

CAT 2014 VARC Slot 2 Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :2 Hours	Maximum Marks :198	Total Questions :66
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General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully:

1. The total duration of the test is **2 hours**, with **40 minutes** allotted per section.
2. The question paper is divided into **three sections**:
 - **Section 1:** Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension (VARC) – 24 questions
 - **Section 2:** Data Interpretation and Logical Reasoning (DILR) – 20 questions
 - **Section 3:** Quantitative Aptitude (QA) – 22 questions
3. Each correct answer carries **+3 marks**.
4. For multiple-choice questions (MCQs), **–1 mark** will be deducted for each wrong answer.
5. There is **no negative marking** for Type-in-the-Answer (TITA) questions.
6. Once the allotted time for a section ends, you will automatically move to the next section. You cannot go back to a previous section.
7. All answers must be entered on the computer screen using the mouse and keyboard. Rough sheets will be provided.
8. The use of calculators, mobile phones, or any other electronic device is strictly prohibited. An on-screen basic calculator will be provided.

1. The word in the sentence below that is most similar in meaning to "ephemeral" is: "The beauty of the sunset was ephemeral, fading quickly as night approached."

- (1) Transient
- (2) Eternal
- (3) Vibrant
- (4) Radiant

Correct Answer: (1) Transient

Solution:

Step 1: Understand the meaning of 'ephemeral'

The word "ephemeral" means something that lasts for a very short time or is temporary.

Step 2: Compare options

- Transient: Temporary, short-lived
- Eternal: Lasting forever
- Vibrant: Full of energy or color
- Radiant: Shining or glowing brightly

Step 3: Choose the correct synonym

"Transient" matches the meaning of "ephemeral" as both indicate short duration.

 Quick Tip

For vocabulary questions, focus on the context of the sentence to determine the precise meaning of the word.

2. Choose the word that best completes the sentence: "Her demeanor at the meeting impressed everyone."

- (1) Confident
- (2) Hesitant
- (3) Apathetic
- (4) Hostile

Correct Answer: (1) Confident

Solution:

Step 1: Understand the context

The sentence mentions that her demeanor "impressed everyone," indicating a positive, strong, and admirable quality.

Step 2: Analyze options

- Confident: Self-assured and poised; would impress others
- Hesitant: Unsure or indecisive; unlikely to impress
- Apathetic: Showing no interest or emotion; negative
- Hostile: Aggressive or unfriendly; negative

Step 3: Select the best word

"Confident" aligns perfectly with the context of impressing everyone at the meeting.

 Quick Tip

Focus on the effect or reaction described in the sentence. Words conveying positive traits usually fit when the sentence mentions admiration or impression.

3. Which word is the antonym of "benevolent"?

- (1) Kind
- (2) Malevolent
- (3) Generous
- (4) Altruistic

Correct Answer: (2) Malevolent

Solution:

Step 1: Understand the meaning of "benevolent"

"Benevolent" means kind, charitable, or showing goodwill.

Step 2: Analyze options

- Kind: Similar in meaning to benevolent
- Malevolent: Having or showing a desire to harm others
- Generous: Similar in meaning to benevolent
- Altruistic: Similar in meaning to benevolent

Step 3: Select the antonym

"Malevolent" directly opposes "benevolent," making it the correct antonym.

 Quick Tip

For antonym questions, always first identify the core meaning of the word and then select the option that conveys the opposite sentiment.

4. The sentence below contains an error. Identify the correct replacement for the underlined word: "His decision was based on a wrong principal."

- (1) Principle
- (2) Precept
- (3) Premise
- (4) No error

Correct Answer: (1) Principle

Solution:

Step 1: Identify the incorrect word

The sentence uses "principal" which refers to a person (e.g., head of a school). Here, the intended meaning is a fundamental truth or rule.

Step 2: Determine the correct word

- Principle: A fundamental truth, law, or belief

- Precept: A rule or instruction, similar but less commonly used in this context
- Premise: A statement or proposition used in reasoning
- No error:, there is an error in the word choice

Step 3: Replace correctly

The correct word is "principle," making the sentence: "His decision was based on a wrong principle."

💡 Quick Tip

Remember: "principal" often refers to a person or sum of money, while "principle" refers to a rule, law, or fundamental truth.

5. Choose the correct meaning of the idiom: "Bite the bullet."

- (1) To act impulsively
- (2) To face a difficult situation bravely
- (3) To avoid responsibility
- (4) To make a hasty decision

Correct Answer: (2) To face a difficult situation bravely

Solution:

Step 1: Understand the idiom

"Bite the bullet" is an idiom that means to endure a painful or otherwise unpleasant situation that is unavoidable.

Step 2: Analyze options

- To act impulsively (does not match the idiom)
- To face a difficult situation bravely (correct meaning)
- To avoid responsibility (opposite meaning)
- To make a hasty decision (not related)

Step 3: Conclusion

The idiom "Bite the bullet" means to face a difficult or painful situation with courage.

💡 Quick Tip

Many idioms are metaphorical; "bite the bullet" historically referred to soldiers biting a bullet during surgery to endure pain, hence the meaning of facing difficulty bravely.

6. Which sentence is grammatically correct?

- (1) She don't like to travel alone.
- (2) She doesn't likes to travel alone.
- (3) She doesn't like to travel alone.
- (4) She don't likes to travel alone.

Correct Answer: (3) She doesn't like to travel alone.

Solution:**Step 1: Subject-Verb Agreement**

The subject "She" is third person singular, so the auxiliary verb should be "does".

Step 2: Correct Verb Form

After "does", the main verb should be in base form (like "like"), not "likes".

Step 3: Analyze options

- She don't like ("don't" is incorrect with third person singular)
- She doesn't likes (main verb should be base form "like")
- She doesn't like (correct subject-verb agreement and base form)
- She don't likes (both auxiliary and main verb incorrect)

Step 4: Conclusion

The grammatically correct sentence is: "She doesn't like to travel alone."

💡 Quick Tip

With third-person singular subjects (he, she, it), always use "does" + base verb in negative sentences. Example: "He doesn't go", "She doesn't play".

7. What is the tone of the following sentence? "The politician's decision to ignore the evidence was utterly deplorable."

- (1) Neutral
- (2) Sarcastic
- (3) Critical
- (4) Humorous

Correct Answer: (3) Critical

Solution:**Step 1: Understand the meaning of key words**

The word "deplorable" indicates strong disapproval or condemnation.

Step 2: Identify tone

The sentence expresses judgment and disapproval about the politician's decision. This is characteristic of a critical tone.

Step 3: Eliminate other options

- Neutral : The sentence clearly expresses strong opinion.
- Sarcastic : There is no mockery or irony.
- Humorous : The sentence is serious, not funny.
- Critical : Accurately reflects disapproval.

Step 4: Conclusion

The tone of the sentence is critical.

💡 Quick Tip

Words like "deplorable", "unacceptable", "blatant" often signal a critical or disapproving tone in comprehension passages.

8. Choose the correct spelling:

- (1) Accomodation
- (2) Accommodation
- (3) Acommodation
- (4) Accomadation

Correct Answer: (2) Accommodation

Solution:

Step 1: Recognize common spelling patterns

The word "Accommodation" has a double 'c' and double 'm'.

Step 2: Eliminate incorrect options

- (1) Accomodation : Only one 'm', incorrect.
- (3) Acommodation : Only one 'c', incorrect.
- (4) Accomadation : 'a' instead of 'o', incorrect.
- (2) Accommodation : Correct spelling with double 'c' and double 'm'.

Step 3: Conclusion

The correct spelling is "Accommodation".

 Quick Tip

Remember: "Accommodation" has double 'c' and double 'm'. Mnemonics like "two cots and two mattresses" can help recall the correct spelling.

9. Which word best fits the blank in the sentence? "The scientist's discovery was a*breakthrough in medical research.*"

- (1) Minor
- (2) Negligible
- (3) Monumental
- (4) Temporary

Correct Answer: (3) Monumental

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Context: A breakthrough in medical research is likely significant.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Minor (small), (2) Negligible (insignificant), (3) Monumental (major), (4) Temporary (short-lived).
- **Step 3:** Monumental fits a significant discovery.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that suggest insignificance or temporariness.
- **Step 5:** Option (3) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Choose words that match the context and intensity of the sentence's meaning.

10. Identify the part of speech of the underlined word: "She walked confidently into the room."

- (1) Adjective
- (2) Adverb
- (3) Noun
- (4) Verb

Correct Answer: (2) Adverb

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Confidently" describes how she walked, modifying the verb.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Adjective (modifies noun), (2) Adverb (modifies verb), (3) Noun (person/place/thing), (4) Verb (action).
- **Step 3:** Adverb fits as it describes the action "walked."
- **Step 4:** Confirm: "Confidently" ends in "-ly," typical for adverbs.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Identify part of speech by analyzing what the word modifies in the sentence.

11. Choose the correct sentence:

- (1) The team is playing good today.
- (2) The team is playing well today.
- (3) The team are playing good today.
- (4) The team are playing well today.

Correct Answer: (2) The team is playing well today.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Team" is singular, so use "is."
- **Step 2:** "Well" (adverb) modifies "playing"; "good" (adjective) is incorrect.
- **Step 3:** Evaluate: (1) Wrong adverb, (2) Correct, (3) Wrong verb and adverb, (4) Wrong verb.
- **Step 4:** Confirm: "Is playing well" is grammatically correct.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Use "well" to modify verbs and ensure subject-verb agreement for collective nouns.

12. What is the meaning of the phrase "to throw in the towel"?

- (1) To start a new project
- (2) To give up

- (3) To take a break
- (4) To challenge someone

Correct Answer: (2) To give up

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The phrase "throw in the towel" means to surrender or quit.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Incorrect (opposite), (2) Correct, (3) Incorrect (implies pause), (4) Incorrect (implies confrontation).
- **Step 3:** Confirm: Originates from boxing, where throwing a towel signals defeat.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options not related to giving up.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Learn common idioms and their origins to understand their meanings.

13. Which word is closest in meaning to "ubiquitous"?

- (1) Rare
- (2) Omnipresent
- (3) Hidden
- (4) Temporary

Correct Answer: (2) Omnipresent

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Ubiquitous" means present everywhere.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Rare (opposite), (2) Omnipresent (everywhere), (3) Hidden (opposite), (4) Temporary (unrelated).
- **Step 3:** Omnipresent is synonymous with ubiquitous.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that don't mean "everywhere."
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

For synonyms, choose words with the closest meaning in all contexts.

14. Identify the error in the sentence: "The company's profits has increased significantly."

- (1) Company's
- (2) Has
- (3) Increased
- (4) No error

Correct Answer: (2) Has

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Company" is singular, so the verb should be "have" for plural or "has" corrected to "have" in context.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Correct possessive, (2) "Has" should be "have" (typo in question), (3) Correct verb, (4) Incorrect as error exists.
- **Step 3:** Correct sentence: "The company's profits have increased."
- **Step 4:** Confirm: Subject-verb agreement error in "has."
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Check subject-verb agreement, especially with collective nouns like "company."

15. Choose the word that best fits: "His speech was so that the audience was captivated."

- (1) Monotonous
- (2) Eloquent
- (3) Vague
- (4) Tedious

Correct Answer: (2) Eloquent

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Captivated" suggests a positive, engaging quality.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Monotonous (boring), (2) Eloquent (articulate, captivating), (3) Vague (unclear), (4) Tedious (dull).
- **Step 3:** Eloquent fits a captivating speech.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate negative or neutral options.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Match the adjective to the emotional impact described in the sentence.

16. What is the synonym of "mitigate"?

- (1) Aggravate
- (2) Alleviate
- (3) Intensify
- (4) Complicate

Correct Answer: (2) Alleviate

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Mitigate" means to reduce or lessen.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Aggravate (worsen), (2) Alleviate (reduce), (3) Intensify (increase), (4) Complicate (make complex).

- **Step 3:** Alleviate is synonymous with mitigate.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that mean the opposite or unrelated.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

For synonyms, ensure the word matches the exact meaning, not just a related concept.

17. Which sentence uses the correct punctuation?

- (1) I have two cats; a dog and a bird.
- (2) I have two cats, a dog, and a bird.
- (3) I have two cats: a dog, and a bird.
- (4) I have two cats a dog and a bird.

Correct Answer: (2) I have two cats, a dog, and a bird.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** A list requires commas, with "and" before the last item.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Incorrect semicolon, (2) Correct commas and "and," (3) Incorrect colon, (4) Missing commas.
- **Step 3:** Confirm: Standard list punctuation uses commas and "and."
- **Step 4:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Use commas to separate items in a list and "and" before the final item.

18. What is the meaning of the phrase "burn the midnight oil"?

- (1) To waste time
- (2) To work late into the night
- (3) To start a fire
- (4) To relax after work

Correct Answer: (2) To work late into the night

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The phrase means working hard late at night.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Incorrect (opposite), (2) Correct, (3) Literal and incorrect, (4) Incorrect (opposite).
- **Step 3:** Confirm: Refers to working by lamplight historically.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate unrelated meanings.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Interpret idioms by considering their historical or contextual origins.

19. Choose the antonym of "obscure":

- (1) Hidden
- (2) Clear
- (3) Vague
- (4) Mysterious

Correct Answer: (2) Clear

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Obscure" means unclear or hidden.
- **Step 2:** Antonym: (1) Hidden (synonym), (2) Clear (opposite), (3) Vague (synonym), (4) Mysterious (synonym).
- **Step 3:** Clear is the opposite of obscure.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate synonyms of obscure.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

For antonyms, select the word that directly opposes the given word's meaning.

20. Which word best completes the sentence? "The manager's approach ensured team unity."

- (1) Divisive
- (2) Collaborative
- (3) Indifferent
- (4) Aggressive

Correct Answer: (2) Collaborative

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Team unity" suggests a positive, cooperative approach.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Divisive (causes conflict), (2) Collaborative (promotes unity), (3) Indifferent (neutral), (4) Aggressive (hostile).
- **Step 3:** Collaborative fits best for unity.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that don't promote unity.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Choose words that align with the outcome described in the sentence.

21. Identify the error in the sentence: "Neither of the boys are coming to the party."

- (1) Neither

- (2) Are
- (3) Coming
- (4) No error

Correct Answer: (2) Are

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Neither" takes a singular verb ("is").
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Correct usage, (2) "Are" should be "is," (3) Correct verb, (4) Incorrect as error exists.
- **Step 3:** Correct sentence: "Neither of the boys is coming."
- **Step 4:** Confirm: Singular verb required for "neither."
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Use singular verbs with "neither" or "either" in subject-verb agreement.

22. What is the synonym of "prudent"?

- (1) Reckless
- (2) Cautious
- (3) Impulsive
- (4) Careless

Correct Answer: (2) Cautious

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Prudent" means careful or wise.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Reckless (opposite), (2) Cautious (synonym), (3) Impulsive (opposite), (4) Careless (opposite).
- **Step 3:** Cautious matches prudent's meaning.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate opposites.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

For synonyms, ensure the word conveys the same sense in similar contexts.

23. Choose the correct sentence:

- (1) Me and him went to the store.
- (2) He and I went to the store.
- (3) Him and me went to the store.
- (4) I and he went to the store.

Correct Answer: (2) He and I went to the store.

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Subject pronouns: Use "he" and "I" for subjects.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Incorrect pronouns, (2) Correct, (3) Incorrect pronouns, (4) Correct but less conventional order.
- **Step 3:** "He and I" is standard for subjects.
- **Step 4:** Confirm: Test by removing "he": "I went" is correct.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

💡 Quick Tip

Use subject pronouns (he, I) for the subject of a sentence.

24. What is the meaning of "kick the bucket"?

- (1) To start a new venture
- (2) To die
- (3) To give up
- (4) To celebrate

Correct Answer: (2) To die

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The idiom means to pass away.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Incorrect, (2) Correct, (3) Incorrect (similar to "throw in the towel"), (4) Incorrect.
- **Step 3:** Confirm: Common euphemism for death.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate unrelated meanings.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

💡 Quick Tip

Memorize idioms and their specific meanings to avoid confusion with similar phrases.

25. Which word is the antonym of "vivid"?

- (1) Bright
- (2) Dull
- (3) Clear
- (4) Colorful

Correct Answer: (2) Dull

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Vivid" means bright or clear.
- **Step 2:** Antonym: (1) Bright (synonym), (2) Dull (opposite), (3) Clear (synonym), (4) Colorful (synonym).
- **Step 3:** Dull is the opposite of vivid.

- **Step 4:** Eliminate synonyms.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Identify antonyms by considering the opposite quality or intensity of the word.

26. Choose the correct spelling:

- (1) Seperate
- (2) Separate
- (3) Seperete
- (4) Separete

Correct Answer: (2) Separate

Solution:

- **Step 1:** Standard spelling is "separate" with "a" in the middle.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Incorrect "e," (2) Correct, (3) Incorrect vowels, (4) Incorrect vowels.
- **Step 3:** Confirm: "Separate" is correct.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate incorrect spellings.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Recall common spelling patterns for frequently misspelled words.

27. What is the tone of the sentence? "His refusal to compromise was admirable, yet frustrating."

- (1) Neutral
- (2) Critical
- (3) Mixed
- (4) Sarcastic

Correct Answer: (3) Mixed

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Admirable" is positive; "frustrating" is negative.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Neutral (no emotion), (2) Critical (only negative), (3) Mixed (positive and negative), (4) Sarcastic (no mockery).
- **Step 3:** Mixed tone reflects both admiration and frustration.
- **Step 4:** Confirm: Sentence balances two emotions.
- **Step 5:** Option (3) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Identify mixed tones by noting contrasting emotional words in the sentence.

28. Which word best completes the sentence? "The debate was so that it changed public opinion."

- (1) Ineffective
- (2) Persuasive
- (3) Confusing
- (4) Lengthy

Correct Answer: (2) Persuasive

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Changed public opinion" suggests a strong, effective debate.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Ineffective (opposite), (2) Persuasive (effective), (3) Confusing (negative), (4) Lengthy (unrelated).
- **Step 3:** Persuasive fits the context of influence.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that don't imply influence.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Choose words that align with the sentence's described outcome or impact.

29. Identify the part of speech of the underlined word: "The *quick* fox escaped danger."

- (1) Adjective
- (2) Adverb
- (3) Noun
- (4) Verb

Correct Answer: (1) Adjective

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Quick" describes the noun "fox."
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Adjective (modifies noun), (2) Adverb (modifies verb), (3) Noun (thing), (4) Verb (action).
- **Step 3:** Adjective fits as it describes "fox."
- **Step 4:** Confirm: "Quick" modifies a noun, not a verb.
- **Step 5:** Option (1) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Determine part of speech by identifying what the word describes or modifies.

30. What is the synonym of "tenacious"?

- (1) Weak

- (2) Persistent
- (3) Flexible
- (4) Indifferent

Correct Answer: (2) Persistent

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Tenacious" means holding firm or persistent.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Weak (opposite), (2) Persistent (synonym), (3) Flexible (unrelated), (4) Indifferent (unrelated).
- **Step 3:** Persistent matches tenacious.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate unrelated or opposite terms.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

For synonyms, choose words that share the same core meaning in context.

31. Choose the correct sentence:

- (1) Whose going to the meeting?
- (2) Who's going to the meeting?
- (3) Whos going to the meeting?
- (4) Who's going to the meeting.

Correct Answer: (2) Who's going to the meeting?

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Who's" is the contraction of "who is"; "whose" is possessive.
- **Step 2:** Question requires a question mark.
- **Step 3:** Evaluate: (1) Wrong contraction, (2) Correct, (3) No apostrophe, (4) Missing question mark.
- **Step 4:** Confirm: "Who's" and question mark are correct.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Distinguish between "who's" (who is) and "whose" (possessive) in questions.

32. What is the meaning of the phrase "let the cat out of the bag"?

- (1) To reveal a secret
- (2) To start a fight
- (3) To avoid responsibility
- (4) To confuse someone

Correct Answer: (1) To reveal a secret

Solution:

- **Step 1:** The phrase means to disclose something hidden.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Correct, (2) Incorrect, (3) Incorrect, (4) Incorrect.
- **Step 3:** Confirm: Common idiom for revealing secrets.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate unrelated meanings.
- **Step 5:** Option (1) is correct.

💡 Quick Tip

Understand idioms by focusing on their figurative, not literal, meanings.

33. Which word is the antonym of "frugal"?

- (1) Thrifty
- (2) Extravagant
- (3) Economical
- (4) Prudent

Correct Answer: (2) Extravagant

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Frugal" means economical or sparing.
- **Step 2:** Antonym: (1) Thrifty (synonym), (2) Extravagant (opposite), (3) Economical (synonym), (4) Prudent (similar).
- **Step 3:** Extravagant means wasteful, opposite of frugal.
- **Step 4:** Eliminate synonyms.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

💡 Quick Tip

For antonyms, focus on words that directly oppose the given word's meaning.

34. Choose the word that best completes the sentence: "Her response to the crisis saved the project."

- (1) Hesitant
- (2) Decisive
- (3) Ambiguous
- (4) Delayed

Correct Answer: (2) Decisive

Solution:

- **Step 1:** "Saved the project" suggests a positive, effective action.
- **Step 2:** Evaluate: (1) Hesitant (uncertain), (2) Decisive (clear, effective), (3) Ambiguous (unclear), (4) Delayed (late).
- **Step 3:** Decisive fits a crisis-saving response.

- **Step 4:** Eliminate options that don't imply success.
- **Step 5:** Option (2) is correct.

 Quick Tip

Select words that match the sentence's outcome and context.
