

English Language and Comprehension

DIRECTIONS (Q. Nos. 141-146) Choose the word which best expresses the meaning of the underlined word in the sentence.

141. Shweta spoke impromptu on the occasion.

- (a) without preparation (b) eloquently
(c) briefly (d) forcefully

Sol. (a) 'impromptu' means without any preparation. So, option (a) best expresses its meaning.

142. Kashish was a votary of women empowerment.

- (a) opposer (b) supporter
(c) helper (d) spokesperson

Sol. (b) votary means a person who strongly supports a cause or person. So, 'supporter' best expresses its meaning.

143. He has an impeccable dressing sense.

- (a) elaborate (b) flawless (c) grand (d) tight

Sol. (b) The word 'impeccable' means in accordance with the highest standards. So, flawless best expresses its meaning.

144. The employees signed the document under coercion.

- (a) compulsion (b) confusion
(c) supervision (d) security

Sol. (a) 'coercion' means the action of persuading someone to do something by using force or threats. So, compulsion best expresses its meaning.

145. There is copious supply of water for the crops.

- (a) considerable (b) plentiful
(c) adequate (d) sufficient

Sol. (b) 'Copious' means in large amount. So, 'plentiful' best expresses its meaning.

146. The ascetic lived a very austere life.

- (a) luxurious (b) boisterous
(c) exciting (d) strict

Sol. (d) The word 'austere' means severe or strict in manner or attitude. So, strict is closed in meaning to it.

DIRECTIONS (Q. No. 147-152) Choose the word which is closest to the opposite in meaning of the underlined word in the sentence.

147. The diplomat yielded to temptation.

- (a) skirted (b) resisted
(c) succumbed (d) reverted

Sol. (b) 'yielded' means to give into someone or something. So, resisted is opposite in meaning to it.

148. The proposal of fare hike was denounced by one and all.

- (a) announced (b) pronounced
(c) appraised (d) commended

Sol. (d) 'denounced' means publicly declare to be wrong or evil. So, commended is opposite in meaning to it.

149. Some plants look innocuous but are the opposite.

- (a) harmful (b) huge
(c) harmless (d) small

Sol. (c) The word 'innocuous' means not harmful or offensive. So, harmless is opposite in meaning to it.

150. The ship sank in the turbid water of the sea.

- (a) deep (b) muddy
(c) fresh (d) clear

Sol. (d) 'turbid' means not transparent because a lot of small pieces of matter are held in it. So, clear is opposite in meaning to it.

151. Ridhima is an amateur bird-watcher.

- (a) average (b) experienced
(c) professional (d) skilled

Sol. (c) 'amateur' means someone who does not have much skill in what they do. So, professional is opposite in meaning to it.

152. One must not pamper a child if he has done something wrong.

- (a) scold (d) scorn
(c) neglect (d) support

Sol. (c) The word 'pamper' means to treat with too much kindness and attention. So, neglect is opposite in meaning to it.

DIRECTIONS (Q.Nos. 153-158) In each of the following questions, four words are given, three of which are spelt correctly while one is miss-spelt. Choose the miss-spelt word.

153. (a) fatuous (b) obituary
(c) Mortury (d) Congress

Sol. (c) The correct spelling is mortuary.

154. (a) Solidarity (b) Digress
(c) Solemn (d) Congeniall

Sol. (d) The correct spelling is Congenial.

155. (a) Impassioned (b) Abbay
(c) Correlation (d) Tumultous

Sol. (b) The correct spelling is Abbey.

156. (a) Philately (b) Philosophy
(c) Actuality (d) Nomanclosure

Sol. (d) The correct spelling is Nomenclature.

157. (a) Sovereign (b) Persanage
(c) Lucid (d) Bovine

Sol. (b) The correct spelling is Personage.

158. (a) Amicable (b) Sociable
(c) Vulnarable (d) Malleable

Sol. (c) The correct spelling is Vulnerable.

DIRECTIONS (Q. Nos. 159-164) In each of the following questions, an idiomatic expression is followed by four alternatives. Choose the one which best expresses the meaning of the given idiom.

59. A gentleman at large
 (a) a reliable person (b) a fat person
 (c) an unreliable person (d) a sophisticated person
Sol. (c) The idiom a gentleman at large means an unreliable person.

50. Like a fish out of water
 (a) in an easy situation
 (b) near a beach
 (c) in a dream state
 (d) in a very difficult and unsuitable situation
Sol. (d) Like a fish out of water means to feel awkward.

51. To clip one's wings
 (a) to share one's problems
 (b) to deprive one of power
 (c) to criticise someone
 (d) to support someone
Sol. (b) To clip one's wings means to deprive one of power.

52. To make both ends meet
 (a) to join two ends
 (b) to live a lavish life
 (c) to help someone to survive
 (d) To live within one's earning
Sol. (d) To make both ends meet means to live within one's earning.

53. To win laurels
 (a) to win friends
 (b) to get support of someone
 (c) to win honour
 (d) to fail badly
Sol. (c) The idiom to win laurels means to win honour.

54. To kick the bucket
 (a) To fall down (b) To sympathise
 (c) To show anger (d) to die
Sol. (d) The idiom to kick the bucket means to die.

DIRECTIONS (Q. Nos. 165-170) In each of the following questions, choose the most suitable word for the given expression.

55. One who is present everywhere.
 (a) Omnipresent (b) Omnipotent
 (c) Omnivorous (d) Eternal
Sol. (a) Omnipresent
56. One who does not believe in the existence of God.
 (a) Atheist (b) Agnostic
 (c) Arboreal (d) Acoustic
Sol. (b) Agnostic

167. One who has a long experience of any occupation.
 (a) Amateur (b) Versatile
 (c) Veteran (d) Philanderer
Sol. (c) Veteran

168. A place where dead bodies are kept for identification.
 (a) Sanatorium (b) Infirmary
 (c) Auditorium (d) Morgue
Sol. (d) Morgue

169. Holding office without any remuneration.
 (a) tertiary (b) Honorary
 (c) Salutory (d) Potable
Sol. (b) Honorary

170. A list of headings of the business to be transacted at a meeting.
 (a) Minutes (b) Propoganda
 (c) Agenda (d) Points
Sol. (c) Agenda

DIRECTIONS (Q Nos. 171-176) In each of the following questions, a sentence is given, part of which has been underlined. Three possible substitutes for the underlined part are suggested as alternatives. Choose the alternative which can most appropriately replace the underlined part to make the sentence grammatically correct. However, if you think the sentence is correct as it is, choose 'No change required' as your answer.

171. We are doing this in the interest of the needys.
 (a) interest of the needy
 (b) interest of the needy's
 (c) interest form the needy
 (d) no change required

Sol. (a) 'interest of the needy' should be used in place of 'interest of the needys' to make the sentence grammatically correct.

172. The Prime Minister called over the President today.
 (a) called upon (b) called off
 (c) called on (d) no change required

Sol. (c) 'called over' is incorrect. It should be replaced by, 'called on'. 'called on' means to come to see someone.

173. Suppose you are selected, will you join the hotel?
 (a) Suppose if (b) Suppose when
 (c) Supposing (d) No change required
Sol. (d) No change required

174. I am waiting for two hours now.
 (a) I have waiting (b) I had been waiting
 (c) I have been waiting (d) No change required
Sol. (c) I have been waiting

175. Students find difficult to cope with the tough competition.

- (a) cope up with (b) coping with
(c) cope on with (d) no change required

Sol. (d) no change required

176. By noon Sakshi wrote twelve e-mails.

- (a) had written (b) had been writing
(c) have written (d) no change required

Sol. (a) 'had written' should be used in place of 'wrote' to correct the given sentence as the sentence describes an action that happened in the past tense.

DIRECTIONS (Q. Nos. 177-180) Fill in the blanks.

177. One must do duties honestly.

- (a) his (b) her (c) ones (d) one's

Sol. (d) one's

178. Naveen ran as fast to catch the train.

- (a) as he can (b) as he would
(c) as he could (d) as one could

Sol. (c) as he could

179. Kanishtha is to be a model.

- (a) too fat (b) so fat
(c) to fat (d) very fat

Sol. (a) too fat

180. My father keeps all his papers in his briefcase.

- (a) required (b) necessary
(c) useful (d) confidential

Sol. (d) confidential

DIRECTIONS (Q. Nos. 181-200) Read the following passages carefully to answer the questions that follow.

PASSAGE-I

People project their mental processes into their handwriting. They subconsciously shape and organise their letters, words and lines in ways that directly reflect their personalities. This explains why no two handwritings are or even can be alike; the medium is just too personal. Everyday observation confirms the link between handwriting and personality, at least in an elementary way. Precise people construct their words with care, slowly and exactly; dynamic people dash them off. Flamboyant people boldly cover half a page with a few words and a signature, whose size fittingly reflects their expansive sense of self. Most of us have made such observations. But it takes a practiced eye to discern the scores of variations and interpret the subtle interplay of forces at work in any given handwriting. In fact in Europe, handwriting analysis known as graphology, now enjoys scientific acceptance and common use.

181. If you are a showy and colourful person, your handwriting is likely to be

- (a) neat and slow (b) dashing and careless
(c) bold and large (d) legible but small

Sol. (c) bold and large

182. Graphology is

- (a) the study of graphs
(b) the analysis of handwriting
(c) a special branch of phonetics
(d) a graphical description of handwriting

Sol. (c) a special branch of phonetics

183. Handwriting analysis is

- (a) not useful to us
(b) an elementary study
(c) an imprecise science
(d) a means of studying personality

Sol. (b) an elementary study

184. According to the author, people are

- (a) not conscious of what they write
(b) aggressive in the nature of their writing
(c) not conscious of the way they write
(d) not used to personal writing

Sol. (a) not conscious of what they write

185. The fact that handwriting is related to personality

- (a) has been noticed by most people
(b) is appreciated by dynamic people
(c) is restricted to persons who write carefully
(d) is known only to graphologists

Sol. (d) is known only to graphologists

PASSAGE-II

The simplest method of welding two pieces of metal together is known as pressure welding. The ends of metal are heated to a white heat - for iron, the welding temperature should be about 1300°C in a flame. At this temperature the metal becomes plastic. The ends are pressed or hammered together, and the joint is smoothed off. Care must be taken to ensure that the surfaces are thoroughly clean first, for dirt will weaken the weld. Moreover, the heating of iron or steel to a high temperature cause oxidation, and a film of oxide is formed on the heated surfaces. For this reason, a flux is applied to the heated metal. At welding heat, the flux melts, and the oxide particles are dissolved in it together with any other impurities which may be present. The metal surfaces are pressed together, and the flux is squeezed out from the centre of the weld. A number of different types of weld may be used, but for fairly thick bars of metals, a vee-shaped weld should normally be employed. It is rather stronger than the ordinary butt weld.

186. The simplest way of welding two pieces of metal together is

- (a) heating the metal
- (b) holding it in a flame
- (c) coating the metal with plastic
- (d) hammering heated pieces

Sol. (d) hammering heated pieces

187. Unless the surfaces are cleaned first

- (a) the metal will not take white heat
- (b) the resulting weld will be weak
- (c) the joint will be rough
- (d) the metal will be less plastic

Sol. (d) the metal will be less plastic

188. When iron is heated to about 1300 degree centigrade

- (a) flames turn from white to blue
- (b) chemical reaction starts
- (c) oxide film is found on its surfaces
- (d) it turns into steel

Sol. (b) chemical reaction starts

189. The flux is used to

- (a) make the metal plastic
- (b) cool the heated metal
- (c) cover up any dirt
- (d) dissolve oxide and other impurities

Sol. (a) make the metal plastic

190. For fairly thick bars of metals

- (a) a vee-shaped weld should be used
- (b) ordinary butt weld should be used
- (c) a number of different types of weld may be used
- (d) a pressure weld may be used

Sol. (c) a number of different types of weld may be used

PASSAGE-III

Soil scientists have shown that the soil teems with millions of living things, many of them useful, others harmful. The living things which are useful include earthworms and various kinds of bacteria. Earthworms loosen the soil and so enable air and water to enter it. Bacteria, which are microscopic living things break down dead plants and animals and make humus, or take nitrogen from the air and change it into substances that plants use. The living things that do harm include other bacteria and fungi which cause disease. Other harmful things are pest such as wire worms which feed on the roots of grass and other plants. While the farmer can usually keep weeds in check by careful cultivation, this alone may not protect his crops from insects, pests and diseases. Nowadays, however, he is much better able to control these enemies. He may plant specially resistant types of seeds or he may keep the pests and diseases in check with chemicals. With better seeds farmers have

been able to increase their crop yields. They can grow crops that ripen more quickly and have a stronger resistance to disease, frost or drought.

191. Scientists who study soil believe that

- (a) all insects and bacteria are harmful
- (b) only microscopic living things are useful
- (c) only earthworms are useful
- (d) not all worms and bacteria are harmful

Sol. (d) not all worms and bacteria are harmful

192. The living things that do harm

- (a) break down plants and animals
- (b) use up the nitrogen from the air
- (c) cause diseases in the plants
- (d) loosen up the soil from air and water

Sol. (b) use up the nitrogen from the air

193. Farmers are always careful

- (a) to control insects and fungi that attack plants
- (b) to encourage pests in the soil
- (c) to eliminate all bacteria from the soil
- (d) to foster all kinds of worms in the Earth

Sol. (c) to eliminate all bacteria from the soil

194. Nowadays it is possible to reduce the loss caused by pests and harmful bacteria

- (a) with the use of chemical fertilisers
- (b) through the development of resistant seeds
- (c) by using weeds as killers
- (d) by controlling earthworms

Sol. (a) with the use of chemical fertilisers

195. The farmers today can also select seeds

- (a) of slow ripening variety
- (b) resistant to frost and drought
- (c) for economy is costs
- (d) of lower resistance to disease

Sol. (b) resistant to frost and drought

PASSAGE-IV

How can you improve your reading speed? By taking off the brakes. You wouldn't think of driving a car with the brake on. Yet as a reader you probably have several brakes slowing you down.

One very common brake is regressing— looking back every now and then at something already read. It is like stepping backwards every few metres as you walk— hardly the way to move ahead quickly. Regression may arise from a lack of confidence, vocabulary deficiency, or actually missing a word or phrase. It makes a long sentence seem even more complex as the eyes frequently regress. Eye movement photographs of 12, 000 readers in America showed that university students regress an average of 15 times in reading only 100 words. The average student of class four

times. In short, regression consumes one-sixth of your precious reading time. Release this brake and enjoy a spurt in reading speed.

196. In the context of the passage, what does 'regression' mean?

- (a) Lack of desire to improve the reading speed
- (b) Looking back at what is already read
- (c) Lack of proper understanding of what one reads
- (d) Comparing the reading speed of school and university students

Sol. (b) Looking back at what is already read

197. According to the author reading with regression is like

- (a) driving with poor quality brakes
- (b) stepping backwards while walking
- (c) using several brakes in order to slow down
- (d) making sudden spurts in reading speed

Sol. (b) stepping backwards while walking

198. In order to be a good reader you should

- (a) regress whenever necessary
- (b) be like a careful driver
- (c) not look back frequently while reading
- (d) test your vocabulary frequently

Sol. (c) not look back frequently while reading

199. The average student of class 4 regresses

- (a) 15 times in reading 100 words
- (b) 10 times in reading 100 words
- (c) 20 times in reading 100 words
- (d) 25 times in reading 100 words

Sol. (c) 20 times in reading 100 words

200. How much time does regression consume?

- (a) 1/3rd of your reading time
- (b) 1/4th of your reading time
- (c) 1/5th of your reading time
- (d) 1/6th of your reading time

Sol. (d) 1/6th of your reading time