

# General Aptitude

**Part A** Verbal Ability

1.3

**Part B** Numerical Ability

1.19

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## PART A VERBAL ABILITY

### HINTS/SOLUTIONS

#### Practice Problems I

##### Grammar - Nouns/Articles/Pronouns (Basic)

###### Explanatory Notes for Questions 1 to 5:

1. No articles are needed. Here the reference is not to a particular man or amount of money but the reference here is generic, hence the definite article 'the' is not needed.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
2. 'Each and every' take singular verb. Option (D) is correct as, only this satisfies all the conditions.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
3. Here the reference is generic and not to a particular piece of platinum metal, hence definite article 'the' is not used. Secondly there is a comparison in the sentence as it can be inferred from 'any other'. The comparative form of 'costly' is 'costlier' and the use of 'more' is incorrect as it would be redundant.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
4. In the first blank, the reference is to the noun form hence 'advice' is appropriate (advise is its verb form). In the second blank, it is clearly a reference to the verb (to + verb) hence 'practise' is correct. The noun form of it is practice.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
5. Here the reference is to a particular type or kind of power, hence a definite article should precede power. Power is vested in somebody or something (or) we vest something in somebody or vest somebody with something.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).

###### Explanatory Notes for Questions 6 to 10:

6. When we refer to all the people of a country, definite article 'the' is normally optional. However, we always use 'the' if the nationality word ends in -sh, -ss, -ese or ch.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
7. Many nouns are countable in one meaning and uncountable in another meaning for things that we perceive as individual units, we use the countable form. Hence, 'a lot of noise'.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
8. 'Freedom' is uncountable noun, hence does not take a/an.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
9. It takes the article 'an'.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
10. 'Articles' are not used before proper nouns.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).

##### Grammar - Nouns/Articles/Pronouns (Advanced)

###### Explanatory Notes for Questions 11 to 14:

11. Many informations (✗)  
information - uncountable noun  
Hence a lot of information (or) much information.
12. a summon (✗)  
Summon is a verb - to call  
Summons is a noun - Magisterial orders.  
It is a singular noun  
The Magistrate has issued summons (✓).....
13. furnitures (✗)  
It is used as a singular noun.  
Hence answer: Our office has purchased new furniture .....
14. thieves (✗)  
plural of thief is thieves  
Answer: Four thieves .....

###### Explanatory Notes for Questions 15 to 20:

15. Like you and he (✗)  
Follows the same rule as in question 1.  
Hence, answer: Good students like You and him ..... (✓)
16. You, he and I (✗) – wrong ordering of words.  
While expressing a negative idea or guilt,  
First person – first  
Second person – second and  
Third person – third  
**Answer:** I, you and he ..... (✓)
17. Only You and him (✗)  
'You' is in subjective case.  
A pronoun in subjective case, when connected with another pronoun by a conjunction (and, or), the second pronoun also must be in subjective case.  
Hence only you and he ..... (✓)
18. She helped everyone of those boys in doing their work (✗)  
'everyone of the boys' should be followed by the pronoun 'his'  
Hence, answer: ..... is doing his work.
19. Every teacher and every student ..... their duty (✗)  
[teacher and student are common genders].  
Hence, answer: Every teacher and every student ..... his or her duty.

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20. Neither of the boys ..... have ..... their records.  
'Neither of the' is always followed by a singular verb and singular pronoun.  
Hence, answer: Neither of the boys ..... has ..... his record.

### Grammar - Verbs/Tenses/Auxiliary (Basic)

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 21 to 25:

21. 'Wrestled' means to struggle with a difficulty.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
22. 'Writhe' means to twist or squirm in pain. Hence, the appropriate choice.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
23. 'compensate' means to give something to reduce or balance the bad. The context is about not being thoughtful. Hence, compensate is appropriate.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
24. 'Dock' is appropriate in the given context.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
25. 'Dodder' is to be slow and unsteady.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 26 to 30:

26. 'Sixty miles' is taken as a unit, hence the verb is in singular number.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
27. We hope that they are enjoying good health is appropriate.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
28. The Prime Minister 'will fly' is appropriate as the context suggests a future plan.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
29. 'Write to' is appropriate in the given context.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
30. The context is a supposition hence 'were' is appropriate.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).

### Grammar - Verbs/Tenses/Auxiliary (Advanced)

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 31 to 35:

31. 'Keep pace' is to move as fast as others.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
32. 'Had been left' is appropriate.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
33. 'Succeed' is appropriate in the given context.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
34. He does not 'eliminate' the ugly aspects is appropriate.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).

35. 'Marooned' means abandoned. Appropriate in the given context.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 36 to 40:

36. 'Arabian Nights' are (✗)  
'Arabian Nights' is the title of a book hence a singular verb should be used.  
'Arabian Nights' is ..... (✓)
37. The cost of all essential commodities have ..... (✗)  
**Rule:** The error of proximity. The verb must agree with the actual subject of the sentence.  
'Cost' is the subject in the sentence (singular)  
Hence, the verb it takes is also singular.  
The cost of all essential commodities has.
38. Bread and milk are (✗)  
'Bread and milk' is treated as singular noun as they reflect a single idea, hence takes a singular verb.  
Bread and milk is (✓)
39. Sanjay as well as his brothers have gone home (✗)  
**Rule:** When the subject of the sentence consists of two nouns joined with 'as well as', then the verb agrees with the first subject.  
Sanjay as well as his brothers has gone ..... (✓)
40. .... with his followers have escaped.  
**Rule:** When the subject of the sentence consists of two nouns joined with 'with', the verb agrees with the first subject.  
..... with his followers has escaped.

### Grammar - Adjectives/Adverbs (Basic)

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 41 to 45:

41. There was public censure. So the government cannot take a belligerent stand. Neither can it be staid. 'Acquiescent' means ready to accept.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
42. There is a contrast in the given sentence, 'Ultramodern' and 'quaint old'. 'Incongruous' which means out of place is appropriate.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
43. 'Sloshed' means drunk. Hence, suits the context.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
44. 'Spiritual' and preaching are related. Hence, appropriate.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
45. The context is about preacher's remarks. So 'sententious' which means given to moralizing in a pompous or affected manner is appropriate.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).

**Explanatory Notes for Questions 46 to 50:**

46. 'Manfully' which means brave and resolute is appropriate.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

47. He won the match so he victoriously held the trophy aloft.

Hence, the correct option is (D).

48. Many people have faith in him. So he is irrefutably or surely a leader of masses.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

49. 'Inspite' is the clue in the sentence. 'Hardly' is appropriate.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

50. 'Pre-eminently' means surpassing all others. He was appointed the spokesman of the party surpassing all others.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

**Grammar - Adjectives/Adverbs (Advanced)****Explanatory Notes for Questions 51 to 60:**

51. more wiser (✖)

usage of dual comparatives is wrong.

**Answer:** I am wiser than..... (✓)

52. .... is better than Madras (✖)

The comparison is between the climate of two places. Hence it is correct to say: The climate of Hyderabad is better than that of Madras. (✓)

53. The given sentence is correct. Many a + Singular noun + Singular verb is the correct structure.

54. Senior than (✖)

The comparative adjectives which end in 'or' are always followed by 'to'.

My friend is senior to me by 4 years. (✓)

55. Preferable than (✖)

Preferable is followed by 'to'

**Answer:** Death is preferable to disgrace.

56. Worth-seeing city (✖)

City worth-seeing (✓)

The adjective 'worth-seeing' qualifies the noun 'city'.

57. Both sisters are doctors (✖)

Both of my friend's sisters are doctors. (✓)

58. The two first ..... (✖)

**Answer:** The first two chapters..... (✓)

59. Greater than any student (✖)

Suvarna is to be excluded from the students with whom she is being compared.

Hence the correct sentence is Suvarna is greater than any other student. (✓)

60. better than any drama (✖)

The rule followed is the same as in the previous sentence.

Further, if Shakuntala is the name of a drama or a woman is not clear, in which case, it becomes wrong comparison.

**Explanatory Notes for Questions 61 to 63:**

61. is further from (✖)

further is used to mean 'additional'.

farther is used to express distance.

Hence the right sentence is, his house is farther.....(✓)

62. The given sentence is correct.

63. No sooner did I ..... when the train left (✖)

The expression

'No sooner did is' always followed by than.

The answer is: No sooner had I.... than the train left. (✓)

**Grammar - Conjunctions/Prepositions (Basic)****Explanatory Notes for Questions 64 to 68:**

64. Tax is levied on something. Hence, option (A).

Hence, the correct option is (A)

65. 'Teeming' is always followed by 'with'.

Hence, the correct option is (D).

66. 'Under' is appropriate.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

67. We die because of some disease or from a disease.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

68. 'For' is appropriate in the given context.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

**Explanatory Notes for Questions 69 to 73:**

69. 'Either' is appropriate in the given context.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

70. 'Regularly' shows the frequency, hence appropriate.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

71. To enter by the gate something has to be done. Hence, 'provided' is apt.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

72. 'So that' explains the reason for starting early.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

73. Why did he go to bed early? 'So as' to wake up early.

Hence, the correct option is (D).

### Grammar - Conjunctions/Prepositions (Advanced)

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 74 to 78:

74. ..... raining as he left the house (✗)  
 ..... raining when he left the house (✓)
75. Your action was either just or fair (✗)  
Neither just nor fair (✓)
76. I shall not come .... I am not invited (✗)  
 'Unless' means—'If not'  
 'If' does not take another negative word.  
 I shall not come unless ..... I am invited (✓)
77. Unless you have no objection, I shall see you tomorrow (✗)  
 Unless you have any objection, I shall see you tomorrow (✓)  
**Rule:** Same as in 5<sup>th</sup> sentence.
78. So (✗)  
 and (✓)

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 79 to 83:

79. time with (✗)  
 time by (✓)
80. travel with a bus (✗)  
 travel by bus (✓)
81. suffering with (✗)  
 suffering from (✓)
82. working since five years (✗)  
 Since indicates a point of time.  
 For indicates a period of time.  
 Working for five years. (✓)
83. from morning (✗)  
 since morning (✓)

### Grammar - Active/Passive Direct-Indirect (Basic)

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 84 to 85:

84. Even here the same situation as the above one is seen, hence the tense in the reported speech remains unchanged.  
 Hence, the correct option is (C).
85. Since the reporting verb is in simple present tense, the tense form in the reported speech remains unchanged.  
 Hence, the correct option is (B).

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 86 to 88:

86. In direct speech 'could' becomes can. Secondly, in question form the noun follows the verb. e.g., What can I ....

Hence, the correct option is (C).

87. Option (B) is still in indirect speech and so is option (C). Option (D) distorts the tense form.  
 Hence, the correct option is (A).
88. Option (A) is correct since the statement is an advice.  
 Hence, the correct option is (A).

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 89 to 90:

89. The given sentence is an imperative sentence hence, (D) is correct.  
 Hence, the correct option is (D).
90. The given sentence is an imperative sentence, hence B is correct.  
 Hence, the correct option is (B).

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 91 to 93:

91. Object takes 'to' after it. Secondly, the tense in the passive voice should be simple present.  
 Hence, the correct option is (D).
92. Option (A) is correct since it is in the same tense form as the passive form of the sentence.  
 Hence, the correct option is (A).
93. In the passive form 'people' is understood.  
 Hence, the correct option is (B).

### Grammar—Active/Passive Direct-Indirect (Advanced)

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 94 to 95:

94. 'We' is the subject, 'use' is the verb which is in the simple present tense and 'this room' is the object in the given sentence. In the passive voice, 'this room' becomes the subject and 'use' will be followed by 'by' and the objective case of 'we' (i.e) us. Hence, option (C) is appropriate. Option (A) is still in active. Option (B) is in simple future tense and option (D) distorts the meaning.  
 Hence, the correct option is (C).
95. The verb here is 'attended' which is in the simple past tense. In the passive voice, it becomes was/were attended. 'The meeting' which is singular takes 'was'. Option (D) is incorrect as the phrase, 'the meeting by salesmen' distorts the meaning.  
 Hence, the correct option is (C).

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 96 to 98:

96. The verb is 'can be applied' which becomes 'can apply' in the active. There is no mention of the 'doer' or by whom the action is done. In such cases we use a pronoun that suits the context. Here 'we', 'you' or 'I' or 'one' can be used as the subject. 'You can apply....' is the right way of changing this sentence.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

97. The given sentence is in the simple past – was broken by you. The active voice would be ‘you broke’ and the interrogative form of the same would be, ‘Did you break.....’.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

98. The given sentence is in the present perfect. There is no mention of the ‘doer’. Hence, ‘they’ or ‘someone’ can be used as the subject. The present perfect tense is given only in option (C), ‘has cut’ which is the answer.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 99 to 100:

99. This is a question, introduced by an interrogative word which is repeated in the reported speech. The verb ‘come’ becomes ‘came’. Option (D) is incorrect as the preposition ‘from’ is missing.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

100. There are two ideas given here. The word ‘sorry’ is an apology and hence the verb ‘apologised’ is most appropriate. The verb ‘won’t’ becomes ‘would’t’ in the reported speech and ‘this’ becomes ‘that’.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 101 to 103:

101. The reporting verb ‘asked’ suggests that it is a question. The use of ‘if’ confirms that the question begins with an auxiliary verb. ‘Were’ becomes ‘are’ in direct speech and the right pronoun to be used here in place of ‘they’ is ‘you’ (second person, plural). Hence the question is, ‘Are you making good progress?’

Hence, the correct option is (C).

102. Suggestion generally takes ‘let’. This is given only in option (B). Option (D) is an order given to somebody else. The use of ‘should’ in (A) and ‘may’ in (C) are incorrect.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

103. Three questions are asked by the teacher. The first two questions are in the simple past in the reported speech and the third in the past perfect. Hence in direct speech the first two questions take simple present tense and the third, simple past. What is your name? (simple present) Where do you come from? (simple present) Which school did you attend last? (simple past).

Hence, the correct option is (A).

### Grammar—Phrasal Verbs (Basic)

#### Explanatory Notes for Question 104 to 113:

104. To ‘hide behind’ means to use something or some reason as a mask or cover. Hence, Choice (B) is the right answer.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

105. ‘To pat down’ means to flatten something.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

106. ‘To snuff something out’ means to suppress or force something to cease.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

107. ‘To flush someone out’ means to force one to come out of one’s hideout.

Hence, the correct option is (D).

108. ‘To hound out someone’ means to force someone to leave their position by conspiracy.

Hence, the correct option is (D).

109. Since ‘fashion’ which refers to the way of doing something is used, it has to be ‘deal in’

Hence, the correct option is (A).

110. ‘To shrug something off or aside’ means to dismiss it as untrue, unimportant, or unworthy of one’s attention.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

111. ‘Pain’ is always preceded by ‘in’ – we are in pain or ‘writhing in pain’.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

112. ‘To ebb away’ means to fade gradually.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

113. If you fritter something away, you waste it.

Hence, the correct option is (D).

### Grammar—Phrasal Verbs (Advanced)

#### Explanatory Notes for Question 114 to 123:

114. To ‘get along/on’ with somebody means to have a friendly relationship with somebody which is the appropriate phrasal verb to be used here. To ‘get off’ with somebody is to have a romantic experience with somebody. To ‘get ahead’ is followed by ‘of’ and it means to make progress. ‘To get away with something’ is to steal something and escape with it.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

115. To ‘be taken in’ is to be made to believe something that is not true, (i.e.) to be deceived which is the appropriate verb to be used in this context. I was deceived (taken in) by her charming face. ‘Taken aback’ means to be shocked or surprised. ‘Taken over’ is to gain control over something. ‘Taken off’ means to leave the place in a hurry.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

116. To ‘take to’ someone is to start liking someone which is the appropriate phrasal verb to be used here. To ‘take on’ is to employ. To ‘take after’ someone is to look or behave like an elder person in the family. To be ‘taken up with’ something is to give all your time and



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energy to something.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

- 117.** To 'break out' of prison is to escape which is the most appropriate phrasal verb in this context. 'Break through' is to make away through something using force, which is not followed by 'of'. To 'run out of' something is to use up or finish the supply of something. 'To rush out' is to produce something quickly.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

- 118.** To 'call off' is to cancel which is the appropriate choice. To 'call back' is to telephone somebody again. 'Cancel out' is used in connection with two things when one 'cancels' the other out. It is apt to say 'cancel the party' but not 'cancel out the party'. To 'wipe out' is to destroy completely.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

- 119.** To 'shut down' or 'shut off' is to stop a machine from working which is the appropriate phrasal verb to be used here. 'Shut away' is to hide something which is inapt here 'Tune out' is to stop listening to something and 'turn down' is to reject or refuse to consider an offer/proposal.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

- 120.** The phrasal verb 'dry up' is related to water bodies, meaning that the rivers, lakes etc., become completely

dry. To 'dry out' is to stop drinking alcohol and to 'dry off' is to make something dry but it is not associated with rivers etc. To 'dry away' is not a phrasal verb.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

- 121.** To 'work on something' is to try hard to achieve or improve something which is the appropriate phrasal verb to be used in this context. To 'work to' something is to follow a plan or timetable. To 'work over' is to attack or hit someone. To 'work in' is to try to include something in what you are doing.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

- 122.** To 'stand out' in a crowd is to be noticeable. To 'stand aside' is not to get involved in something which is inapt. To 'stamp on' is to put your foot down with force on something and to 'stamp out' is to get rid of something that is bad.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

- 123.** To 'catch up with' someone is to reach somebody who is ahead by going faster, which is the appropriate choice. To 'catch at' something is to become popular or fashionable. To 'take over' is to gain control of something. It is not a synonym of 'overtake'. To 'take on' is to employ new staff.

Hence, the correct option is (A).



## CHAPTER 2 GRAMMAR

### HINTS/SOLUTIONS

#### Practice Problems I

##### Sentence Completion (Basic)

###### Explanatory Notes for Questions 1 to 10:

1. The sentence must be in simple present tense. Hence, 'approaching' in the progressive form is inappropriate. We can rule out options (A) and (B). It is inappropriate to say 'to the house'.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
2. An act has been stated simply. No continuous tense is intended.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
3. Out of the choices (C) is the correct choice structurally.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
4. To denote a completed action we use the simple past.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
5. 'I always had' ..... past tense. 'Have' is not needed.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
6. 'Informed' indicates past tense. Therefore, the usage of 'has' is incorrect. 'Had sent' is the right form.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
7. The correct expression would be '..... suggested that we should not talk about .....'  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
8. Parallelism requires that 'rather work' is followed by 'than sit and watch'.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
9. 'would visit' indicates an action in the future.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
10. 'Has' indicates present tense. 'I shall wait ..... here' indicates that we should have future tense throughout the sentence. Therefore, the correct form of the sentence should be 'I shall wait here until the bus arrives'.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).

##### Sentence Completion (Advanced)

###### Explanatory Notes for Questions 1 to 10:

1. The first sentence makes a statement that is in the nature of a generalized truth. So it has to be followed by the present tense. The past in b makes it specific. It has to be 'has' not 'had'. Similarly c has an 'if clause' and so must be followed by 'shall' or 'will'. Hence b and c are incorrect.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
2. Sentence b should read 'blessed with' but not 'by' -, 'blessed with something' is an idiom which means 'to have something good'. Sentence d must have 'flower'

(singular not plural) since the verb is singular and the reference is to a single flower.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

3. In sentence b the conjunction should be 'but' not 'and' since two contrasting things are connected. In sentence d 'everyones' must have an apostrophe since it means the minds of everyone.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
4. Sentence a says flowers have always played a part. Hence the reference can't be to one religious ceremony so, it must be ceremonies (plural). In sentence b, their perfumes have a distinct 'effect' (a change which is a result of an action), not 'affect' (have an effect on)  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
5. Sentence a should have 'boasts of' or only 'boasts' not 'boasts about'. Sentence c should have the phrasal verb 'account for' (to be the explanation or cause of something).  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
6. In sentence b 'a healthy threat' is wrong; it is 'a health threat' (a threat to health). Sentence c should end ... 'it may be an addictive' but not 'it may addict.'  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
7. Sentence b must have ... gazed down at the .... Sentence d should read 'plant and animal life' not plants.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
8. Sentence b must have 'as exciting as' not 'so exciting as'. Sentence c must have the adjective 'monosyllabic' not the noun 'monosyllable' since it qualifies response. Sentence d should be 'out of the question' (idiom meaning impossible) not 'off question'.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
9. Sentence a must read .... no other drug enforcement agents ... In the absence of 'other' it includes themselves. Sentence c must have 'into' not 'in', because the intended idea is to bring him into the open (means not hidden). Sentence d should be ... more than a match. (meaning to a greater degree).  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
10. Sentence a must have 'use of' not 'use for'. If we lose the 'use for' something then it is no longer useful to us. (I have no use for school books now) but when we lose the 'use of' something we are no longer able to use it (I have no use of my right hand often the stroke). Sentence c must be—'He is also a music teacher .....', linking it to his being an expert harmonium player. As given it implies that he is a music teacher at the municipal school in addition to being a music teacher somewhere else. This is neither stated nor implied.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).

## Practice Problems 2

### Synonyms (Basic)

1. Abstract means summary.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
2. 'Complacent' means satisfied.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
3. 'Exterminate' means annihilate.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
4. 'Chagrin' means annoyance.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
5. 'Dunk' means douse.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
6. 'Distracted' means agitated.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
7. 'Lissome' means lithe.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
8. 'Palliate' means alleviate.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
9. 'Resilient' means buoyant.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
10. 'Impetuous' means jovial.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
11. 'Arraign' means accuse.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
12. 'Apocryphal' means dubious.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
13. Abduct means to take away illegally by force or deception. Its synonym is kidnap.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
14. Abode means a house or home. The synonym for it is dwelling. Asylum is a place where one gets shelter or protection from danger.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
15. Epitomize means be a perfect example of. Its correct synonym is embody. Distend means to swell.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).

### Synonyms (Advanced)

1. Reprieve means cancel the punishment of somebody. Its synonym is forgive.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
2. Tribute means an act, statement or gift intended to show gratitude, respect or admiration. Its synonym is accolade.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
3. Outfit refers to costume (or) suit.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
4. Accredited refers to giving credit to someone for something. Its synonym is recognize.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
5. Caustic means sarcastic.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
6. Decree means an official order. Its synonym is command.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
7. Arbitrate means to judge.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
8. Affidavit means a written statement confirmed by oath. Its synonym is deposition.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
9. 'Asperity' means harshness of tone or manner.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
10. 'Vapid' is dull. 'Insipid' also means the same.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
11. 'Fusty' is having a stale smell. 'Musty' is having a stale or mouldy smell.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
12. Expropriate means seize.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
13. 'Forlorn' means lamented.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
14. 'Thrifless' means profligate.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
15. 'Combustion' means ignition.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).

## Practice Problems 3

### Antonyms (Basic)

#### Explanatory Notes for questions 1 to 15:

1. Immaculate means clean. 'Unclean' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
2. 'Ignominious' means shameful. 'Laudable' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).

3. 'Mellowed' means matured. 'Immature' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
4. 'Grouchy' means surly. 'Contented' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
5. 'Impudent' means rude. 'Courteous' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
6. 'Mitigate' means lessen. 'Aggravate' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).

7. 'Expostulation' means objection. Approbation is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
8. 'Disparage' means depreciate. 'Appreciate' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
9. 'Ossification' means inflexibility. 'Flexibility' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
10. 'Pedestrian' means uninspired. 'Imaginative' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
11. 'Tumultuous' means turbulent. Halcyon is the antonym. It means peaceful.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
12. 'Anachronism' means anti dating. 'Vogue' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
13. 'Beseech' means to beg or implore. Its antonym is command.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
14. 'Battery' refers to a large number of things or people. Its antonym is individual.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
15. 'Blandishments' means flattery. Its antonym is reproof which means rebuke. Scuttle means to hurry.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
3. 'Bucolic' refers to rural or pastoral life. Its antonym is urban.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
4. 'Contrite' means feeling or expressing remorse. Its antonym is defiant.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
5. 'Controvert' refers to deny the truth of. Its antonym is accept.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
6. 'Cower' means crouch down in fear. Its antonym is come out. 'Cringe' is a synonym of cower.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
7. 'Credible' means able to be believed. Its antonym is unbelievable.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
8. 'Crestfallen' means sad and disappointed. Its antonym is cheerful. Abashed means embarrassed.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
9. 'Jeopardy' means danger. 'Security' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
10. 'Musty' means foul. 'Fragrant' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
11. 'Hazy' means misty. Bright is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
12. 'Providential' means opportune. 'Inopportune' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
13. 'Abate' means moderate. 'Intensify' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
14. 'Abstemious' means temperate. 'Intemperate' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
15. 'Spontaneous' means willing. 'Coercive' is the antonym.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).

### Antonyms (Advanced)

1. 'Demented' means wild and the correct antonym for it is sane.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
2. 'Brusque' means using very few words and sounding rude. Its antonym is polite.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).

## Practice Problems 4

### Analogies (Basic)

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 1 to 15:

1. 'Mercenary' is a person who fights because he wants 'money'. Likewise, Midas is a mythical character who wanted gold.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
2. A polymer has cells. A chain has links.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
3. Poetry has rhyme. Mystery has suspense.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
4. Computer has RAM, while a book has pages.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
5. Bells jingle. Anklets tinkle.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
6. Cogent and convincing are synonyms as are laconic and pithy.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
7. Retrospection is analysis of something related to the past. Prognostication means prediction, which is related to the future.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).

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8. The words share an antonymous relationship  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
9. Relationship of degree. Petrify indicates extreme fright. Mortify indicates extreme humiliation.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
10. A munificent person is generous (not stingy) Likewise, any speech which is articulate is very clear (not obscure).  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
11. A coward is cravenly. A cheat is duplicitous.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
12. A diffident person is shy. A lacklustre performance is dull.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
13. Rigor is onerous (burdensome). Tedium is boring.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
14. 'Esoteric' is scholarly. the words share synonymous relationship. 'Profuse' and plentiful are also synonyms.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
15. To 'advocate' is to propogute. An exacting task is very demanding.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
4. All the pairs have synonymous meaning except 'articulate' and 'obfuscate' which are antonymous.  
Hence, the correct option is (D)
5. Bacteria causes leprosy. Evaporation is the cause for cloud formation. Anger could lead to violence. The sun is the cause for the occurrence of the day.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
6. Each pair gives something made from the preceding word. But 'rain' is not made from 'rainbow'.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
7. Each pair gives the head of a place. But Buddha is not the head of Burma.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
8. A prudent person is judicious. He is not injudicious (rash).  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
9. Each pair shows antonymous relationship except 'foppish' and 'affected' which is synonymous.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
10. Sacrilege has nothing to do with honesty. It means violation of what is sacred.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
11. The pairs are synonymous but 'compassionate' is not 'lustful'.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).

### Analogies (Advanced)

1. 'Import' and 'export' are antonyms as also are all the choices except 'inspire' (fill with an urge) and 'expire' (die).  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
2. A milkmaid delivers milk. A postman delivers letters. A newspaper boy delivers newspaper while a vendor could deliver sweets. All these people – milkmaid, postman and a vendor are mobile people who deliver an article. The exception is a baker who bakes biscuit but is not known for delivering biscuits.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
3. All the pairs give the person and the thing he studies except (D). Ichthyology is the study of fishes not fossils.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
12. While all the pairs are synonyms, sequester is to take legal possession not align.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
13. 'Despotic' has nothing to do with 'depot' while all the other pairs have related words.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
14. Somnolent means sleepy, drowsy; inducing drowsiness. It has no relation with sobriety. Sombre means dark, gloomy, dismal.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
15. Each pair has words that are synonymous. But 'parry' (word off) does not mean 'fight'.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).

## Practice Problems 5

### Logical Reasoning (Basic)

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 1 to 5:

1. We are looking for an option that gives a reason for recruiting women.  
Choice (A) says it is a pilot project—may be but that is no reason for the drive to focus on women.

Choice (B) women being on par with men is not a reason to focus on women

Choice (C) is a reason—a diverse work force can cater to the needs of diverse customers.

Choice (D)—more women entering engineering courses—can not be the reason for the company to focus on girls.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

2. The para says how numbers are used in advertisements. Each of the option gives a reason or advantage of using numbers, only option (B) says that it has dangers.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

3. The occurrence is the growth in art shows in India. Choices (A), (B), and (D) clearly give reasons for it. Choice (C) however, talks of purchases by Indian diaspora overseas which does not account for growth in India.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

4. Option (A) & (C) speak of the various appreciable qualities of Gursky's photographs which may be in common shared by other photographs taken by other photographers. Only option (D) speaks of his unique capabilities of making his photographs entirely different from those of others. Option (B) supports the critics.

Hence, the correct option is (D).

5. Option (A) speaks of the long years it takes for a tree to flourish, while option (B) acquaints one with intricacies of the composition of the plant / tree. Option (D) speaks of photosynthesis. All these options give you a deeper insight and understanding of the flora but it is only option (A) that makes you feel for the plant when you witness the graphic representation of its suffering.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

### Logical Reasoning (Advanced)

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 1 to 2:

1. The speaker did not state whether one can make ends meet in hard times without innovative methods. Hence, the speaker's opinion regarding the necessity of innovative methods cannot be found out. Hence, I is not implicit.

The author refers to barter system as an initial stage and goes on referring to different things and finally refers to womb renting and sperm selling. And then states that these are innovative methods. It means that he is classifying womb renting and sperm selling as innovative methods but we can't say barter system is not innovative.

∴ Only III is implicit.

Hence, the correct option is (D).

2. If genes don't play a part in choice of profession then the author would not have said in the last line – 'May be, genes play a part...'. Hence, I is implicit. The author says why fear dynastic politics, when one is not worried about children taking up parents' profession in other fields. Hence, II is implicit. The author equates politics with other professions, but does not discuss the problem involved. Hence, III is not implicit.

∴ Only I and II are implicit.

Hence, the correct option is (D).

#### Explanatory Notes for Questions 3 to 4:

3. It is not known whether the Home Minister made this statement with respect to difficulty levels or with respect to his interest. Hence, I does not follow.

From the statement, it is clear that the person did not become the Home Minister by choice. Hence, II follows.

∴ Only II follows.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

4. The statement does not indicate whether Mr.X ever lost his temper or not. We cannot find out whether he is mentally tough or not because it depends on whether he ever got angry or not.

∴ Neither I nor II follows.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

#### Explanatory Notes for questions 5 to 7:

5. It is known fact that the police have training facilities. If the police do not know how to use new weapons, they will be trained. To purchase more sophisticated weapons depends on necessity. Hence, I is not strong.

II refers to incidents in U.S.A. This does not indicate whether there is a chance that the terrorists use such weapons against India or not. Moreover, it is not stated that the weapons with terrorists are more sophisticated than those that are with the Indian police. Hence II is not strong.

∴ Neither I nor II is strong.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

6. I refers only to married women, while the question is about all women, in general.

Hence, I is not strong.

Being at home does not mean that there would not be financial requirements. Hence, II is not strong.

∴ Neither I nor II is strong.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

7. I does not explain why one should learn history. It is an incomplete argument. Hence, I is not strong.

II gives the purpose of learning history. Getting information about the past to build the future is desirable. Hence, II is strong.

∴ Only II is strong.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

#### Explanatory Notes for Question 8 to 9:

8. The problem is that the public did not receive any benefit from corporate hospitals.

By allowing more corporate hospitals to open, it cannot be ensured that these new hospitals would benefit the people. Hence, I does not follow.



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By reviving social responsibility norms people can derive benefit. Hence, II follows. Closing down corporate offices would lead to a new problem, such as insufficient health service. Hence, III does not follow.

∴ Only II follows.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

9. The statement gives the reasons behind young people taking up a life of crime. Action should be taken before they turn to crime. A criminal cannot be employed

unless it is known that he intends to mend his ways. Hence, I does not follow.

Higher pocket money does not enable them to earn legally. Hence, II does not follow.

Understanding economics does not solve the problems faced by the young, i.e., unemployment and price rise. Hence, III does not follow.

∴ None follows.

Hence, the correct option is (D).

### Previous Years' Questions

1. Marked means covered or conceal. In the given context, 'rather casual remarks' could only mean that he has exposed his 'lack of seriousness.' The term 'betrayed' means to reveal a truth. Belie, on the other hand, means 'to hide' a truth.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

2. The word 'circuitous' means a lengthy course, not direct in manner or approach.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

3. Natural resources can't be upheld (endorsed/supported) or restrained (prevented). They can be cherished (protected and cared for) and conserved (protected from harm and destruction). As the context is about leaving a better planet for our children, 'D' is more appropriate than C.

Hence, the correct option is (D).

4. The author's intention is to bring out the negative aspect of use of chemical agents. Option A is false the. Option B is a positive statement and therefore doesn't bring out the intent of the passage. Option D is a restatement of a part of the extract. The words 'suppression', 'regret fully', etc., give merit to 'C' as the best option.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

5. You contemplate (intend) doing something; hence visiting.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

6. A strong impression cannot be made by being understated (represent as less), tentative (hesitant or uncertain). The word that goes with these two is restrained (reserved or disciplined).

Hence, the correct option is (B).

7. Amalgamate means to unify or bring together. Its opposite is separate. Remove means to take something away.

Hence, the correct option is (D).

8. Inexplicable means incapable of being explained or accounted for. The closest in meaning is incomprehensible (what cannot be comprehended or understood).

Hence, the correct option is (A).

9. The four sentences use forms of the word 'less'. The word is appropriately used in all sentences except D, which should be corrected to read '... expenditure....is very little.'

Hence, the correct option is (D).

10. When there is only one piece of relative information (hurt in the stampede) being brought in to qualify the subject (dog), it would be more appropriate to use 'that' than 'which'.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

11. Since the mission succeeded, the word 'despite' would precede a negative thought. The appropriate word would be 'setbacks'.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

12. 'To mitigate' is to lessen an effect. Therefore 'diminish' is appropriate.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

13. The use of 'were you' is indicative of an unlikely condition that the author intends to present. This, therefore, is to be followed by the use of 'would'. The complete sentence—Were you a bird, you would fly in the sky.

Hence, the correct option is (A).

14. The incorrect sentence is C. Though 'European' starts with a vowel, it is pronounced as if it starts with 'Yu' and we therefore need 'a' as the preceeding article, not 'an'.

Hence, the correct option is (C).

15. The sentence presents an incomplete analogy. The relationship between 'universalism' (which means applicable generally) and 'particularism' (which means of particular application) is antonymous. Similarly 'diffuseness' (which means outward spread) would be antonymous to 'specificity' (relevant to something specific only).

Hence, the correct option is (A).

16. The word 'nadir' means the lowest or worst level one would reach.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

17. Except choice B, all other choices are incorrect with respect to collocations.

Hence, the correct option is (B).

- 18.** In the given sentence the blank should be filled with a word which contradicts the first part of the sentence. The person expresses his bafflement over the decision of the judges to award the first prize, which eliminates choice A and D ['exhilarating' meaning very exciting]. Among choices B and C, the former is ruled out as it is inappropriate. Hence only choice C is the most suitable answer.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
- 19.** The term 'buck' used in the given expression refers to the responsibility or blame of something, hence choice C.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
- 20.** The word 'colonial' means connected with or belonging to a country that controls another country. Choice B and D are out of context. Choice C does not apply because the country is not under any control which is a pre-requisite to be known as colonial. Just following any colonial practices even after independence does not make a country post-colonial. Therefore, choice A is the appropriate option.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
- 21.** Only choice B is correct in the usage of language and tense.  
Hence, the correct option is (B).
- 22.** To 'eradicate' is to destroy utterly, while 'distort' means misrepresent. 'Saturate' is to soak completely and 'utilize' means use. This makes choice A the correct answer.  
Hence, the correct option is (A).
- 23.** In the given sentence part IV is not correct. The correct usage must be 'and lost consciousness'. Error of parallelism. The tense on both sides of the conjunction should complement each other.  
Hence, the correct option is (D).
- 24.** As the given sentence is in past tense, the correct usage is 'had known' and 'could have'.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).
- 25.** 'Coherent' refers to any idea or thought which is logical, well-organised and easy to understand. Among the given words only rambling [very long and confused] is opposite in meaning to the word 'coherent'.  
Hence, the correct option is (C).



## TEST

1. **Situation:** A company claimed that after administration of its medicine there were no cases of Hepatitis B in a locality.  
**Reasoning:** The company's claim will be seriously weakened if the medicine is not found to be the reason for the non incidence of the disease.  
 (A) It does not weaken the argument as the company makes the claim that its medicine has helped in developing immunity only after three months.  
 (B) It only strengthens the claim of the company.  
 (C) CORRECT. It properly identifies the situation which shows that the medicine might not have been responsible for developing immunity against the disease.  
 (D) It does not seriously weaken the claim as all the affected persons had not always been children.  
 Hence, the correct option is (C).
2. **Situation:** Ms E, a champion for the environment, wins a mayoral election against Mr D.  
**Reasoning:** The reason for the victory of Ms E could be attributed to her concern for environment in all cases except where it might be due to other factors.  
 (A) It is a possible reason for the success.  
 (B) It also indicates the attributing of the success to the concern for the environment.  
 (C) It does not defeat the attribution of the success to concern for environment.  
 (D) CORRECT. If Mr D is also a champion of environment, then Ms E's success in the election must have been due to some other cause.  
 Hence, the correct option is (D).
3. **Situation:** The life expectancy in a country has gone up but an insurance company has not reduced the premia.  
**Reasoning:** Premia fixed by an insurance company depends on the average age of death which is different from life expectancy. While known causes of death like diseases, old age etc., fix up the life expectancy, unknown causes like accidents, wars etc., do not have any bearing on life expectancy. An insurance company is more concerned with the actual age of death rather than the possible age of death.  
 (A) It does not have any bearing on the argument.  
 (B) It will negate the stand of the insurance company.  
 (C) It does not affect the decision of the insurance company.  
 (D) CORRECT. It properly identifies a situation where the average age of death may be lower even if life expectancy is generally higher.  
 Hence, the correct option is (D).
4. **Situation:** A company concludes that its introduction of night shifts must be the reason for many of its employees leaving the company.  
**Reasoning:** To conclude that introduction of night shifts must have been the reason for the high attrition rates, determination of the number of persons in day and night shifts leaving the company, is necessary.  
 (A) It will not support the conclusion.  
 (B) It is outside the scope of the argument.  
 (C) By itself it does not provide any clue to the conclusion.  
 (D) CORRECT. It properly identifies the information necessary to support the conclusion  
 Hence, the correct option is (D).
5. Ignominious means "marked by shame or disgrace". The antonym is "Laudable", which mean praiseworthy. Hence, the correct option is (D).
6. Mellowed means rich and soft; gentle, wise and matured; or relaxed and calm. Only 'Immature' is a suitable option from the given choices.  
 Hence, the correct option is (C).
7. Robust means strong and healthy. So, the suitable antonym is feeble, which means weak. Sturdy, which also means strong, is its synonym.  
 Hence, the correct option is (B).
8. Vindictive means revengeful. So forgiving is its antonym. Relentless, which means not stopping or not getting less strong, is out of context.  
 Hence, the correct option is (A).
9. Altruism refers to the fact of caring about the needs and happiness of other people more than one's own. Hence, selfishness is its antonym. Tenderness means kindness or gentleness.  
 Hence, the correct option is (B).
10. Boisterous refers to being noisy, full of life and energy. So, of the given words, serene, which means calm and peaceful, can be its most suitable antonym. As tumultuous means very loud; involving strong feelings, especially feelings of approval, it is a synonym of the question word.  
 Hence, the correct option is (A).
11. The context suggests that the officer asked for an explanation from the subordinate. Hence, it is the preposition 'for' that can best go with the verb called. To call for means to ask for. To call on means to invite. To call out means to ask someone to come and help. To call in means to ask for the return of something.  
 Hence, the correct option is (B).

12. In this context, the speaker says that he will share with the listener everything about his family affairs. Hence, it is back that can fit into the blank. To keep back is to refuse to tell someone something. To keep on means to continue. To keep out means not to enter a place and to keep in means to make someone stay indoors. Hence, the correct option is (C).
13. Of the given words, mission can best fit into the blank as it refers to a great purpose or a sense of responsibility in this context. Hence, the correct option is (B).
14. When you have a great desire to achieve something, you work very hard and succeed. Hence, succeed can best fill in the blank. Hence, the correct option is (C).
15. The context suggests that the firefighters could not do their job well because of rain. Hence, hindered can be the best option. Hence, the correct option is (C).
16. The context suggests that the Americans are referring to something that Musharraf did to their benefit. Hence, it is only gesture that can fit in. Hence, the correct option is (C).
17. 'Kept' is the right word to go into the blank. Hence, the correct option is (B).
18. 'Seen' is the appropriate word. It is used in the sense of 'experienced' in the context. Hence, the correct option is (D).
19. An abstract is a short piece of writing containing the main ideas in a document. Hence, summary is its suitable synonym. Hence, the correct option is (B).
20. As complacent means too satisfied with oneself or one's situation, option (C) is the best answer. Hence, the correct option is (C).
21. Exterminate means destroy something or someone completely. Hence, annihilate is its synonym. Evict means force someone to leave a place. Hence, the correct option is (D).
22. Umpteen means too many or numerous. Hence, option (A) is the right answer. Hence, the correct option is (D).
23. Ostensible refers to something that is stated to be true or real, when this is perhaps not the case. So, apparent is its synonym. Hence, the correct option is (C).
24. Stalwart means physically strong, apart from faithful. Hence, option (B) is the right answer as sturdy means strong and healthy. Hence, the correct option is (B).
25. Property can be mortgaged. Money can be lend. Hence, the correct option is (A).
26. A cheque may be negotiable. An asset may be frozen. Hence, the correct option is (A).
27. As the meaning of the verb raise in line (A) matches with the usage in line (F) on the right hand column, they form a pair. So, this eliminates options (A) and (C). Similarly, the meaning as given in line (B) on the left hand column matches with the usage in line (G) on the right hand column. So, option (D) can also be eliminated as the usage in line (H) best suits the meaning in line (C), rather than in line (B). So, the right answer is choice (B). Hence, the correct option is (B).
28. The usage given in line (H) suits the meaning of "sense" given in line (A). So, we can eliminate options (B) and (C) as they contain wrong pairs. As options (A) and (D) both have lines (B) and (G) as a pair, we cannot eliminate either of them. If we come to line (C), it matches with the usage given in line E. So, option (D) is the right answer. Hence, the correct option is (D).
29. The usage given in line (H) corresponds to the meaning given in line (A). So, options (B) and (D) can be eliminated. Likewise, the meaning in line (B) matches with the usage in line (E). So, option (A) is the right answer. Hence, the correct option is (B).
30. Since the meaning of mass as given in line (A) matches with the usage given in line (F), option (C) is the right answer. Hence, the correct option is (C).

