the university been permanently open?** A. Has the campus been permanently closed? B. Has the college been temporarily closed? C. Has the university been permanently open. D. Has the university been permanently closed? [2002/81]

5. **The king RAN** to the palace A. Where did the king run to? B. Did the queen run to the palace? C. Did the king walk to the palace? D. Who ran to the palace? [2002/82]

6. **He travelled ONLY 20 kilometres** before his car stopped. A. Did he travel only 20 kilometres after his car stopped? B. Did he travel exactly 20 kilometres before his car stopped? C. Did he travel more than 20 kilometres before his car stopped? D. Did you walk only 20 kilometres before the vehicle stopped? [2002/83]

7. **The man BOUGHT** the newspaper A. What did the man buy? B. Is this the newspaper which the man bought? C. Who bought the newspaper? D. Did the man read the newspaper? [2002/84]

8. **My UNCLE** retired from the police A. Did your brother retire from the police? B. Did your brother resign from the police? C. Did your uncle retire from the army? D. Did your sister resign from the police? [2002/85]

9. **The TEACHER** wants my pen. A. Does the teacher want his pen? B. What does the teacher want? C. Does the teacher want your ruler? D. Who wants my pen? [2004/93]

10. **The student BOUGHT** the book. A. Who bought the book? B. Did the student steal the book? C. What did the student buy? D. How will the student get the book? [2004/94]

11. **Your mother CAN** cook the meal A. Who will cook the meal? B. Can my father cook the meal? C. Isn't my mother able to cook the meal? D. What can my mother do? [2005/99]

12. **The EAGLES** won the match A. Did the Eagles

lose the match? B. Who won the match? C. What did the Eagles win? D. Did the Eagles win the match? [2005/100]

13. **THEIR** children speak better French than

English. A. Do their husbands speak better French than English? B. What language do their children speak better than English? C. Do their children speak better French than English? D. Whose children speak better French than English? [2008/98]

14. **They RAN** to the playground. A. Where did they run to? B. Did they walk to the playground? C. Who ran to the playground? D. Did they run from the playground? [2008/99]

15. **Timi BOUGHT** a new car. A. Did Timi hire a new car? B. Does Timi deal in cars? C. Has Timi acquired a new car? D. Does Timi have a new car? [2008/100]

16. **LAM** called Uche a pilot A. What did Lam call Uche? B. Did Okoro call Uche a pilot? C. Did Lam call Uche a driver? D. Did Lam wish Uche to be a pilot? [2009/98]

17. **The girl DANCED** in the village square A. Who danced in the village square? B. Is this the village square where the girl danced? C. Did the girl dance in the village square? D. Did the girl sing in the village square? [2009/99]

18. **My father READ** the newspaper A. Did my father steal the newspaper? B. Who read the newspaper? C. What did my father read? D. Whose father read the newspaper? [2009/100]

19. **EMEKA** finished his home work yesterday A. Was Emeka helped to do his home work? B. Did Emeka do his home work yesterday? C. When did Emeka finish his home work? D. Who finished his home work yesterday? [2010/98]

20. **Taiwo SAILED** to London A. Did Taiwo fly to London? B. Did Taiwo sail to Brazil? C. Did Taiwo sail to London? D. Where did Taiwo sail to? [2010/99]

21. **My bag** is made of **LEATHER** A. Whose bag is made of leather? B. Is my bag made of polythene? C. Is Abu's bag made of leather? D. Is my bag made of leather? [2010/100]

22. **Uche LOVES** Toyota cars A. Who loves Toyota cars? B. What brand of car does Uche love? C. Does Uche hate Toyota cars? D. Does Uche love bicycle? [2011/98]

23. **The POLICE** arrested the suspect. A. Did the police placate the suspect? B. Who arrested the suspect? C. Who did the police arrest? D. Did the police arrest the suspect? [2011/99]

24. **Maiduguri** is the **CAPITAL** of Borno State. A. Is Maiduguri the capital of Plateau State? B. Which State is Maiduguri the capital of? C. Is Maiduguri a town in Borno State? D. What is the capital of Borno state? [2011/100]

- 25. The traditional chief NARRATED the story to the children.** **A.** The children heard the story from the traditional chief.. **B.** Who narrated the story to the children?. **C.** The children could not listen to the story by the traditional chief.. **D.** Did the chief hide the story from the children?. [2012/98]
- 26. The ACCOUNTANT paid the workers' july salary in September.** **A.** When were the workers paid?. **B.** Did the cashier pay the workers' salary in September?.. **C.** Workers received their July salary in September?. **D.** The September salary was paid in July?. [2012/99]
- 27. The cat DEVoured the rat.** **A.** Did the rat devour the cat?. **B.** What devoured the cat?. **C.** Did the cat pet the rat?. **D.** Is this the rat that the cat devoured?. [2012/100]
- 28. Adamu is leaving a CAR behind.** **A.** is Adamu driving the car in front?. **B.** who is leaving a car behind?. **C.** where is Adamu leaving a car? **D.** What is Adamu leaving behind. [2013/98]
- 29. Lambusa TOOK OFF the wig.** **A.** What did Lambusa do?. **B.** Did Lambusa take off a wig?. **C.** Did Lambusa take off the ring?. **D.** Who took off the wig?. [2013/99]
- 30. The bed is IN the room** **A.** Was the bed in the room?. **B.** What is in the room?. **C.** Where is the bed?. **D.** Is the bed in the parlour?. [2013/100]
- 31. My mother bought a BICYCLE yesterday** **A.** whose mother bought a bicycle yesterday?. **B.** Did my mother steal a bicycle yesterday?. **C.** When did my mother buy a bicycle?. **D.** What did my mother buy yesterday?. [2014/98]
- 32. AMINA went to Abuja by air** **A.** Who went to Abuja by air?. **B.** Did Amina go to Abuja by road?. **C.** Did Amina go to Jos by air?. **D.** Is Amina going to Abuja by air?. [2014/99]
- 33. Musa is STAYING in Enugu** **A.** Is Musa staying on the outskirts of Enugu?. **B.** Is Audu staying in Enugu?. **C.** Was Musa staying in Enugu?. **D.** Is Musa passing through Enugu. [2014/100]
- 34. Your mother CAN cook the meal** **A.** Who will cook the meal?. **B.** Can my father cook the meal?. **C.** Isn't my mother able to cook the meal?. **D.** What can my mother do?. [2005/99]
- 35. The President SPOKE to the press** **A.** Did the President write to the press?. **B.** Did the President speak to the press?. **C.** Who spoke to the press?. **D.** Are these the pressmen that the President spoke to? . [2003/79]
- 36. Amina attends a COMMERCIAL college** **A.** Does Kunle attend a commercial college? **B.** Has Amina graduated from a commercial college? **C.** Does Amina attend a technical college? **D.** Does Amina attend a commercial school?
- 37. His WIFE works in a bank.** **A.** Where does his wife work? **B.** Does his wife play in a bank? **C.** Does his concubine work in a bank? **D.** Does my wife work in a bank?
- 38. Ada kept the dishes HERE** **A.** Did Ada put the dishes here **B.** What did Ada keep? **C.** Who kept the dishes? **D.** Did Ada keep the dishes there?
- 39. She must hold the baby CAREFULLY** **A.** Must she hold the baby carelessly? **B.** Must she hold a baby carefully? **C.** Who must hold the baby carefully? **D.** Must she take the baby carefully?
- 40. I gave Olu the DICTIONARY yesterday.** **A.** What did I give Olu yesterday? **B.** Did I collect the dictionary from Olu yesterday? **C.** Who gave Olu the dictionary yesterday? **D.** When did I give Olu the dictionary?
- 41. The chief BOUGHT a house.** **A.** Did the chief sell a house? **B.** Who bought a house? **C.** Did the chief buy many houses? **D.** Did the chief buy a car?
- 42. She SIMPLY ignored me.** **A.** Did she simply ignore him? **B.** Who ignored me? **C.** Did she totally ignore me? **D.** Did she simply accept me?
- 43. Emeka ENCOURAGED Bayo to take the job.** **A.** Did Emeka encourage Bayo to take a job? **B.** Did Emeka encourage Bayo to reject the job? **C.** Did Emeka persuade Bayo to take the job? **D.** Who encouraged Bayo to take the job?
- 44. My Boss has an amiable DISPOSITION.** **A.** Does your boss have an amiable disposition? **B.** Does my boss have an unfriendly disposition? **C.** Does my colleague have an amiable disposition? **D.** Does my boss have an amiable complexion?
- 45. Aderonke STATED she had a right to her privacy.** **A.** Did Omowunmi state she had a right to her privacy? **B.** Did Aderonke lament she had a right to her privacy? **C.** Did Aderonke state she had a right to her privacy? **D.** Did Aderonke state she had a right to his privacy?

Emphatic Stress Answers

1D 2B 3A 4D 5C 6C 7D 8A 9D 10B 11C 12B 13D 14B 15A 16B 17D 18A 19D 20A 21B 22C 23B 24C 25A 26B 27C 28D 29A 30C 31D 32A 33D 34C 35A 36C 37C 38D 39A 40A 41A 42C 43C 44D 45B

Vowels (Monophthongs and Diphthongs)

Introduction

Written English has five proper vowel letters, A, E, I, O, and U (Y may substitute for I). Yet spoken English has some 20 shades of vowel sounds. Accordingly, our vowel letters are kept busy, each one symbolizing multiple sounds on any written page.

Generally vowel sounds are group into two, monophthongs and diphthongs.

The **monophthongs** otherwise called pure vowels are derived from the five vowels of the Alphabet- a, e, i, o, u. Seven of these pure vowel sounds are SHORT, while five are LONG. The seven short vowels are /ɪ/, /e/, /æ/, /ɔ/, /u/, /ʌ/ and /ə/.

They are called short vowels because their pronunciation is not prolonged. The five long vowels include /ɪ:/, /a:/, /ɔ:/, /u:/ and /ə:/. They are called long vowels because their pronunciation is prolonged.

The **diphthongs** are vowel sounds created by two vowels working together. There is only one sound, but two vowels are used to make the sound. The eight diphthongs are /eɪ/, /aɪ/, /ɔɪ/, /ɪə/, /eə/, /ʊə/, /əʊ/ and /aʊ/.

For clarity we contrasted each short vowel sound with its corresponding long vowel sound on the PREP50 App.

Download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store to clear any confusion concerning vowel sounds.

The questions on each vowel sound below consist of both UTME and WAEC past questions.

Vowels /i:/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. /i:/ A. say. B. seize. C. kill. D. ill. [0/53]
2. Police A. lice. B. list. C. least. D. lest. [0/1]
3. Seen A. live. B. set. C. leave. D. save. [0/6]
4. /i:/ A. bee. B. height. C. third. D. sit. [0/51]
5. Sheep A. lyric. B. key. C. rise. D. gist. [0/11]
6. Beak A. great. B. steak. C. speech. D. cell. [0/2]
7. /i:/ A. hide. B. quay. C. dead. D. great. [0/52]
8. Heat A. wife. B. beard. C. legal. D. sieve. [0/3]
9. Seat A. marine. B. measure. C. click. D. pleasant. [0/10]
10. Heal A. people. B. pleasant. C. jeopardy. D. great. [0/1]
11. /i:/ A. magazine. B. wisdom. C. fine. D. giddy. [0/51]
12. Seed A. receive. B. leisure. C. neighbour. D. eight. [0/9]
13. Heat A. leave. B. bill. C. sieve. D. head. [0/1]
14. /i:/ A. physics. B. suite. C. built. D. lick. [0/51]
15. /i:/ A. sit. B. people. C. hymn. D. jeopardy. [0/52]
16. Weak A. pleasant. B. steak. C. seat. D. great. [0/6]
17. /i:/ A. wanted. B. leisure. C. marine. D. peasant. [0/51]
18. Feast A. head. B. caprice. C. suffice. D. practice. [0/1]
19. /i:/ A. receive. B. head. C. weapon. D. peasant. [0/51]
20. /i:/ A. guitar. B. seize. C. pretty. D. lettuce. [0/51]
21. quay A. key B. quake C. queen D. click. [0/1]

Vowels /i:/ Answers

1B 2C 3C 4A 5B 6C 7B 8C 9A 10A 11A 12A 13A 14B 15B 16C 17C 18B 19A 20B 21A

Vowels /e/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Dent A. says. B. mate. C. pays. D. may. [2001/2]
2. Best A. leopard. B. regal. C. saying. D. legal. [2002/5]
3. Set A. mettle. B. listen. C. mete. D. basket. [2002/1]
4. /e/ A. bead. B. royal. C. head. D. people. [2002/51]
5. Fed A. pays. B. regal. C. face. D. says. [2003/4]
6. Well A. friend. B. cease. C. seize. D. height. [2003/4]
7. Bet A. pretty. B. leisure. C. exact. D. penal. [2004/2]
8. Red A. paid. B. leopard. C. people. D. quay. [2005/2]
9. Wet A. receive. B. say. C. pleasure. D. way. [2005/7]
10. /e/ A. regal. B. feather. C. leader. D. enlist. [2005/52]
11. Wed A. days. B. says. C. meal. D. deal. [2006/2]
12. Bury A. dead. B. beam. C. fury. D. curry. [2006/3]
13. Best A. shirt. B. realm. C. seam. D. feast. [2006/12]
14. Bread A. please. B. head. C. bead. D. great. [2007/5]
15. /e/ A. pays. B. says. C. weight. D. heinous. [2007/51]
16. /e/ A. hide. B. realm. C. real. D. hate. [1998/57]
17. /e/ A. people. B. heinous. C. ewe D. jeopardy [2000/51]
18. Red A. leopard. B. people. C. legal. D. veto. [2000/7]
19. Best A. regale. B. vehicle. C. many. D. legal. [2001/5]
20. Bed A. weight. B. receive. C. leisure. D. height [2008/7]
21. Weapon A. leisure. B. meat. C. deceive D. weight. [2008/1]
22. /e/ A. peasant. B. yeast. C. meat. D. bead. [2008/51]
23. /e/ A. leopard. B. pity. C. phoenix. D. key. [2011/52]

Vowels /e/ Answers

1A 2A 3C 4C 5D 6A 7B 8B 9C 10B 11B 12A 13B 14B 15B 16B 17D 18A 19C 20C 21A 22A 23A

Vowels /a:/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined word(s).

1. /a:/ A. can't. B. brand. C. act. D. mat. [2005/51]
2. Bark A. banned. B. plant. C. band. D. dance. [2005/8]
3. /a:/ A. banner. B. knotty. C. balm. D. happy. [2005/53]
4. Card A. bat. B. hat. C. class. D. glad. [2006/3]
5. Park A. thank. B. heart. C. fact. D. mass. [2007/1]
6. Market A. bad. B. shall. C. basket. D. map. [2007/10]
7. Hard A. aunt. B. land. C. gaunt. D. mass. [2008/8]
8. Shark A. lack. B. fact. C. herd. D. class. [2000/10]
9. Car A. cat. B. chat. C. chide. D. father. [1997/9]
10. hart A. fat B. cut C. hat D. palm [0/1]
11. Pardon A. Paddle B. Clerk C. Packet D. Person [0/1]

Vowels /a:/ Answers

1A 2D 3C 4C 5B 6C 7A 8D 9D 10D 11B

Vowels /ɔ:/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Thought A. drought. B. lout. C. horse. D. worse [2001/5]
2. Power A. grower. B. prayer. C. flour. D. sower [2002/14]
3. /ɔ:/ A. pot. B. wan. C. hoard. D. shock. [2002/55]
4. Port A. word. B. board. C. pod. D. tough. [2003/8]
5. Worn A. won. B. ward. C. wane. D. word. [2003/8]
6. Fork A. work. B. story. C. worry. D. hurry. [2004/9]
7. Hoard A. oats. B. hard. C. awe. D. our. [2004/14]
8. Destroy A. count. B. youth. C. point. D. guy. [2004/15]
9. Thought A. lock. B. purse. C. wander. D. laudable.
10. /ɔ:/ A. gone. B. nod. C. water. D. fond. [2005/53]
11. Bought A. grouse. B. loss. C. worse. D. horse. [2006/4]
12. Cut A. butcher. B. touch. C. pouch. D. pull. [2006/9]
13. Cause A. work. B. cork. C. mock. D. double. [2007/2]
14. /ɔ:/ A. lock. B. nought. C. drought. D. watch [2007/55]
15. Short A. but. B. shoot. C. shot. D. jaw. [1997/10]
16. Board A. roster. B. dog. C. suck. D. afford. [2000/4]
17. Lawn A. word. B. purse. C. wan. D. sword. [2008/9]
18. Storm A. knotty. B. naughty. C. flout. D. bouquet [2008/2]
19. /ɔ:/ A. one. B. punk. C. none. D. pawn. [2011/54]

Vowels /ɔ:/ Answers

1C 2C 3C 4B 5B 6B 7C 8C 9D 10C 11D 12B 13B 14B 15D 16D 17D 18B 19B

Vowels /u:/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Soup A. doubt. B. good. C. mouth. D. crude. [2001/3]
2. Cool A. foot. B. cook. C. pull. D. brute. [2002/6]
3. Goose A. rule. B. hood. C. good. D. poise. [2002/4]
4. /u:/ A. doe. B. wood. C. flood. D. shoes. [2002/54]
5. Rude A. wool. B. bull. C. hook. D. fool. [2004/5]
6. Tool A. full. B. pull. C. who. D. hood. [2004/7]
7. /u:/ A. hood. B. wolf. C. bull. D. few. [2004/54]
8. Crude A. rush. B. gust. C. full. D. hew. [2005/5]
9. /u:/ A. look. B. good. C. stood. D. mood. [2005/54]
10. Who A. bull. B. wood. C. rush. D. lose. [2006/5]
11. /u:/ A. full. B. bush. C. shampoo. D. wool. [2006/53]
12. Rule A. woo. B. wool. C. took. D. shook. [2006/2]
13. /u:/ A. push. B. should. C. fruit. D. guilt. [2006/53]
14. Ooze A. ruse. B. blood. C. good. D. took. [2007/6]

15. /u:/ A. douse. B. route. C. rough. D. dough. [2007/54]
 16. Boo A. good. B. whose. C. wool. D. hook. [2007/5]
 17. Pool A. book. B. suit. C. pole. D. shock. [1997/6]
 18. Rude A. room. B. rout. C. rum. D. role. [1998/8]
 19. Crude A. crust. B. gold. C. hoot. D. rout. [2000/5]
 20. Mood A. crux. B. crude. C. book. D. took. [2008/6]
 21. Food A. douse. B. wood. C. coup. D. foot. [2008/6]

Vowels /u:/ Answers

1D 2D 3A 4D 5D 6C 7D 8D 9D 10D 11C 12A 13C 14A 15B 16B 17B 18A 19C 20B 21C

Vowels /ə/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Mother A. perky. B. mercy. C. surprise. D. purge. [02/10]
 2. /ə/ A. enact. B. insist. C. survive. D. surname. [2002/10]
 3. Father A. cargo. B. labour. C. exhaust. D. council. [03/11]
 4. About A. message. B. seizure. C. respect. D. rescue. [2004/8]
 5. Pleasure A. pleasure. B. deport. C. tailor. D. respite. [2004/10]
 6. /ə/ A. input. B. surcharge. C. ingrate. D. conquer. [2004/55]
 7. /ə/ A. warning. B. party. C. exhaust. D. grandeur. [06/55]
 8. Away A. doctor. B. angry. C. addict. D. banking. [2007/10]
 9. /ə/ A. close. B. work. C. wise. D. danger. [1996/55]
 10. Birth A. colonel. B. bath. C. egg. D. colour. [1998/9]
 11. About A. boat. B. fable. C. candle. D. doctor. [1999/9]
 12. Mother A. madam. B. regret. C. inflict. D. demand. [2008/3]
 13. First A. work. B. clerk. C. done. D. bond. [2008/5]
 14. /ə/ A. music. B. mouthful. C. problem. D. colleague. [2009/55]
 15. /ə/ A. disease. B. pen. C. shirt. D. culture. [2010/55]
 16. The /ə/ A. early. B. work. C. kingdom. D. make. [2011/55]
 17. Tenure A. Colour B. Floor C. Blue D. Shoe. [0/1]

Vowels /ə/ Answers

1C 2C 3B 4B 5C 6D 7D 8A 9D 10A 11D 12A 13A 14C 15D 16C 17A

Vowels /ei/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or word(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined word(s).

1. Shake A. grey. B. plait. C. met. D. wreck. [2001/10]
 2. Make A. height. B. weight. C. says. D. plait. [2002/12]
 3. Cage A. latter. B. neighbour. C. banker. D. heighten. [2003/15]
 4. Later A. gauge. B. latter. C. laud. D. crab. [2004/11]
 5. Day A. says. B. meat. C. great. D. beat. [2005/11]
 6. Monday A. spray. B. examine. C. high. D. meal. [2005/2]
 7. Great A. neighbour. B. meat. C. lead. D. peasant. [2006/11]
 8. Faith A. weight. B. piety. C. said. D. guide. [2007/12]
 9. Say A. heifer. B. heinous. C. either. D. says. [2008/13]
 10. Make A. plant. B. afraid. C. mark. D. met. [1997/13]
 11. Bait A. bat. B. bark. C. bake. D. back. [1998/10]
 12. Say A. afraid. B. high. C. buy. D. says. [1999/11]
 13. /ei/ A. aisle. B. eat. C. wait. D. dirt. [1999/55]
 14. Tame A. plait. B. cadet. C. heavy. D. neighbour. [00/11]
 15. Way A. says. B. great. C. plague. D. height. [2001/13]

Vowels /ei/ Answers

1A 2B 3B 4A 5C 6A 7A 8A 9B 10B 11C 12A 13C 14D 15B

Vowels /əu/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Boat A. glory. B. bought. C. board. D. go. [2000/52]
 2. Potable A. port. B. paw. C. post. D. pot. [2007/86]
 3. Boat A. board. B. bought. C. go. D. glory. [2000/26]
 4. Go A. blow. B. do. C. allow. D. cow. [2001/8]
 5. /əu/ A. collect. B. notable. C. portable. D. feud. [2001/55]
 6. Know A. sew. B. grew. C. vow. D. how. [2002/14]
 7. Know A. how. B. show. C. allow. D. brow. [2003/13]
 8. Know A. hoe. B. shoe. C. now. D. scowl. [2003/12]
 9. Know A. scowl. B. now. C. knew. D. sew. [2004/11]
 10. Know A. over. B. company. C. monkey. D. oven. [2005/11]
 11. Boat A. comfort. B. host. C. golf. D. mother. [2006/12]
 12. /əu/ A. potable. B. portable. C. roster. D. wonder. [2006/54]
 13. Goat A. mount. B. board. C. hoard. D. whole. [2007/14]
 14. Gross A. loss. B. sofa. C. cost. D. moss. [2007/12]
 15. /əu/ A. fall. B. some. C. poll. D. doll. [2007/55]
 16. Coat A. no. B. knew. C. gnaw. D. now. [1997/14]
 17. Coat A. hot. B. woke. C. taught. D. coarse. [1999/12]
 18. /əu/ A. folly. B. toll. C. curly. D. bout. [2000/54]
 19. Float A. oven. B. hoard. C. poll. D. hop. [2001/12]
 20. /əu/ A. hostel. B. bone. C. roster. D. dove. [2008/55]
 21. /əu/ A. rover. B. rostrum. C. novel. D. modest. [2010/55]
 22. /əu/ A. hot. B. goat. C. fund. D. laid. [2011/58]

Vowels /əu/ Answers

1D 2C 3C 4A 5B 6A 7B 8A 9D 10A 11B 12A 13D 14B 15C 16A 17B 18B 19C 20B 21A 22B

Vowels /ɔi/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Boy A. choir. B. foil. C. coincide. D. chamois. [2008/13]
 2. /ɔi/ A. watch. B. hoist. C. bond. D. wrong. [2008/52]
 3. Soil A. tortoise. B. choir. C. poise. D. reservoir. [2002/13]
 4. Boil A. mail. B. sour. C. coin. D. mayor. [2006/13]
 5. Oil A. yell. B. buoy. C. quay. D. toll. [1997/12]
 6. Boil A. south. B. sower. C. sound. D. coy. [1998/6]

Vowels /ɔi/ Answers

1B 2B 3C 4C 5B 6D

Vowels /iə/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Rear A. pear. B. heir. C. fear. D. swear. [2002/13]
 2. Cheer A. dare. B. wear. C. bear. D. mere. [2003/12]
 3. Fear A. square. B. flair. C. flare. D. gear. [2003/15]
 4. Sheer A. chair. B. tour. C. beer. D. there. [2003/13]
 5. Near A. pear. B. wear. C. mere. D. bear. [2004/13]
 6. Clear A. wear. B. deer. C. bear. D. pear. [2004/13]
 7. Dear A. pear. B. wear. C. near. D. bear. [2005/14]
 8. Fire A. shower. B. fuel. C. power. D. trial. [2005/15]
 9. Ear A. chair. B. wear. C. cheer. D. earnest. [2006/15]
 10. Deer A. dare. B. merely. C. hair. D. fairly. [2007/13]
 11. Hear A. swear. B. bear. C. pear. D. fear. [2008/15]
 12. Here A. bare. B. wore. C. beer. D. pair. [2000/14]
 13. Beard A. bared. B. word. C. cheer. D. feel. [1999/15]
 14. Cheer A. chair. B. ear. C. check. D. cheat. [1997/15]

Vowels /iə/ Answers

1C 2D 3D 4C 5C 6B 7C 8D 9C 10B 11D 12C 13C 14B

Vowels /eə/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Air A. heir. B. her. C. hear. D. fire. [2000/27]
2. Fair A. wear. B. dear. C. here. D. mere. [2002/11]
3. Hare A. cheer. B. bier. C. dear. D. fair. [2002/11]
4. Care A. dear. B. leer. C. pair. D. hear. [2003/14]
5. Fare A. cheer. B. bier. C. pair. D. here. [2004/14]
6. Care A. steer. B. flair. C. here. D. beer. [2005/15]
7. Fair A. sheer. B. here. C. heir. D. fear. [2006/14]
8. Fare A. here. B. their. C. beer. D. fear. [2006/13]
9. Wear A. bait. B. pair. C. dear. D. near. [2007/11]
10. Share A. fear. B. near. C. dear. D. wear. [2007/15]
11. Fare A. chair. B. hear. C. gear. D. near. [2008/15]
12. Fair A. dear. B. hear. C. bier. D. rare. [2001/15]
13. Bear A. fare. B. dear. C. near. D. mere. [2000/15]
14. /eə/ A. fare. B. bird. C. wed. D. dear. [1999/54]
15. Fare A. here. B. hear. C. heir. D. are. [1998/11]
16. Pear A. year B. near C. dear D. there

Vowels /eə/ Answers

1A 2A 3D 4C 5C 6B 7C 8B 9B 10D 11A 12D 13A 14A 15C 16D

Vowels /i/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Chilled A. build. B. child. C. heel. D. lied. [1997/4]
2. Sick A. spike. B. sake. C. peak. D. women. [1998/7]
3. /i/ A. heel. B. sit. C. high. D. bite. [1997/52]
4. Sit A. creature. B. colleague. C. wanted. D. police. [2002/7]
5. /i/ A. silly. B. rival. C. police. D. ravine. [2002/54]
6. Hit A. child. B. fatigue. C. neat. D. guilt. [0/8]
7. Bill A. seal. B. need. C. bit. D. ninth. [2003/1]
8. Milk A. quay. B. exhibit. C. excellent. D. oblique. [0/1]
9. Tick A. busy. B. busy. C. police. D. caprice. [2004/1]
10. Bit A. consensus. B. favourite. C. ire. D. exile. [0/2]
11. Kit A. parted. B. regal. C. key. D. routine. [2005/1]
12. Sit A. guilt. B. clique. C. marine. D. sardine. [2006/1]
13. Machine A. opine. B. magazine. C. divine. D. rescind. [0/7]
14. Lick A. police. B. women. C. machine. D. seek. [2007/7]
15. Rich A. margarine. B. theme. C. enormous. D. police. [0/3]
16. Sick A. marine. B. tribunal. C. knowledge. D. vital. [2008/4]
17. Lip A. confide. B. postage. C. scene. D. cite. [0/7]
18. /i/ A. expert. B. extort. C. exile. D. exercise. [2009/52]
19. /i/ A. police. B. marine. C. package. D. margarine. [0/52]

Vowels /i/ Answers

1A 2D 3B 4C 5A 6D 7B 8C 9A 10B 11A 12A 13B 14B 15C 16C 17B 18B 19C

Vowels /ʌ/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Much A. bush. B. put. C. house. D. cousin. [2001/6]
2. /ʌ/ A. boss. B. dawn. C. host. D. sun. [2001/53]
3. Rush A. bush. B. plough. C. put. D. rough. [2002/8]
4. /ʌ/ A. mountain. B. country. C. bottle. D. sofa.

[2002/52]

5. Bus A. folk. B. don. C. cover. D. put. [2002/7]
6. Hum A. fond. B. don. C. onion. D. romp. [2007/8]
7. Crush A. full. B. push. C. rush. D. bull. [2007/1]
8. /ʌ/ A. company. B. collar. C. college. D. cobra. [2007/53]
9. /ʌ/ A. hot. B. blood. C. lurk. D. verse. [1996/54]
10. Hunt A. hurt. B. hot. C. hoot. D. run. [1997/8]
11. Luck A. lack. B. lucid. C. hut. D. put. [1999/4]
12. Hulk A. walk. B. talk. C. like. D. silk. [1999/17]
13. /ʌ/ A. wonder. B. dough. C. wander. D. cough. [2000/52]
14. Supper A. don. B. dove. C. hovel. D. both. [2008/8]
15. Hunt A. dock. B. bush. C. count. D. son. [2008/4]
16. /ʌ/ A. govern. B. collar. C. polite. D. don. [2008/54]
17. /ʌ/ A. ozone. B. orange. C. oven. D. glory. [2009/55]
18. /ʌ/ A. short. B. sorry. C. monkey. D. gory. [0/55]
19. /ʌ/ A. cool. B. couple. C. work. D. journey. [2011/54]
20. /ʌ/ A. one. B. punk. C. none. D. pawn. [2011/54]
21. Accompany A. abolish B. fail C. sluggish D. movement

Vowels /ʌ/ Answers

1D 2D 3D 4B 5C 6C 7C 8A 9B 10D 11C 12D 13A 14B 15D 16A 17C 18C 19B 20B 21C

Vowels /æ/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Sack A. back. B. task. C. false. D. fake. [2002/3]
 2. Man A. class. B. acom. C. abate. D. pact. [2002/3]
 3. /æ/ A. lamp. B. palm. C. naval. D. dark. [2002/53]
 4. Bag A. lack. B. was. C. pass. D. class. [2003/2]
 5. Tap A. can't. B. dance. C. plant. D. land. [2004/15]
 6. Ban A. plant. B. plantain. C. barn. D. balm. [2004/3]
 7. Act A. mass. B. pass. C. class. D. lark. [2005/8]
 8. Ram A. pass. B. glass. C. mass. D. class. [2005/3]
 9. Man A. dam. B. basket. C. parch. D. park. [2006/7]
 10. /æ/ A. mango. B. market. C. branch. D. plant. [2006/51]
 11. Hat A. dance. B. cast. C. pack. D. laugh. [2006/8]
- Choose the word with the same vowel sound as /æ/
12. /æ/ A. plant. B. task. C. pant. D. tame. [2006/52]
 13. Bat A. plant. B. pass. C. rank. D. taste. [2007/3]
 14. /æ/ A. mad. B. pass. C. class. D. dance. [2007/53]
 15. Back A. mass. B. class. C. basket. D. dance. [2007/7]
 16. /æ/ A. cart. B. bail. C. hate. D. cat. [1997/54]
 17. Packact A. ample. B. park. C. law. D. class. [1998/14]
 18. /æ/ A. buy. B. sack. C. dark. D. area. [1999/52]
 19. Pack A. wander. B. dancer. C. back. D. pass. [2000/6]
 20. Cat A. last. B. cut. C. bank. D. plate. [2001/9]
 21. Apple A. carry. B. rather. C. can't. D. market. [2008/2]
 22. /æ/ A. land. B. dance. C. task. D. basket. [2008/52]
 23. /æ/ A. father. B. scandal. C. harder. D. worker. [2010/52]
 24. /æ/ A. hut. B. apt. C. jump. D. mace. [2011/52]

Vowels /æ/ Answers

1A 2C 3A 4A 5D 6B 7A 8C 9A 10A 11C 12C 13C 14A 15A 16D 17A 18B 19C 20C 21A 22A 23B 24B

Vowels /ɔ/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. /ɔ/ A. fond. B. month. C. port. D. comb. [2001/52]
2. /ɔ/ A. story. B. novel. C. war. D. was. [2005/52]
3. /ɔ/ A. border. B. bother. C. boring. D. brother.
4. /ɔ/ A. rotten. B. foment. C. poster. D. folder. [2006/55]
5. /ɔ/ A. water. B. host. C. model. D. home. [2008/54]
6. /ɔ/ A. associate. B. appropriate. C. adopt.
D. social. [2010/54]
7. /ɔ/ A. rot. B. wrap. C. wrought. D. wraith. [2011/53]
8. Stop A. What B. Wonder C. Port D. Bony

Vowels /ɔ/ Answers

1A 2D 3B 4A 5C 6C 7A 8A

Vowels /u/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Look A. tool. B. pool. C. dull. D. full. [2001/12]
2. Look A. fool. B. could. C. boulder. D. bloody. [2002/4]
3. /u/ A. woo. B. spoon. C. flood. D. book. [2002/53]
4. Good A. wool. B. fool. C. hoot. D. boot. [2003/6]
5. Book A. full. B. fool. C. gull. D. flood. [2003/6]
6. Book A. pool. B. brush. C. food. D. push. [2004/4]
7. Book A. cool. B. wood. C. fool. D. tool. [2004/5]
8. /u/ A. blood. B. due. C. wood. D. food. [2004/53]
9. Should A. push. B. mould. C. cousin. D. gush. [2006/10]
10. Foot A. flood. B. woman. C. mood. D. son. [2006/15]
11. Bull A. shook. B. root. C. crude. D. bulk. [2007/4]
12. Wood A. mouth. B. tool. C. woo. D. should. [2007/2]
13. Could A. cold. B. cod. C. pull. D. cool. [1997/5]
14. Pull A. wall. B. ulcer. C. pool. D. book. [1999/7]
15. Should A. wrote. B. put. C. flood. D. foul. [2000/2]
16. Bullet A. bush. B. hoof. C. rude. D. cull. [2008/5]
17. Cook A. wolf. B. crude. C. mood. D. wound. [2008/9]
18. /u/ A. should. B. rude. C. boom. D. doom. [2009/54]
19. /u/ A. foot. B. two. C. blue. D. shoe. [2011/53]

Vowels /u/ Answers

1D 2B 3D 4A 5A 6D 7B 8C 9A 10B 11A 12D 13C 14D 15B 16A 17A 18A 19A

Vowels /ə:/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Search A. ear. B. heart. C. bear. D. journey. [2001/13]
2. /ə:/ A. supper. B. exact. C. berserk. D. clerk. [2001/54]
3. Worse A. sort. B. urge. C. worn. D. gorge. [2002/9]
4. /ə:/ A. cousin. B. judge. C. month. D. attorney.
5. Murder A. surprise. B. search. C. pot. D. warder [2005/9]
6. /ə:/ A. court. B. fallacy. C. shut. D. courtesy. [2005/55]
7. Serve A. harp. B. come. C. journey. D. beg. [2006/6]
8. /ə:/ A. courage. B. favour. C. perhaps. D. scourge. [2006/54]
9. Curse A. luck. B. brought. C. courteous. D. fault [2007/9]
10. Pearl A. guard. B. punish. C. furnish. D. heart. [2007/9]
11. /ə:/ A. warm. B. shot. C. dirt. D. wet. [1996/55]
12. /ə:/ A. pour. B. clerk. C. journal. D. surprise. [2000/53]
13. /ə:/ A. judge. B. month. C. surprise. D. surface [08/53]
14. /ə:/ A. enough. B. intern. C. export. D. tractor. [08/53]
15. /ə:/ A. port. B. cord. C. sort. D. work. [2009/53]
16. /ə:/ A. attorney. B. surprising. C. wonderful.
D. abduction. [2010/53]
17. /ə:/ A. courteous. B. surprise. C. cousin. D. perhaps.

Vowels /ə:/ Answers

1D 2C 3B 4D 5B 6D 7C 8D 9C 10C 11C 12C 13D 14B 15D 16A 17A

Vowels /ai/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Lie A. eight. B. sigh. C. bait. D. paid. [2002/12]
2. Light A. piece. B. believe. C. tie. D. besiege. [2005/14]
3. Site A. favourite. B. height. C. elite. D. fatigue. [2005/12]
4. Tie A. relief. B. eighty. C. slight. D. bier. [2006/11]
5. Kite A. sardine. B. favourite. C. undermine.
D. undermine. [2007/14]
6. Buy A. bury. B. buoy. C. heinous. D. height. [2001/11]
7. Tie A. chief. B. relief. C. buy. D. belief. [2008/11]
8. The /ai/ A. nymph. B. rip. C. fight. D. hymn. [2008/55]
9. Might A. Wheat B. Wrist C. Wright D. Writ.

Vowels /ai/ Answers

1B 2C 3B 4C 5C 6D 7C 8C 9C

Vowels /au/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Shout A. tough. B. should. C. drought. D. mould. [2008/12]
2. Cloud A. route. B. bouquet. C. bowl. D. growl. [2002/15]
3. Down A. count. B. tower. C. low. D. country. [2001/15]
4. Now A. bough. B. mow. C. snow. D. though. [2003/11]
5. Cow A. plough. B. arrow. C. shallow. D. root. [2005/13]
6. Foul A. tow. B. mow. C. doubt. D. soul. [2005/13]
7. Fowl A. sow. B. tow. C. now. D. know. [2007/15]
8. Endow A. plough. B. cough. C. dough. D. nought. [07/13]
9. Out A. though. B. cough. C. cow. D. bought. [1998/13]
10. How A. low. B. surd. C. plough. D. rock. [1999/1]
11. Mouse A. fount. B. bought. C. could. D. soul. [20/13]
12. About A. round. B. dough. C. thought. D. country. [2001/14]
13. /au/ A. laugh. B. may. C. tough. D. plough. [2011/60]
14. Shout. A. Allow. B. Both C. Pause D. Soul. [20/13]

Vowels /au/ Answers

1C 2D 3A 4A 5A 6C 7C 8A 9C 10C 11A 12A 13D 14A

Vowels /uə/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Tour A. pure. B. four. C. door. D. floor. [2002/15]
2. /uə/ A. gore. B. gourd. C. door. D. floor. [2001/55]
3. /uə/ A. secure. B. treasure. C. gesture. D. feature. [2006/54]
4. /uə/ A. judge. B. lunch. C. jury. D. plunge. [2007/55]
5. /uə/ A. spear. B. ritual. C. curly. D. burly. [2000/54]
6. Sure A. four. B. floor. C. cure. D. door. [2001/12]
7. Obscure A. lure. B. odour. C. splendour. D. picture [08/14]
8. /uə/ A. hostel. B. purity. C. roster. D. dove. [2008/55]
9. /uə/ A. fuel. B. rostrum. C. novel. D. modest. [2010/55]
10. /uə/ A. hot. B. poor. C. fund. D. laid. [2011/58]

Vowels /uə/ Answers

1A 2B 3A 4C 5B 6C 7A 8B 9A 10B

Vowels /3:/

In each of the questions below, a vowel sound is given or letter(s) may be underlined. Choose the option with the same vowel sound as the given vowel sound or the underlined letter(s).

1. Serve A. Journey B. Laugh C. Barn D. Carve

Vowels /3:/ Answers:

1A

Consonants Sounds

Introduction

A consonant is a speech sound that is not a vowel. The sound of a consonant is produced by a partial or complete obstruction of the airstream by a constriction of the speech organs. In writing, a consonant is any letter of the alphabet except A, E, I, O, U, and sometimes Y. There are twenty-four consonant sounds in English language.

For clarity we paired and contrasted closely sounding consonant sound. This superb learning aid is available on the PREP50 App. Download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store to clear any confusion concerning consonant sounds. Just like we did for vowel sounds, the questions below consist of both UTME and WAEC past questions.

/p/ and /b/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. Poster A. psalm. B. stop. C. receipt.
D. cupboard. [2001/16]
2. Grasp A. speak. B. grapple. C. separate.
D. psyche. [2001/24]
3. Plant A. price. B. pistle. C. riddle. D. couple. [2002/29]
4. Post A. receipt. B. heap. C. pneumonia. D. psalm [03/17]
5. Purse A. coup. B. cupboard. C. paper D. receipt. [05/25]
6. /p/ A. pneumonia. B. stop. C. corps. D. coup. [2005/57]
7. Hear A. receipt. B. receipt. C. cupboard. D. coup [07/23]
8. Pease A. cupboard. B. psychotic. C. compare.
D. physical. [2007/16]
9. /p/ A. corps. B. receipt. C. coup. D. punch. [2007/56]
10. Packet A. psychology. B. physics. C. pseudonym.
D. sparkle. [1997/16]
11. Apt A. rapid. B. raped. C. listen. D. programmed [98/20]
12. Apply A. help. B. please. C. tulip. D. print. [2001/27]
13. Lump A. pain. B. coup. C. receipt. D. phase. [2008/21]
14. Bees A. debt. B. subtle. C. doubt. D. sober. [2001/19]
15. Baker A. debt. B. lamb. C. plumber. D. humble [02/21]
16. /b/ A. comb. B. debt. C. womb. D. bulb. [2002/59]
17. Box A. tomb. B. plumber. C. comb. D. sober. [2003/16]
18. Boat A. climb. B. cab. C. comb. D. tomb. [2004/16]
19. /b/ A. plumber. B. womb. C. slumber. D. crumb.
[04/60]
20. /b/ A. debt. B. doubt. C. grab. D. lamb. [2005/56]
21. Baby A. debtor. B. labour. C. womb. D. comb. [06/19]
22. Cab A. beast. B. debt. C. comb. D. womb. [2007/20]
23. Boat A. climb. B. plumber. C. tomb. D. tuber. [00/29]
24. Baby A. dumb. B. lamb. C. stab. D. climb. [2001/30]
25. Garb A. thumb. B. stab. C. limb. D. climb. [2008/20]
26. /b/ A. amber. B. doubt. C. crumbs. D. debt. [2008/56]
27. Butter A. rub. B. comb. C. iamb. D. doubt. [2008/17]
28. /b/ A. debt. B. subtle. C. plumber. D. robber [2010/56]

/p/ and /b/ Answers

1B 2A 3D 4B 5C 6B 7B 8C 9D 10D 11B 12B 13A 14D 15A 16D 17D 18B 19C 20C 21B 22A 23D 24C 25B 26A 27A 28D

/t/ and /d/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. Tea A. bitch. B. ballet. C. tone. D. then. [2001/17]
2. /t/ A. ten. B. chatel. C. think. D. with. [2001/60]
3. Ten A. depot. B. listen. C. attack. D. Christmas.
[2002/24]
4. Tea A. depot. B. carpet. C. catch. D. capture. [2002/20]
5. Cast A. parts. B. posed. C. caused. D. hissed. [2002/29]
6. /t/ A. contact. B. bustle. C. wrestle. D. castle [2002/58]
7. Toast A. added. B. added. C. tossed. D. posed [2003/30]
8. Tuber A. corked. B. bombed. C. climbed. D. bogged.
[2003/23]
9. Ghost A. axe. B. raced. C. bagged. D. closed. [2003/26]
10. Waste A. cursed B. surtax. C. paused. D. washed
[04/27]
11. Bet A. ballet. B. depot. C. technique. D. bouquet.
[2004/21]
12. Tea A. cared. B. flogged. C. nursed. D. slammed [05/17]

13. /t/ A. whistle. B. walked. C. bustle. D. castle. [2005/59]

14. Met A. zoomed. B. watched. C. debut. D. listen.
[2005/16]

15. Tent A. cast. B. dentures. C. often. D. rustle. [2006/17]

16. Slept A. fumed. B. slapped. C. passed. D. walked.
[2006/29]

17. Tin A. thin. B. tent. C. then. D. hitch. [1997/17]

18. /t/ A. listen. B. carried. C. action. D. walked. [1998/51]

19. Tap A. kicked. B. both. C. wicked. D. killed. [1999/16]

20. Boat A. watch. B. bated. C. mortgage. D. wrestle.
[2008/23]

21. Bat A. walked. B. zoomed. C. soiled. D. married.
[2008/24]

/t/ and /d/ Answers

1C 2A 3A 4B 5D 6A 7C 8A 9B 10A 11C 12C 13B 14B 15A 16B 17B 18D 19A 20B 21A

/k/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. Count A. civil. B. pact. C. cease. D. indict. [2002/22]
2. Ask A. gasp. B. tax. C. scene. D. masque. [2003/29]
3. Coat A. archaic. B. hatch. C. bleach. D. chew. [2003/18]
4. Cat A. knee. B. cell. C. chaos. D. knight. [2004/22]
5. Expect A. exist. B. exam. C. excite. D. exhaust. [2004/29]
6. Call A. cellar. B. achiever. C. brochure. D. archaic.
[2005/23]
7. Picnic A. knife. B. know. C. whole. D. write. [2005/22]
8. Cool A. ceiling. B. architect. C. attache. D. brochure.
[2006/25]
9. /k/ A. champion. B. chief. C. chorus. D. champagne.
[2006/60]
10. King A. cool. B. cell. C. knife. D. knew. [2007/24]
11. Kind A. knee. B. unique. C. knight. D. knife. [2007/19]
12. Court A. city. B. ocean. C. cell. D. hike. [2008/19]
13. Cool A. accuse. B. ocean. C. censure. D. cellar [01/21]
14. Kettle A. cell. B. knighthood. C. centre.
D. archives. [2000/19]

/k/ Answers

1D 2D 3A 4C 5C 6D 7D 8B 9C 10A 11B 12D 13A 14C

/θ/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. Thought A. theatre. B. taught. C. weather.
D. fate. [2000/31]
2. Wealth A. breathe. B. athlete. C. worthy. D. wordy.
[2001/26]
3. Path A. there. B. smooth. C. warmth. D. soothe. [02/26]
4. /θ/ A. bother. B. without. C. path. D. bathe. [2002/58]
5. Thunder A. smooth. B. throb. C. writhe. D. breathe.
[2007/21]
6. Thumb A. thirst. B. though. C. thyme. D. asthma.
7. /θ/ A. smooth. B. thyme. C. worth. D. writhe [07/59]
8. Athlete A. let. B. breathe. C. tell. D. both. [1997/26]
9. /θ/ A. thin. B. tin. C. dose. D. those. [1997/57]
10. Earth A. caught. B. heart. C. those. D. thank. [98/27]
11. /θ/ A. therefore. B. Thompson. C. health. D. dear.

[1998/56]

12. **Thought** A. though. B. taught. C. dose. D. strength.

[1999/27]

13. **Moth** A. wealth. B. clothe. C. smooth.

D. world. [2000/25]

14. **Thin** A. length. B. tin. C. thyme. D. there. [2001/25]

15. **Smooth** A. without. B. ethics. C. tooth.

D. panther. [2008/17]

16. **Thick** A. writhe. B. weather. C. rather. D. wrath.

[2008/25]

17. **/θ/** A. this. B. brother. C. method. D. sudden.

[2011/60]

18. **/θ/** A. these. B. those. C. think. D. there. [2012/57]

/θ/ Answers

1A 2B 3C 4C 5B 6A 7C 8D 9A 10D 11C 12D 13A 14A 15A 1

6D 17C 18C

/s/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. **Sword** A. dogs. B. wise. C. miss. D. word. [2001/25]

2. **/s/** A. closed. B. curse. C. cause. D. rose. [2001/59]

3. **Grease** A. princely. B. happily. C. supply.

D. surprise. [2000/27]

4. **/s/** A. ceaseless. B. disease. C. houses. D. resign. [02/59]

5. **Soft** A. houses. B. toys. C. basket. D. result. [2002/24]

6. **Spring** A. sprout. B. splint. C. span. D. spirit. [2002/28]

7. **Gas** A. arise. B. consent. C. resign. D. resort. [2007/27]

8. **/s/** A. cause. B. goes. C. second. D. island. [2007/60]

9. **Sword** A. word. B. occasion. C. boys. D. pass. [1997/25]

10. **Loose** A. lose. B. whose. C. zoo. D. toss. [1999/18]

11. **Castle** A. bustle. B. chuckle. C. dazzle. D. missile.

[1999/21]

12. **Seed** A. reason. B. resign. C. mouths. D. consult.

[2008/26]

13. **/s/** A. resign. B. deserve. C. sense. D. lose. [2008/57]

14. **/s/** A. champion. B. nose. C. archives. D. moustache.

[2009/56]

15. **/s/** A. decease. B. reason. C. design. D. resume.

[2010/57]

16. **/s/** A. vision. B. church. C. lace. D. genre. [2012/56]

17. **Vice** A. Cat B. Dress C. Show D. Chalk. [0/0]

/s/ Answers

1C 2B 3C 4A 5C 6A 7B 8C 9D 10D 11A 12D 13C 14D 15A 1

6C 17B

Sh/j/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. **Shame** A. bench. B. toss. C. nation. D. yacht. [2001/23]

2. **Motion** A. confusion. B. occasion. C. ocean.

D. mason. [2001/27]

3. **Wash** A. nation. B. occasion. C. treasure. D. equation.

[2002/23]

4. **/j/** A. watcher. B. torture. C. question. D. tension.

[2002/56]

5. **Should** A. mission. B. mishap. C. dishearten.

D. occasion. [2007/25]

6. **Cash** A. question. B. ancient. C. chestnut. D. nature.

[2000/28]

7. **/j/** A. thrash. B. vision. C. assume. D. cheat. [1999/58]

8. **Shadow** A. flash. B. century. C. chess. D. ass. [1998/18]

9. **/j/** A. hop. B. shop. C. stop. D. kiss. [1997/58]

10. **Clash** A. sharp. B. cheap. C. leisure. D. school.

[1999/19]

11. **Flash** A. lunch. B. choose. C. ancient. D. question.

[2008/22]

12. **/j/** A. chart. B. chassis. C. chemist. D. choose.

[2008/59]

13. **Splash** A. dishearten. B. mishap. C. cash.

D. misheard. [2008/19]

14. **/j/** A. bench. B. special. C. equation. D. arch.

[2008/60]

15. **/j/** A. pressure. B. measure. C. scratch.

D. sandwich. [2010/59]

16. **/j/** A. ocean. B. cell. C. cello. D. curtain. [0/56]

17. **/j/** A. measure. B. beige. C. pressure.

D. church. [2011/56]

18. **/j/** A. scoop. B. cheque. C. measure. D. lash.

[2012/60]

19. **Ocean** A. Sugar B. Rice C. Cheap D. Cease

20. **Clash** A. Sharp B. Cheap C. Leisure D. School

Sh/j/ Answers

1C 2C 3B 4D 5A 6B 7A 8A 9B 10A 11C 12B 13C 14B 15A 16

A 17C 18B 19A 20A

/z/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. **Zebra** A. seats. B. works. C. wars. D. miss. [2001/30]

2. **Zebra** A. assign. B. design. C. insist. D. persist. [02/25]

3. **/z/** A. science. B. handsome. C. reserve.

D. assert. [2002/60]

4. **Zone** A. horse. B. verse. C. haste. D. cause. [2003/23]

5. **Zoo** A. persist. B. assist. C. consist. D. desist. [2003/22]

6. **/z/** A. cars. B. loose. C. cease. D. lace. [2005/58]

7. **Zebra** A. recess. B. bees. C. centre. D. decease. [05/19]

8. **Zoom** A. Recess. B. Dispense. C. Perspire. D. Cast. [07/20]

9. **Zeal** A. assist. B. concern. C. averse. D. resort. [07/30]

10. **/z/** A. lease. B. resent. C. bats. D. recess. [2007/57]

11. **/z/** A. insist. B. resign. C. loose. D. bats. [1996/59]

12. **Boys** A. sick. B. voice. C. zeal. D. shop. [1997/30]

13. **Zero** A. days. B. cease. C. seizure. D. measure. [98/24]

14. **/z/** A. consist. B. insist. C. design. D. reverse. [00/60]

15. **Lose** A. race. B. coats. C. loose. D. boys. [2000/22]

16. **Zoo** A. Resign. B. Assist. C. Converse. D. Rice. [01/29]

17. **Gaze** A. Debris. B. Routes. C. Ways. D. Corpse. [08/24]

18. **Zoo** A. Insist. B. Reside. C. Converse. D. Assign. [08/23]

19. **/z/** A. reverse. B. consist. C. result. D. price. [2009/59]

20. **/z/** A. loss. B. cause. C. socks. D. parts. [0/59]

21. **/z/** A. lace. B. dress. C. sink. D. easy. [2011/59]

22. **Confusion** A. Garage B. Razor C. Midget D. Cease

/z/ Answers

1C 2C 3C 4D 5D 6A 7B 8B 9D 10A 11B 12C 13A 14C 15D 1

6A 17C 18B 19C 20B 21D 22A

/h/ and /m/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. **Film** A. column. B. palm. C. elm. D. lamb. [1999/23]

2. **/h/** A. exhibit. B. vehicle. C. honey. D. honour. [01/57]

3. **Hut** A. shepherd. B. honour. C. hostel. D. heiress. [02/17]

4. **Hotel** A. vehicle. B. vehement. C. hardship.

D. honesty. [2003/25]

5. **Hat** A. holy. B. honour. C. honest. D. hour. [2004/24]

6. **/h/** A. honour. B. house. C. heir. D. hour. [2004/59]

7. **/h/** A. honest. B. exhaust. C. hunter. D. rhyme. [06/59]

8. **Who** A. vehicle. B. khaki. C. rhyme. D. hammer. [07/17]

9. **/h/** A. hospital. B. vehicle. C. honest. D. hour. [08/60]

10. **Horse** A. honour. B. honest. C. hour. D. hotel. [08/18]

11. **how** A. honour B. hour C. their D. high. [0/0]

12. **Damn** A. Him B. Draw C. Known D. Known [0/0]

/h/ and /m/ Answers

1C 2C 3C 4C 5A 6D 7C 8D 9A 10D 11D 12A

/n/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. Name A. damn. B. column. C. hymn. D. renew. [02/18]
2. Novel A. column. B. solemn. C. solemnize. D. hymn. [2003/17]
3. Novel A. bank. B. danger. C. long. D. singer. [2004/25]
4. Name A. column. B. autumn. C. solemnize. D. damn. [2004/22]
5. /n/ A. sign. B. damn. C. longing. D. hanger. [2005/56]
6. Knife A. sink. B. bank. C. gnaw. D. single. [2006/21]
7. /n/ A. thank. B. fang. C. fringe. D. hunger. [2007/59]
8. Knew A. goose. B. sinew. C. wink. D. damn. [1999/29]
9. New A. own. B. column. C. autumn. D. damn. [00/26]
10. Pneumonia A. damn. B. solemn. C. hymn. D. knew. [2001/28]
11. /n/ A. lamb. B. long. C. sung. D. learn. [2009/58]
12. Town A. ring. B. non. C. fling. D. erosion.
13. gnaw. A. knock. B. king. C. kick. D. drawn
14. Gnaw. A. Crane B. Cling C. Rang D. Flung

/n/ Answers

1D 2C 3B 4C 5A 6C 7C 8B 9A 10D 11D 12B 13A 14A

/l/ and /r/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. Rude A. wrestling. B. purpose. C. mercy. D. catarrh. [2003/30]
2. Wrong A. stark. B. catarrh. C. door. D. riddle. [2005/23]
3. Rest A. career. B. market. C. morning. D. large. [08/26]
4. /r/ A. water. B. girl. C. large. D. roared. [2008/56]
5. Tailor A. walk. B. lamb. C. calm. D. talk. [2003/27]
6. Laugh A. calm. B. talk. C. yolk. D. goal. [2004/23]
7. Luck A. rally. B. walk. C. balm. D. should. [2005/24]
8. /l/ A. half. B. film. C. chalk. D. talk. [2005/57]
9. Lamb A. mild. B. could. C. talk. D. calm. [2007/28]
10. Lorry A. calm. B. walk. C. palm. D. kill. [1998/16]
11. Pale A. luck. B. alms. C. chalk. D. half. [2008/27]
12. Coal A. balm. B. hall. C. folk. D. talk. [2008/16]
13. /l/ A. calm. B. could. C. talk. D. vale. [2011/57]

/l/ and /r/ Answers

1A 2D 3A 4D 5B 6D 7A 8B 9A 10D 11A 12B 13D

/w/ and /j/ and /kw/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. Choir A. queue. B. question. C. unique. D. chair. [0/26]
2. Wife A. white. B. how. C. whole. D. write. [2005/17]
3. /w/ A. write. B. world. C. wrestle. D. wring. [2006/57]
4. /w/ A. write. B. bow. C. wriggle. D. twinkle. [2008/57]
5. /w/ A. once. B. languor. C. ewe. D. sew. [2009/60]
6. /j/ A. you. B. just. C. wedge. D. ditch. [1999/56]
7. Youth A. pay. B. grey. C. new. D. toy. [2000/30]
8. Youth A. rejoice. B. joy. C. unique. D. rely. [2008/21]
9. /j/ A. June. B. dew. C. grew. D. blue. [2009/57]
10. /j/ A. cut. B. pay. C. cute. D. wire. [2011/55]
11. /j/ A. rage. B. stew. C. jump. D. jail. [2011/58]

/w/ and /j/ and /kw/ Answers

1B 2A 3B 4D 5A 6A 7C 8C 9B 10C 11B

/ð/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. Cloth A. Thomas. B. three. C. they. D. mouth. [07/43]
2. Though A. dough. B. tow. C. thankful. D. without. [01/29]
3. Wither A. healthy. B. wealthy. C. breath.

D. feather. [2002/17]

4. Within A. bother. B. think. C. both. D. length. [02/23]

5. /ð/ A. healthy. B. breadth. C. smooth.

D. lengthy. [2002/57]

6. /ð/ A. ethics. B. gather. C. athlete. D. both. [2007/57]

7. Breathe A. theme. B. athlete. C. fathom. D. method. [2007/29]

8. /ð/ A. tin. B. thin. C. din. D. this. [1996/60]

9. Then A. den. B. thin. C. ten. D. brother. [1997/29]

10. Although A. doughnut. B. Thomas. C. there.

D. thief. [1998/30]

11. /ð/ A. them. B. through. C. tied. D. thank. [1998/58]

12. /ð/ A. dozen. B. weight. C. worth. D. bathe. [1999/59]

13. /ð/ A. bathe. B. faith. C. month. D. length. [2000/56]

14. These A. clothe. B. worth. C. thank. D. path. [01/17]

15. /ð/ A. northern. B. bath. C. healthy. D. teeth. [08/59]

16. /ð/ A. thing. B. author. C. path. D. smooth. [2009/57]

17. /ð/ A. worthy. B. healthy. C. mirth. D. wealthy.

[2010/60]

18. /ð/ A. bother. B. broader. C. udder. D. author.

[11/51]

/ð/ Answers

1C 2D 3D 4A 5C 6B 7C 8D 9D 10C 11A 12D 13A 14A 15A 16D 17A 18A

ch/tj/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. Check A. choir. B. chaos. C. chimney. D. machine. [2001/20]
2. Change A. cash. B. munch. C. chronic. D. chorus. [2001/22]
3. Church A. machine. B. anchor. C. question. D. technique. [2002/26]
4. /tj/ A. architect. B. chimney. C. character. D. chassis. [2002/56]
5. Charge A. nonchalant. B. chagrin. C. chapter. D. brochure. [2003/21]
6. Chapter A. challenger. B. chef. C. chagrin. D. chalet. [2003/20]
7. Chest A. chassis. B. chagrin. C. chasm. D. hunch. [2004/18]
8. Chance A. sachet. B. starch. C. moustache. D. nonchalant. [2005/18]
9. Perch A. perch. B. sachet. C. character. D. chimney. [2007/22]
10. /tj/ A. chest. B. equation. C. chauffeur. D. moustache. [2007/56]
11. /tj/ A. champion. B. brochure. C. sachet. D. chrome. [2007/58]
12. /tj/ A. ocean. B. cell. C. cello. D. curtain. [0/56]
13. /tj/ A. sachet. B. child. C. chef. D. ocean. [2012/59]
14. /tj/ A. cliché. B. chest. C. chrome. D. chef. [2005/59]
15. Match A. machine. B. charade. C. moustache. D. chunk. [2006/18]
16. Cheap A. search. B. champagne. C. nonchalant. D. anarchy. [2006/25]
17. /tj/ A. chronic. B. sachet. C. chorus. D. stretcher. [2006/56]

ch/tj/ Answers

1C 2B 3C 4B 5C 6D 7D 8B 9D 10A 11A 12A 13D 14B 15D 16A 17D

/dz/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. Judge A. gear. B. spinach. C. pleasure. D. camouflage. [2004/51]
2. Refuge A. forego. B. regime. C. prestige.

- D. gentle. [2001/23]
3. /dz/ A. lodge. B. fuselage. C. zest. D. gear. [2001/56]
4. Germ A. leg. B. guide. C. ghost. D. genuine. [2002/21]
5. Journal A. gentle. B. guess. C. goose.
D. colleague. [2003/22]
6. Jeer A. year. B. George. C. sabotage. D. camouflage.
[2003/21]
7. Badge A. gender. B. regime. C. golden. D. camouflage.
[2004/16]
8. Barge A. sabotage. B. prestige. C. digest. D. geese.
[2005/21]
9. Huge A. bug. B. fog. C. hug. D. joy. [2006/16]
10. Danger A. regime. B. beige. C. soldier.
D. guitar. [2007/24]
11. Oblige A. journey. B. gory. C. prestige.
D. plague. [1997/23]
12. /dz/ A. wig. B. judge. C. cake. D. death. [1997/56]
13. George A. goggle. B. edge. C. gnash. D. guide. [98/28]
14. /dz/ A. just. B. ghost. C. dose. D. dogged. [1999/60]
15. Joke A. measure. B. leg. C. pressure. D. merge.
[2008/25]
16. /dz/ A. razor. B. gnaw. C. long. D. soldier. [2009/56]
17. /dz/ A. entourage. B. confusion. C. procedure.
D. regime. [2010/60]
18. /dz/ A. wages. B. matches. C. goggle. D. saddle [2011/57]
19. /dz/ A. go. B. soldier. C. occasion. D. treasure.

- [2012/56]
20. /dz/ A. rejoice. B. boys. C. pleasure. D. wash. [012/60]
- /dz/ Answers**
1D 2D 3A 4D 5A 6B 7A 8C 9D 10C 11A 12B 13B 14A 15D 16D 17C 18A 19B 20A

/ñ/

Choose the option with the same consonant sound as the given sound or underlined letter(s) in the following.

1. English A. end. B. thin. C. think. D. edge. [2007/42]
2. English A. singe. B. impugn. C. ink. D. orange. [05/91]
3. Hang A. stingy. B. tinge. C. sing. D. hinge. [2002/16]
4. King A. singe. B. danger. C. finger. D. mental. [2002/30]
5. Ring A. fringe. B. range. C. fang. D. sin. [2004/17]
6. /ñ/ A. thank. B. danger. C. stranger. D. singe. [2004/58]
7. Bring A. hinge. B. hunger. C. strange. D. manager [05/26]
8. Rang A. anthem. B. bank. C. danger. D. hinge. [06/27]
9. Hang A. cringe. B. strange. C. mango. D. plunge. [07/18]
10. /ñ/ A. singe. B. cringe. C. young. D. stranger [2007/60]
11. Sing A. examiner. B. sinner. C. miner. D. fling. [98/25]
12. Ring A. lounge. B. bang. C. sin. D. cringe. [2000/16]
13. Bang A. sand. B. singe. C. hung. D. bug. [2001/16]
14. Bang A. plunge. B. singe. C. mangle. D. danger [2008/16]
15. /ñ/ A. one. B. punk. C. none. D. pawn. [2011/54]
- 16 English. A. thin. B. think. C. edge. D. end

/ñ/ Answers

- 1C 2C 3C 4C 5C 6A 7B 8B 9C 10C 11D 12B 13C 14C 15B 16B

Rhymes (homophones)

Introduction

Homophones are two or more words that have the same sound or pronunciation but have different meanings and are spelt differently. We may otherwise say that homophones rhyme.

Download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store for a comprehensive list of homophones in English language.

In each of the questions below, choose the option that rhymes with the given word

1. Say A. treason. B. weigh. C. fright. D. saw. [2008/92]
2. Knew A. tool. B. dawn. C. night. D. queue. [2008/93]
3. Toy A. torn. B. take. C. foil. D. tour. [2008/94]
4. Sheer A. dear. B. shirt. C. spare. D. shade. [2009/92]
5. Great A. creek. B. crate. C. knit. D. treat. [2009/93]
6. Own A. brown. B. frown. C. gown. D. phone. [2009/94]
7. Boys A. stays. B. moist. C. noise. D. elbows. [2010/92]
8. Shine A. clean. B. fine. C. machine. D. lain. [2010/93]
9. Seer A. snare. B. spare. C. spear. D. square. [2010/94]
10. Fuel A. cruel. B. fool. C. rule. D. field. [2011/92]
11. Match A. harsh. B. batch. C. such. D. watch. [011/93]
12. Sheer A. sheila. B. care. C. ear. D. sherry. [2011/94]
13. Rite A. wit. B. wright. C. rim. D. list. [2013/92]
14. Joys A. pots. B. boys. C. stays. D. elbow. [2013/93]
15. Call A. quait. B. dull. C. slate. D. wall. [2013/94]
16. Ever A. fever. B. never. C. heavier. D. favour. [014/92]
17. Keep A. seethe. B. threat. C. dead. D. reap. [2014/93]
18. Tax A. lacks. B. back. C. ask. D. box. [2014/94]
19. Word...return A. borne. B. burn. C. become.
D. hunder. [1997/31]
20. Laugh A. life. B. light. C. ghost. D. half. [1997/32]
21. Sweet A. sweat. B. suit. C. twice. D. suite. [1997/33]
22. Unharmed A. hammer. B. unarmed.
C. unmannered. D. hurried. [1997/34]
23. Heart A. hurt. B. tear. C. curt. D. part. [1997/35]
24. Letter A. gather. B. either. C. wetter. D. ladder [98/31]
25. Head A. shed. B. heed. C. herd. D. heard. [1998/32]
26. Penal A. senile. B. rationale. C. renal.
D. personnel. [1998/33]
27. Diction A. dictionary. B. fiction. C. mixture.
D. fusion. [1998/34]
28. Numb A. plumb. B. bomber. C. climb.
D. camp. [1998/35]
29. Chair A. there. B. fear. C. fiery. D. cheer. [1999/31]
30. Fuel A. quail. B. field. C. duel. D. freak. [1999/32]
31. Sour A. pour. B. sore. C. drawer. D. power.
[1999/33]
32. Corps A. queue. B. corpse. C. coup. D. core.
[1999/34]
33. Table A. status. B. label. C. tablet. D. cater.
[1999/35]
34. Averse A. rehearse. B. revise. C. reverts.
D. reviews. [2000/31]
35. Mountain A. country. B. fountain. C. bounty.
D. contain. [2000/32]
36. Tension A. season. B. prison. C. equation.
D. mention. [2000/33]
37. Father A. platter. B. further. C. rather.
D. later. [2000/34]
38. Labour A. cater. B. neighbour. C. mirror. D. terror.
[2000/35]
39. Serial A. carrier. B. serious. C. unreal. D. rally.
[2001/31]
40. Deceit A. receipt. B. appeal. C. resit. D. conceive.
[2001/32]
41. Could A. food. B. blood. C. wooed. D. wood.
[2001/33]
42. Curtail A. until. B. fail. C. defile. D. feel. [2001/34]
43. While A. buy. B. boil. C. bile. D. boy. [2001/35]
44. Concede A. receipt. B. impede. C. oblique.
D. deceive. [2001/31]
45. Elated A. divide. B. bugged. C. abated.

- D. countered. [2001/32]
46. **Fuse** A. diverse. B. repute. C. oppose.
D. accuse. [2001/33]
47. **Wonder** A. blunder. B. wandering. C. ponderous.
D. neither. [2001/34]
48. **Breeze** A. miss.BB. peace. C. trees. D. tries. [2001/35]
49. **Diverse** A. reverts. B. devise. C. reverse.
D. excess. [2002/31]
50. **Abound** A. confound. B. counted. C. recount.
D. amount. [2002/32]
51. **Sweet** A. white. B. sword. C. quit. D. suite. [2002/33]
52. **Shout** A. nought. B. crowd. C. drought.
D. thought. [2002/34]
53. **Permit** A. enlist. B. commit. C. dismiss.
D. profit. [2002/35]
54. **Refer** A. differ. B. counter. C. confer. D.proffer[02/31]
55. **Persist** A. recast. B. insist. C. averse. D. revised[02/32]
56. **Cask** A. axe. B. gasp. C. task. D. desk. [2002/33]
57. **Burrow** A. furrow. B. mellow. C. shallow.
D. furlough. [2002/34]
58. **Function** A. action. B. puncture. C. suction.
D. junction. [2002/35]
59. **Garnish** A. tarnish. B. finish. C. punish.
D. girlish. [2003/31]
60. **Purge** A. budge. B. wage. C. scourge.D.forge[2003/32]
61. **Toll** A. dull. B. goal. C. wall. D. holly. [2003/33]
62. **Hurry** A. glory. B. sorry. C. gory. D. curry. [2003/34]
63. **Extension** A. evasion. B. intrusion. C. mention.
D. decision. [2003/35]
64. **Teacher** A. fisher. B. butcher. C. pitches.
D. preacher. [2003/31]
65. **Home** A. become. B. alone. C. roam.D.boat.[2003/32]
66. **Solely** A. only. B. boldly. C. holly. D. wholly. [2003/33]
67. **Plait** A. flat. B. gait. C. sleight. D. bite. [2003/34]

68. **Low** A. sue. B. how. C. know. D. who. [2003/35]
69. **Burst** A. worst. B. marched. C. perched.
D. guessed. [2004/31]
70. **Hunting** A. building. B. bunting. C. shouting.
D. seething. [2004/32]
71. **Suspected** A. unwanted. B. repented. C. protected.
D. congested. [2004/34]
72. **Brake** A. stark. B. stuck. C. steak. D. slick. [2004/35]
73. **Task** A. bask. B. rush. C. tusk. D. lax. [2004/31]
74. **Stupid** A. tepid. B. cupid. C. limpid.D. rapid. [2004/32]
75. **Sum** A. gnome. B. bomb. C. gum. D. sump. [2004/33]
76. **Derive** A. reside. B. deceive. C. dissolve.
D. thrive. [2004/34]
77. **Reverse** A. confuse. B. pervert. C. converse.
D. devise. [2004/35]
78. **machine** A. campaign B. attain C. sheen D. fine[0/0]
79. **key** A. grey. B. quay. C. sit. D. prey. [0/0]
80. **chide** A. lied B. speed C. slid D. mile. [0/0]
81. **chair** A. heir B. slay C. fear D. caret. [0/0]
82. **Suite** A. Straight B. White C. Suit D. Sweet. [0/0]
83. **Blue** A. Clue B. Blow C. Blur D. Clay. [0/0]
84. **Grey** A. Grow B. Pale C. Pray D. Draw. [0/0]
85. **Little** A. Temple B. Tilted C. Spittle D. Bitter. [0/0]
86. **Account** A. Surmount B. Acorn C. Aground .
D. Astound. [0/0]
87. **Pad** A. Paid B. Mail C. Mart D. Made. [0/0]
- Homophones Answers**
- 1B 2D 3C 4A 5B 6D 7C 8B 9C 10A 11B 12C 13B 14B 15D 16
B 17D 18A 19B 20D 21D 22B 23D 24C 25A 26C 27B 28A
29A 30C 31D 32D 33B 34A 35B 36D 37C 38B 39C 40A 41D
42B 43C 44B 45C 46D 47A 48C 49C 50A 51D52C 53B 54C
55B 56C 57A 58D 59A 60C 61B 62D 63C 64D 65C 66D 67A
68C 69A 70B 71C 72C 73A 74B 75C 76D 77C
78C 79B 80A 81A 82D 83A 84C 85C 86A 87A

Pronunciation of a Plural Marker

Introduction

The plural forms of regular nouns is formed by adding the suffix ‘-s’ or ‘-es’. This plural marker, however are pronounced in **three different** ways as

- A. /-s/ B. /-z/ C. /-iz/
- A. It is pronounced as /-s/ when it comes after any of the listed voiceless consonants /p, t, k, f, θ/.
- B. It is pronounced as /-z/ when it comes after a vowel or any of the voiced consonants like /b, d, g, v, ð, m, n, ŋ, l/.
- C. It is pronounced as /-iz/ when it comes after any of these consonants /s, z, ʃ, tʃ/.

Some examples are given on the table below.

/-s/	/-z/	/-iz/
Caps	Car	Houses
Maps	Cabs	Buses
Pots	Cards	Prizes
Mats	Legs	Noses
Books	Waves	Ashes
Weeks	Youths	Churches
Hoofs	Prams	Matches
Chiefs	Pans	Bushes
Breadths	Songs	Ridges

Download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store for more details on pronunciation of plural marker.

How do we pronounce ‘S’ in the following words

1. **CATS?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/1]
2. **WANTS?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/2]
3. **WATCHES?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/3]
4. **PULLS?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/4]
5. **HE’S?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/5]
- 6.**IT’S?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/6]
7. **PRONOUNCES?** A. /s/.B. /z/. C. /lz/.
D. none. [0/7]
8. **LISTENS?** A. /s/.B. /z/. C. /lz/. D. none. [0/8]
9. **LIZ’S?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/9]
10. **STOCKS?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/10]
11. **MANAGES?** A. /s/.B. /z/. C. /lz/.
D. none. [0/11]
12. **PAYS?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/12]
13. **MANAGER’S?** A. /s/.B. /z/. C. /lz/.
D. none. [0/13]
- 14**MISSES?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/14]
15. **SINGS?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/15]
- 16.**BOSSSES?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/16]
- 17**JOHN’S?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/17]
18. **CALLS?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/18]
19. **WANTS?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/19]
20. **LAUGHS?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/20]
21. **MARRIES?** A. /s/.B. /z/. C. /lz/. D. none. [0/21]
22. **JUDGE’S?** A. /s/.B. /z/. C. /lz/. D. none. [0/22]
23. **ASKS?** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. none. [0/23]
24. **CORPS??** A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /lz/. D. It’s a silent ?s. [0/24]

25. Chips A. /s/. B. /iz/.C. /z/. D. none. [0/1]
26. Boys A. /iz/. B. /z/. C. /s/.D. none. [0/2]
27. Mick’s daughter A. /z/.B. /iz/. C. /s/.
D. none. [0/3]
28. Goes A. /iz/. B. /z/. C. /s/.D. none. [0/4]
29. Matches A. /s/. B. /z/.C. /iz/. D. none. [0/5]
30. Works A. /iz/. B. /z/.C. /s/. D. none. [0/6]
31. Sandwiches A. /s/.B. /iz/. C. /z/. D. none. [0/7]
32. News A. /s/. B. /iz/. C. /z/.D. none. [0/8]

Introduction

The past tense and past participle of the Regular Verbs are often formed by adding the suffix “-d or –ed”. This plural marker however may be pronounced in **three different** ways as : /-d/ ; /-id/; /-t/.

- A. It is pronounced as /-d/ when it comes after a **vowel** or any of the voiced consonants: like /b, g, v, z, l, m, n, η , ? /.
- B. It is pronounced as /-id/ after the consonants /t/ and /d/
- C. It is pronounced as /-t/ when the **final sound of the verb-root** form is /p, k, f, s, ʃ, tʃ/.

Some Examples are given on the table below.

/-d/	/-id/	/-t/
Dried	Painted	Clapped
Prayed	Wanted	Looked
Stabbed	Lifted	Laughed
Begged	Waited	Missed
Moved	Planted	Wished
Razed	Fainted	Watched
Filled	Added	Slapped
Timed	Minded	Knocked
Combed	Divided	Roofed
Owned	Decided	Passed
Banged	Branded	Washed
Judged	Provided	Smooched

Download the PREP50 App from Google Play Store for more details on pronunciation of past tense marker.

33. Wears A. /iz/. B. /z/.C. /s/. D. none. [0/9]
34. Chooses A. /s/. B. /iz/.C. /z/. D. none. [0/10]
35. Lights A. /z/. B. /iz/.C. /s/. D. none. [0/12]
Pronunciation of a Plural Marker Answers
1A 2A 3C 4B 5B 6A 7C 8B 9C 10A 11C 12B 13B 14C 15B 16
C 17B 18B 19A 20A 21B 22C 23A 24D 25A 26B 27C
28B 29C 30C 31B 32C 33B 34B 35C

Pronunciation of a Past Tense Marker

How do we pronounce ‘ed’ in the word

- 1. Called? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/2]
- 2 Liked? A. /t/. B. /d/. C. /ld/.D. none. [0/3]
- 3.Answered? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/4]
- 4.Started? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/5]
- 5. Laughed? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/6]
- 6.Married? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/7]
- 7.Needed? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/8]
- 8.Lasted? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/9]
- 9. Interested? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/10]
- 10.Wanted? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/11]
- 11. Studied? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/12]
- 12. Divided? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/13]
- 13. Expected? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/14]
- 14. Ended? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/15]
- 15.Completed? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/16]
- 16. Looked? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/17]
- 17.Decided? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/18]
- 18.Talked? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/19]
- 19. Helped? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/20]
- 20. Learned? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/21]
- 21. Tried? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/22]
- 22.Added? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/0]
- 23.Reported? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/24]
- 24. Painted? A. /t/. B. /d/.C. /ld/. D. none. [0/25]

Pronunciation of a Past Tense Marker Answers
1B 2A 3B 4C 5A 6C 7C 8C 9C 10C 11B 12C 13C 14C 15C 16
A 17C 18A 19A 20B 21B 22C 23C 24C.

