

ENGLISH COMPOSITION

Directions (Question Nos. 1-7) : Pick out the most effective word or group of words from the given words to fill in the blanks to make the sentence meaningfully complete.

1. As the rate of life expectancy has increased due to tremendous progress in medical science, the overpopulation problem has _____.
(A) aggravated (B) minimized
(C) distorted (D) encouraged
2. Eight scientists have _____ the national awards for outstanding contribution and dedication to the profession.
(A) bestowed (B) picked
(C) bagged (D) conferred
3. The two brothers _____.
(A) resemble one another
(B) resemble to one another
(C) resemble with one another
(D) resemble each other
4. The internet is a medium where users have nearly _____ choices and _____ constraints about where to go and what to do.
(A) unbalanced, non-existent
(B) embarrassing, no
(C) unlimited, minimal
(D) choking, shocking
5. The highest reward for a man's toil is not what he gets for it, but what _____.
(A) he makes out of it
(B) he gets for it
(C) he has overcome through it
(D) he becomes by it
6. Since we _____ read every book, we _____ only the famous ones.
(A) have, sold (B) should, buy
(C) must, ignore (D) cannot, select
7. The Board called on a meeting to _____ the financial situation of the company.
(A) revise (B) cover
(C) review (D) support

Directions (Question Nos. 8-14) : In each of the following sentences, some alternatives are suggested for the idioms/phrases in italics. Choose the one which best expresses the meaning of the idioms/phrases in sentences.

8. We should guard against our *green-eyed* friends.
(A) rich (B) jealous
(C) handsome (D) enthusiastic
9. The popularity of the yesteryears' superstar is *on the wane*.
(A) growing more (B) at its peak
(C) growing less (D) at rock-bottom
10. The sailor found himself between *the devil and the deep sea*.
(A) lost in the deep ocean
(B) facing two challenges
(C) facing two equally bad alternatives
(D) confronting two opportunities
11. My mother is *in raptures* over her new stove.
(A) very enthusiastic
(B) working vigorously
(C) completely dissatisfied with
(D) extremely angry
12. Our school is *within a stone's throw* of the railway station.
(A) within a certain radius
(B) at a short distance
(C) within a definite circumference
(D) very far off
13. If you give Ashish all your money, you are likely to *burn your fingers*.
(A) be ill (B) be happy
(C) suffer (D) be unhappy
14. He has accomplished a *Herculean task*.
(A) allotted work
(B) work requiring great effort
(C) impossible job
(D) incomplete work

Directions (Question Nos. 15-18) : Each of the following questions consists of a blank before a word, choose the correct prefix out of the given alternatives to fill in the blank in each sentence.

15. Floppy disks are _____ expensive.
(A) un (B) in
(C) on (D) ir
16. As the results are _____ regular, the program will have to be written again.
(A) un (B) ir
(C) inter (D) dis
17. Your pay rise is _____ active to the beginning of June.
(A) retro (B) in
(C) un (D) re
18. You can increase your chances of finding a job if you are _____ lingual.
(A) re (B) inter
(C) bi (D) ad

Directions (Question Nos. 19-22) : Choose the right suffix for the blanks in the given sentences.

19. He was acting in a very child _____ way.
(A) -ful (B) -ish
(C) -hood (D) -ness
20. The number of ship _____ will increase over the coming months.
(A) -ing (B) -ments
(C) -age (D) -ness
21. Software _____ develop _____ are producing increasingly sophisticated applications.
(A) -ing (B) -ors
(C) -ers (D) -ment
22. My new washing machine is completely use _____. It doesn't work properly.
(A) -ful (B) -less
(C) -ed (D) -or

Directions (Question Nos. 23-29) : In each of the following questions, out of the given alternatives, choose the one which is nearest in meaning to the given word.

23. Glib
(A) tough (B) smooth
(C) rough (D) rouge
24. Edify
(A) consume
(B) satisfy
(C) instruct
(D) amuse
25. Loquacious
(A) hesitant
(B) knowledgeable
(C) talkative
(D) narrative
26. Paramount
(A) prestigious (B) supreme
(C) valuable (D) urgent
27. Occult
(A) mysterious
(B) harmless
(C) dreadful
(D) amazing
28. Ostentatious
(A) noisy
(B) talkative
(C) showy
(D) wealthy
29. Candid
(A) free (B) frank
(C) jolly (D) friendly

Directions (Question Nos. 30-36) : Each of the following questions consists of a sentence in which one word is *italicized*. It is followed by some words. Select the word which is closest to the opposite in meaning to the italicized word.

30. He has a *superficial* knowledge of the subject.
(A) wide (B) profound
(C) sufficient (D) excessive
31. Every move he made seemed to affect him *adversely*.
(A) deeply (B) favourably
(C) badly (D) internally
32. The new officer is a *brash* young man.
(A) polite (B) arrogant
(C) kind (D) handsome
33. I found my views to be *congruous* to those of my mother.
(A) irregular (B) mismatch
(C) inconsistent (D) disagreeing
34. The momentum of the movement *slackened* in course of time.
(A) recovered (B) multiplied
(C) quickened (D) stopped
35. The *frivolous* remarks provoked no comments.
(A) serious (B) momentous
(C) futile (D) fanciful
36. His *tardy* manners were a great impediment in the path of his success.
(A) quick (B) enthusiastic
(C) sluggish (D) progressive

Directions (Question Nos. 37-40) : Pick out the most suitable verb from the given options to make the following sentences correct.

37. A crowd of people _____ shouting slogans.
(A) were (B) was
(C) are (D) have
38. Acoustics _____ a branch of Physics.
(A) are (B) is
(C) was (D) were
39. These days mumps _____ not at all difficult to cure.
(A) is (B) are
(C) was (D) were
40. The Board of Directors _____ turned down all our demands.
(A) have (B) are
(C) has (D) were

Directions (Question Nos. 41-44) : In each of the following questions, out of the four alternatives choose the word which can be substituted for the given words/sentence.

41. An imaginary name assumed by an author for disguise.
(A) Homonym (B) Nickname
(C) Pen-name (D) Pseudonym
42. A place for sick people who need long periods of treatment or rest.
(A) Asylum (B) Sanatorium
(C) Clinic (D) Hospital
43. An assembly of listeners.
(A) Spectators (B) Audience
(C) Mob (D) Crowd
44. Ready to believe.
(A) Credible (B) Creditable
(C) Credulous (D) Incredible

Directions (Question Nos. 45-49) : Each of the following sentences has a blank space and four words given after the sentence. Select which word you consider most appropriate for the blank space.

45. Once he has signed the agreement, he won't be able to _____.
 (A) back out
 (B) back at
 (C) back in
 (D) back up
46. I haven't seen you _____ a week.
 (A) since
 (B) for
 (C) within
 (D) from
47. Lots of people had come to attend his lecture because he is very _____ scholar.
 (A) imminent
 (B) engaging
 (C) popular
 (D) eminent
48. Having _____ his prayers the old man slowly lay down on his bed to sleep.
 (A) done
 (B) said
 (C) sung
 (D) told
49. The commanders took a long time to _____ the resistance of the rebels.
 (A) break down
 (B) cut down
 (C) pull down
 (D) tone down

Directions (Question Nos. 50-54) : In each question below, there are two sentences. These two sentences are to be combined into one sentence which should convey the same meaning as conveyed by the two sentences. It is possible to combine the pair of sentences in various different ways. Beginnings of three such sentences are given below each pair of sentences. You have to find out which one of them is the correct, appropriate and logical way to combine the pair of sentences into one sentence to convey the same meaning as conveyed by the two sentences.

50. He is short-sighted. Otherwise he is fit for the post.
 P. Except that he _____
 Q. If he was not _____
 R. Despite being _____
 (A) Only P (B) Only Q
 (C) Only R (D) P and Q
51. The thief entered the room. He found it empty.
 P. Entering _____
 Q. Although the thief _____
 R. As soon as _____
 (A) Only P (B) Only Q
 (C) P and R (D) Q and R
52. He saw me. He came to me.
 P. Since he _____
 Q. As soon as _____
 R. No sooner did _____
 (A) Only P (B) Only Q
 (C) Only R (D) Q and R
53. You are sincere. You can succeed.
 P. Unless you _____
 Q. Be _____
 R. Should you _____
 (A) Only P (B) P & Q
 (C) P & R (D) P, Q & R
54. He made a promise. He kept it.
 P. Making _____
 Q. He not only _____
 R. Besides making _____
 (A) Only Q (B) Q & R
 (C) P & Q (D) Only R

Directions (Question Nos. 55-58) : In each of the following questions, a sentence has been given in Active or Passive voice. Out of the four alternatives suggested, select the one which best expresses the same sentence in Passive or Active voice.

55. You must look into this matter.
 (A) This matter has been looked into by you.
 (B) This matter may be looked into by you.
 (C) This matter should be looked into by you.
 (D) This matter into looked by you.
56. My uncle promised me a present.
 (A) A present was promised by my uncle to me.
 (B) I was promised a present by my uncle.
 (C) I had been promised a present by my uncle.
 (D) I was promised by my uncle a present.
57. I know him.
 (A) He is known by me.
 (B) He was known to me.
 (C) He has been known by me.
 (D) He is known to me.
58. A stone struck me on the head.
 (A) I was struck by a stone on the head.
 (B) My head was struck by a stone.
 (C) I had been struck by a stone on the head.
 (D) I was struck on the head by a stone.

Directions (Question Nos. 59-62) : In each of the following questions a sentence has been given in Direct/Indirect speech. Out of the four alternatives suggested, select the one which best expresses the same sentence in Indirect/Direct speech.

59. The employer said to the workman, "I cannot pay you higher wages."
 (A) The employer told the workman that he could not be paid higher wages.
 (B) The employer told the workman that he could not pay him higher wages.
 (C) The employer warned the workman that he cannot pay him higher wages.
 (D) The employer forbade the workman to pay higher wages.
60. "Please don't go away", she said.
 (A) She said to please her and not go away.
 (B) She told me not to go away.
 (C) She begged that I not go away.
 (D) She begged me not to go away.
61. He said, "What a beautiful scene!"
 (A) He said that what a beautiful scene it was.
 (B) He wondered that it was a beautiful scene.
 (C) He exclaimed what a beautiful scene it was.
 (D) He exclaimed that it was a very beautiful scene.
62. The traveller enquired of the farmer if he could tell him the way to the nearest inn.
 (A) The traveller said to the farmer, "Where is the nearest inn?"
 (B) The traveller said to the farmer, "Which is the way to the nearest inn?"
 (C) The traveller said to the farmer, "Can you tell me the way to the nearest inn?"
 (D) The traveller said to the farmer, "Can you tell me where is the nearest inn?"

Directions (Question Nos. 63-66) : Below each sentence are given four possible substitutions for the *italicized* part. Choose the correct option to improve the sentence.

63. Let me congratulate you *for* your grand success in the election.
(A) of (B) on
(C) at (D) with
64. Don't meddle *with* my affairs.
(A) by (B) at
(C) in (D) to
65. One day you will repent *over* what you have done.
(A) about (B) at
(C) of (D) for
66. The train was late *for* fifty minutes.
(A) around (B) by
(C) behind (D) over

Directions (Question Nos. 67-73) : A part in the following sentences is underlined, which may not be correct. Choose the correct option which when used improves the sentence.

67. Rose is the most beautiful *of all the other flowers* in the garden.
(A) flower
(B) of all flowers
(C) than other flowers
(D) to other flowers
68. What *are* needed are not clothes but food.
(A) is
(B) were
(C) was
(D) no improvement
69. I love *the literature, the music, the art*.
(A) the literature, music and art.
(B) literature, music and art.
(C) the literature, the music and the art.
(D) literature, music, art.

70. Mr. Dalip *had staying* here since 1995.
(A) has staying
(B) has been staying
(C) has stayed
(D) no improvement
71. The public distribution system should be closely linked to employment.
(A) on
(B) with
(C) over
(D) no improvement
72. The man *to who* I sold my house was cheat.
(A) to whom I sell
(B) to who I sell
(C) who was sold to
(D) to whom I sold
73. The feeling of achievement is *the great* motivator.
(A) the greater
(B) great
(C) the greatest
(D) no improvement

Directions (Question Nos. 74-78) : Four parts of each sentence are underlined. One of these parts has a mistake somewhere. You have to identify the incorrect portion of the sentences and not to correct it.

74. She (A) *is the tallest* of the two girls, (B) *that is why* she (C) *has been* selected (D) *as the captain*.
75. (A) *Is there* (B) *some chances of* your (C) *visiting her* (D) *at the hospital?*
76. (A) *The principal* (B) *along with his colleagues* (C) *are* in (D) *the car*.
77. (A) *If the teacher allows* (B) *us to carry the flag* (C) *Seema and me* (D) *will be leading the procession*.
78. No sooner (A) *had* he (B) *left* (C) *when his friend* (D) *came*.

Directions (Question Nos. 79-83) : One of the four sentences given in each question is grammatically wrong. Pick out the wrong sentence.

79. (A) Nothing but funny stories delight him.
(B) I cannot raise this lid.
(C) This is the book I want.
(D) The thief divested the child from all her jewels.
80. (A) It is time you went to bed.
(B) There is no end to troubles.
(C) We got out of the swimming pool and dried us.
(D) He gloried in his victory.
81. (A) Unless you do not work hard, you cannot succeed.
(B) Please pay me by cheque.
(C) I feel giddy.
(D) You walk faster than I.
82. (A) I found out that he was guilty.
(B) I prefer to read than to write.
(C) The jury was divided in their opinion.
(D) Neither of the men was tall.
83. (A) It is the most ideal place.
(B) The news is too good to be true.
(C) These flowers smell sweet.
(D) Your watch is better than mine.

Directions (Question Nos. 84-87) : In each of these questions the first and the last sentences of the passage are numbered 1 and 6 respectively. The rest of the passage is split into four parts named P, Q, R and S. These four parts are not given in their proper order. Find out the correct combination from among the given alternatives to make a meaningful sentence.

84. (1) A four-year study
(P) that babies feel more comfortable
(Q) conducted by the Infant Testing Centre
(R) around other babies
(S) clearly suggests
(6) than with strange adults.
(A) PRSQ (B) QPRS
(C) QSPR (D) SPRQ
85. (1) They're mostly people
(P) and they find the club very convenient
(Q) to get a reasonable meal
(R) who work in the neighbourhood
(S) because it enables them
(6) without too much trouble.
(A) PQRS (B) QPRS
(C) RPSQ (D) SQRP
86. (1) Charles Goodyear once accidentally
(P) and found that the resulting rubber
(Q) dropped a mixture of natural rubber
(R) was harder, stronger, more elastic
(S) and sulphur over a hot stove
(6) and non-sticky.
(A) PSQR (B) QSPR
(C) RSQP (D) SQPR
87. (1) If all the nations
(P) for the common good of mankind
(Q) then they will never fight with each other
(R) work together
(S) and agree to obey these laws
(6) and there will be no war.
(A) PQRS (B) RPSQ
(C) RQPS (D) SQRP

Directions (Question Nos. 88-90) : In each of the following questions, there are six sentences marked S1, S6, P, Q, R, S. The portions of S1 and S6 are fixed. You are required to choose one of the four alternatives which would be the most logical sequence of the sentence in the passage.

88. S1 : There are examinations at school which a pupil can pass by cramming the texts.

P : But for spiritual knowledge more memory of holy text will be of no use in passing the test.

Q : One can score in them by the power of memory.

R : A competent guru alone can provide the necessary guidance to an earnest disciple.

S : What the text says has to be reflected upon and experienced by the speaker.

S6 : Thus, reading, reflection and experience are the three stages in gaining spiritual knowledge.

- (A) QPSR
(B) RSPQ
(C) RSQP
(D) SRPQ

89. S1 : While crossing the busy road we should obey the policeman on duty.

P : We should always cross the road at zebra crossing.

Q : We must look to the signal lights and cross the road only when the road is clear.

R : If there are no signal lights at the crossing, we should look to the right, then to the left and again to the right before crossing the road.

S : If the road is not clear we should wait.

S6 : We should never run while crossing a road.

- (A) PQRS (B) PSRQ
(C) QRPS (D) RQSP

90. S1 : The real cause of the rise and fall of the sea level was not known to men for a long time.

P : They found out that Moon is a satellite and it travels a regular path around the earth.

Q : As time passed and knowledge increased, men began to learn more about the heaven and the stars and the planets.

R : They noticed that the Moon rose each day about an hour later than it rose the day before and the peak of the high tide also comes about an hour later the each day.

S : Some imagined that the Earth itself was alive and the rising and falling of the tide was caused by the breathing of the Earth's big body.

S6 : So they concluded that the Moon and the tide are connected in some way.

- (A) PRQS (B) QPRS
(C) SQPR (D) SRQP

Directions (Question Nos. 91-100) : You have two brief passages with questions following each passage. Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer to each question out of the four alternatives.

PASSAGE - 1

The Rajputs occupy an honoured place in the history of India. They were a war-like people, proud and patriotic. They were jealous of their honour, and would lay down their lives to uphold it. They loved their homes and fought bravely to defend the honour of their women folk. Nothing would tame their spirits. Perils only called forth their courage and poverty only increased their power of resistance. None could fight like them. Their motto was "Better death than dishonour".

91. Which of the following represents the theme of the passage ?

- (A) The pride of the Rajputs.
- (B) Rajputs and their sacrifices.
- (C) The rise and the fall of the Rajputs.
- (D) Rajputs-the spirited heroes of Indian history.

92. Which of the following is opposite in meaning to the word 'proud' in the passage ?

- (A) humble
- (B) kind
- (C) courteous
- (D) cowardly

93. The expression "Tame their spirits" in the passage means

- (A) Suppress their ambitions
- (B) Arouse their enthusiasm
- (C) Develop their courage
- (D) Curb their enthusiasm

94. Which of the following statements is not true in the context of the passage ?

- (A) The Rajputs achieved eminence in history due to their great bravery.
- (B) They were homely people and would fight for upholding women's honour.
- (C) In moments of danger they would exhibit great courage.
- (D) They could not, however, face the challenge of poverty.

95. According to the writer, the Rajputs occupy an honoured place in history, because

- (A) They were fond of wars.
- (B) They were proud of their war.
- (C) They were jealous of people's honour.
- (D) They lived and died upholding their self-respect.

PASSAGE - 2

Newspapers sell because of news and editorial coverage but it gets more revenue from advertisements. News costs money, while advertisements fetch money. The economics of modern newspapers is such that it cannot run by just selling news; it has to depend on advertisements. The economics of newspaper publishing requires both subscribers who can afford to advertise in it. The growth of the press depends on both. Therefore, in newspaper management neither aspect can be neglected.

Co-ordination among the various departments - editorial, circulation, advertising and production - is very essential for effective and better management. The head of various departments must be part of the management of the newspaper. They must be aware of the goals set, policies and future plans of the management. They cannot afford to remain cut off from the mainstream of management function. In addition, each department should keep the other department managers informed of those of its activities that will be useful to them. This is a vital aspect of newspaper management.

96. The growth of newspaper depends on
- (A) the editorial and news coverage
 - (B) large scale subscribers
 - (C) advertisers
 - (D) subscribers and advertisers

97. The main idea of the first paragraph of the passage is
- (A) The growth of the press
 - (B) News and editorial coverage
 - (C) The economics of newspaper publishing
 - (D) The importance of advertisements

98. The main idea of second paragraph of the passage is
- (A) The future of newspapers
 - (B) How to sell newspapers
 - (C) Effective newspaper management
 - (D) The role of the heads of the departments

99. The word 'goal' in the passage means
- (A) aim
 - (B) conclusion
 - (C) result
 - (D) benefit

100. The word 'vital' as used in the context means
- (A) primary
 - (B) important
 - (C) healthy
 - (D) lively