

Practice Set-4

Directions : You have one brief passage with live questions. Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer to each question out of the four alternatives.

Most people who bother with the matter at all would admit that the English language is in a bad way but it is generally assumed that we cannot by conscious action do anything about it. Our civilization is decadent and our language so the argument runs must inevitably share in the general collapse. It follows that any struggle against the abuse of language is a sentimental archaism like preferring cartels to electric light or handsome cabs to aero planes. Underneath this lies the half-conscious belief that language is a natural growth and not an instrument which we shape for our own purposes. Now it is clear that the decline of a language must ultimately have political and economic causes It is not simply due to the bad influence of this or that individual writer. But an effect can become a cause reinforcing the original cause and producing the same effect in an intensified form and so on indefinitely A man may take to drink because he feels himself to be a failure and then fails all the more completely because he drinks. It is rather the same thing that is happening to the English language It becomes ugly and inaccurate because our thoughts are foolish but the slovenliness of our language makes it easier for us to have foolish thoughts. The point is that the process is reversible. Modern English especially written English is full of bad habits which spread by imitation and which can be avoided if one is willing to take the necessary trouble. If one gets rid of these habits one can think more clearly and to think clearly is a necessary first step towards political regeneration so that the fight against bad English is not frivolous and is not the exclusive concern of professional writers.

1. Many people believe that nothing can be done about the English language because

- (a) bad habits spread by imitation.
- (b) we live in a decadent civilization.
- (c) (3) there are too many bad writers.
- (d) people are too lazy to change their bad habits.

Ans:- (B)

2. The author believes that

- (a) it s now too late to do anything about the problem.
- (b) language is a natural growth and cannot be shaped for our own purposes.
- (c) the decline in the language can be stopped.
- (d) the process of an increasingly bad language cannot be stopped.

Ans:- (D)

3. The author believes that the first stage towards the political regeneration of the language would be

- (a) taking the necessary trouble to avoid bad habits.
- (b) avoiding being frivolous about it.
- (c) clear thinking.
- (d) for professional writers to help.

Ans:- (B)

4. The author believes that

- (a) English is becoming ugly.

(b) bad language habits are inevitable.

(c) our thoughts are becoming uglier because we are making the language uglier

(d) our civilization is decadent so nothing can be done to stop the decline of the language.

Ans:- (A)

5. What causes bad language in the end ?

- (a) The bad influence of individual writers.
- (b) The imitation of bad language habits.
- (c) Political and economic causes.
- (d) An assumption that nothing can be done about it.

Ans:- (B)

Directions(6 to 10)- In the following passages there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case.

The World Trade Organisation's Ministerial Conference in Buenos Aires ended in an _____ (6) _____ on Wednesday evening as the US _____ (7) _____ on the commitment to give a permanent solution on public stockholding for developing countries. It also _____ (8) _____ to any reference to the Doha development mandate in the proposed Ministerial Declaration which was something that was not acceptable to India and many other countries. New Delhi, however, said that it managed to _____ (9) _____ all its defensive interests. "The US position on a permanent solution led to a _____ (10) _____ of the agriculture negotiations. When there could be no agreement on agriculture, the possibility of an overall declaration also declined. But our food security remains protected as the peace clause is intact," a government official told Business Line.

1. (a) impasse (b) extolling (c) ply (d) disaster

Ans:- (A)

2. (a) damaged (b) reneged (c) degraded (d) upgraded

Ans:- (B)

3. (a) dejected (b) ejected (c) rejected (d) objected

Ans:- (D)

4. (a) provide (b) supply (c) protect (d) present

Ans:- (C)

5. (a) rest (b) game (c) collapse (d) rise

Ans:- (C)

Cloze Test – ABDCC

11. In the following question, out of the four alternatives, choose the word which best expresses the meaning of the given word and click the button corresponding to it.

ABORTIVE

- (a) PLENTIFUL
- (b) LAWFUL
- (c) UNSUCCESSFUL
- (d) FRUITFUL

Answer. (c) UNSUCCESSFUL(FUTILE,USELESS)

‘PLENTIFUL-AMPLE,RICH’

12. In the following question, out of the four alternatives, choose the word which is opposite in meaning to the given word and click the button corresponding to it.

IRASCIBLE

- (a) CRANKY
- (b) CHOLERIC
- (c) AMIABLE
- (d) WASPISH

Answer : (c) AMIABLE (PLEASANT, CHEERFUL, PLACID),
(‘Irascible-unpleasant, Choleric;/ Cranky-irritable;/
Waspish-Bristly, irritable)

13. Four words are given, out of which only one word is spelt correctly. Choose the correctly spelt word and click the button corresponding to it.
- (a) Thoroughly (b) Thoroughly
(c) Thoroghoully (d) Thorougholy

Answer : (b) Thoroughly

14. In the following question, one part of the sentence may have an error. Find out which part of the sentence has an error and click the button corresponding to it. If the sentence is free error, click the “No error” option.
The teacher prevented (a)/ the boys (b)/ to go there (c)/ No error (d)

Answer : (c) Use ‘from going’ in place of ‘to go’ [Prevent is followed by an object+from+gerund]

(Question: 15 to 16) The sentences given with blanks are to be filled with an appropriate word(s). Four alternatives are suggested for each question. For each question, choose the correct alternative and click the button corresponding to it.

15. He has no recommendations he will _____, get the job.
- (a) however (b) whatsoever
(c) whereas (d) whatever

Answer : (a) however

16. Leaves _____ in autumn.
- (a) fall down (b) fall of
(c) fall on (d) fall off

Answer : (d) fall off

(Questions 17 to 19) In each of the questions, four alternatives are given for the Idiom/Phrase. Choose the alternative which best expresses the meaning of the Idiom/Phrase and click the button corresponding to it.

17. A cuckoo in the nest
- (a) One who likes to stay at home
(b) A view from a high place
(c) An unwelcome intruder
(d) One who is chosen as the leader of the group

Answer : (c) An unwelcome intruder

18. A house of cards
- (a) An insecure scheme
(b) A gambling house
(c) A plan with high stakes
(d) A place where cards are printed

Answer : (a) An insecure scheme

19. To smell a rat
- (a) To see signs of plague epidemic
(b) To get the bad smell of a dead rat
(c) To suspect foul dealings
(d) To be in a bad mood

Answer : (c) To suspect foul dealings

(Questions 20 to 21) Out of the four alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given words/ sentences and click the button corresponding to it.

20. Interval between two events
- (a) Recess (b) Interlude

- (c) Shuttle (d) Prelude

Answer : (b) Interlude

21. A person’s peculiar habit
- (a) Peculiarity (b) Trait
(c) Distinction (d) Idiosyncrasy

Answer : (d) Idiosyncrasy

[Distinction- a distinguishing quality/ eminence; peculiarity- speciality]

(Question : 22 to 25) A sentence / a part of the sentence is underlined. Four alternatives are given to the underlined part which will improve the sentence. Choose the correct alternative and click the button corresponding to it. In case no improvement is needed, click the button corresponding to “No improvement”.

22. The priest told the devotees that the wages of sin are death.
- (a) was (b) is (c) were (d) No improvement

Answer : (b) is

[Singular helping verb is used after these nouns like- News/Gallows/Summons/Wages etc...]

23. Careful drivers never take eyes of the road.
- (a) by (b) from (c) off (d) No improvement

Answer : (c) Off

[Takes eyes off means – ‘when you take your eyes off the thing you have been watching or looking at, you stop looking at it.]

24. For all his wealth, he has no joy in life.
- (a) with (b) Beside
(c) Depite of (d) No improvement

Answer : (a) Use ‘with’ in place of ‘for’. [Despite can be used but ‘of’ is after ‘despite’ so we can not used ‘option(c) despite of’]

25. The teacher asked him where did he live?
- (a) he has been living
(b) he lives
(c) he lived
(d) No improvement

Answer : (c) he lived