

General English
(Exam Held on 4-3-2012)

Directions—(Q. 1 to 10) In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage, against each, five words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case.

Once upon a time there was a river. He was ...(1)... unfriendly. The river lived alone, and refused to share his water with any fish, plant or animal. Thus his life went on, sadly and filled with loneliness, for many centuries.

One day, a little girl with a fish bowl came to the bank of this river. In the bowl lived Scamp, her favourite little fish. The girl was about to ...(2)... to another country, and she wouldn't be able to take Scamp with her. So she had decided to give Scamp his freedom.

When Scamp ...(3)... into the river, he immediately felt the river's loneliness. He tried talking to the river, but the river asked him to go away. Scamp was a very happy little fish, and he wasn't going to give up so ...(4)... He spoke to the river again, swam here and there, and finally he started jumping in and ...(5)... of the water. The river felt tickled by all the jumping and splashing and ...(6)... laughing. After a while, this put the river in such a good mood that he started talking to Scamp. Almost without knowing it, by the end of that day, Scamp and the river and become very good friends.

The river spent that night ...(7)... about how much fun it was to have friends, and how much he had missed not having them. He asked himself why he had never had them, but he couldn't remember. The next morning, Scamp ...(8)... the river with a few playful splashes and that was when the river remembered why he had decided to be such an unfriendly river. He remembered that he didn't like being tickled. He remembered perfectly how he had told everyone to scoot and that he wasn't going to ...(9)... up with all that tickling.

But, remembering how sad and lonely he had felt for so many years, the river realised that although it may sometimes be a bit inconvenient or uncomfortable, it was always ...(10)... to have friends, than being lonely.

1. (A) so (B) total (C) very (D) extreme (E) full
Ans : (C)

2. (A) move (B) goes (C) visit (D) transferred (E) toured
Ans : (A)

3. (A) jump (B) fell (C) look (D) dives (E) slip
Ans : (B)

4. (A) long (B) sooner (C) nicely (D) easily (E) lazily
Ans : (D)

5. (A) in (B) beside (C) out (D) below (E) away

Ans : (C)

6. (A) stopped (B) started (C) felt (D) thought (E) heard

Ans : (B)

7. (A) forgetting (B) discuss (C) ignoring (D) thinking (E) gazing

Ans : (D)

8. (A) slept (B) woke (C) talked (D) irritate (E) splash

Ans : (C)

9. (A) live (B) stand (C) sit (D) light (E) put

Ans : (A)

10. (A) better (B) worse (C) sad (D) easy (E) happy

Ans : (A)

Directions—(Q. 11 to 15) Each sentence below has a blank, each blank indicating that something has been omitted. Choose the word that best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

11. Meeta many gifts on her birthday.

(A) get (B) pick (C) received (D) seen (E) have

Ans : (C)

12. Please the website for all the updates.

(A) browsed (B) check (C) surfing (D) think (E) hacked

Ans : (B)

13. The garden was of flowers of different kinds.

(A) full (B) grow (C) crowd (D) held (E) smell

Ans : (A)

14. They have us to find another alternative.

(A) tell (B) spoken (C) ask (D) advised (E) help

Ans : (D)

15. Pratik was for a bus.

(A) thinking (B) waiting (C) telling (D) reaching (E) jumping

Ans : (B)

Directions—(Q. 16 to 25) Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical error or idiomatic error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number of that part is the answer. If there is No Error the answer is 'E'. (Ignore errors of punctuation if any).

16. Meghalaya is (A) / also one of (B) / the north-eastern states (C) / of our country. (D) No error (E)

Ans : (E)

17. Santosh has volunteered (A) / to help in organising (B) / the Republic Day function (C) / about his locality. (D) No error (E)

Ans : (D)

18. The actor's friends (A) / and family had (B) / decided to throw a

(C) / surprise party for him. (D) No error (E)
Ans : (E)

19. Health experts since all (A) / over the country were (B) / invited to attend the (C) / conference in the city. (D) No error (E)
Ans : (A)

20. They had (A) / to mortgage their (B) / house in order to (C) / bear these expenses. (D) No error (E)
Ans : (E)

21. They had informed (A) / us that their (B) / Chennai trip was (C) / cancel due to the strike. (D) No error (E)
Ans : (D)

22. All the students (A) / had to attend for the (B) / industrial visit as (C) / it was compulsory. (D) No error (E)
Ans : (B)

23. The king was (A) / amused by the (B) / jester's response (C) / to his question. (D) No error (E)
Ans : (D)

24. The boy was (A) / accused of stealing (B) / money as well goods (C) / from the shop. (D) No error (E)
Ans : (C)

25. She was be asked to (A) / write a report about (B) / the meeting that (C) / she attended yesterday. (D) No error (E)
Ans : (A)

Directions—(Q. 26 to 30) In each question below, four words printed in bold type are given. These are lettered (A), (B), (C) and (D). One of these words printed in bold may either be wrongly spelt or inappropriate in the context of the sentence. Find out the word that is inappropriate or wrongly spelt, if any. The number of that word is your answer. If all the words printed in bold are correctly spelt and appropriate in the context of the sentence then mark (E) i.e., 'All correct as your answer.'

26. She has presented (A) her views (B) in a very unique (C) fashion. (D) All correct (E)
Ans : (E)

27. She misplaced (A) the book before (B) she could (C) reed (D) it. All correct (E)
Ans : (D)

28. There were more (A) than five thousand (B) people (C) in the auditorium. (D) All correct (E)
Ans : (B)

29. He has won many awards (A) for his research (B) in the field (C) of economics. (D) All correct (E)
Ans : (D)

30. Dadar is none (A) of the most (B) populated areas (C) in Mumbai city. (D) All correct (E)

Ans : (A)

Directions—(Q. 31 to 35) Rearrange the following six sentences (1), (2), (3), (4), (5) and (6) in proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph then answer the questions given below them.

(1) "Why waste time sharpening your weapons when there's no danger in sight ?" said the fox, "You're being foolish".

(2) A wild boar was sharpening his tusks against a tree.

(3) "My tusks are my weapons," said the boar, "I am sharpening them so that I can defend myself from any danger."

(4) Frightened by the boar's sharpened tusks, he turned towards the fox instead and preyed on him.

(5) A fox passing by, asked him what he was doing.

(6) Just then a tiger appeared on the scene.

31. Which of the following should be the first sentence in the rearrangement ?

(A) 6 (B) 1 (C) 3 (D) 4 (E) 2

Ans : (E)

32. Which of the following should be the second sentence in the rearrangement ?

(A) 5 (B) 2 (C) 6 (D) 4 (E) 1

Ans : (A)

33. Which of the following should be the fourth sentence in the rearrangement ?

(A) 6 (B) 5 (C) 2 (D) 3 (E) 1

Ans : (E)

34. Which of the following should be the fifth sentence in the rearrangement ?

(A) 3 (B) 6 (C) 4 (D) 1 (E) 5

Ans : (B)

35. Which of the following should be the last (sixth) sentence in the rearrangement ?

(A) 2 (B) 3 (C) 4 (D) 1 (E) 6

Ans : (C)

Directions—(Q. 36 to 50) Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words / phrases have been printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

A man called Ramaya lived in a small village. Despite being a nice man, he did not have any friends. It was well known in the town that anyone unfortunate enough to look at him first thing in the morning would not be able to have food that day. That was why no one in the town liked encountering Ramaya in the morning, if they could help it. As soon as the king heard this rumour he decided to try it out himself.

He summoned Ramaya to the palace and ordered him to sleep in a room adjacent to his bedchamber. Ramaya had no choice but to follow the king's order. He feared that the rumour would come true. The next morning, the first thing the king did after waking up, was to take a look at Ramaya. When the king reached the breakfast table, he saw that

the royal chef had forgotten to prepare his favourite dish. This angered him and he refused to have breakfast. After finishing a few important duties in the court, the king went to the dining hall for lunch. The food arrived piping hot. The king had hardly picked up the first morsel when he caught sight of a fly in the food. He left the table in disgust and when the food was prepared again for him, he found that he had lost his appetite. At the dinner table, an ignorant minister started eating before the king had started. This offended the king. He stormed out of the dining hall and refused to come back. As a result, the king could not eat anything at all that day. The enraged king was now convinced that Ramaya was really jinxed. He ordered that Ramaya be hanged. In those days the king's word was the law. The soldiers had no option but to take Ramaya to the gallows. While on their way to the gallows, they met the court jester. He heard the story from Ramaya. The jester felt that it was an unfair decision and that none of this was Ramaya's fault. He came up with a plan to save Ramaya from being hanged. He whispered something in Ramaya's ears. Ramaya nodded before being whisked away.

It was mandatory to grant one last wish to the person who was being hanged. When the soldiers asked Ramaya about his last wish, he asked them to convey a message to the king. He also requested that he be hanged only after hearing the king's response. "Tell the king that while it may be true that anyone who sees my face first thing in the morning does not get anything to eat that day, it's also true that if anyone sees the king's face first thing in the morning, as I did, he has to lose his life. So who's the greater jinx - the king or I ?" said Ramaya.

On hearing the message, the king was stunned. He realised his foolishness and ordered his soldiers to stop the execution. He summoned Ramaya and offered him gifts. He also requested Ramaya not to say anything about the incident to the public. He was sure that the people of the village wouldn't take well to the idea of having a jinxed person for a ruler. Ramaya agreed. When the villagers saw Ramaya returning with the gifts, they assumed that the rumour was false and that the king had given the gifts to Ramaya as compensation. They were ashamed of their behaviour and swore that they would never ignore Ramaya.

36. Why had the king summoned Ramaya ?

- (A) He wanted to have Ramaya executed
 - (B) He wanted all the villagers to realize their mistake and be friends with Ramaya
 - (C) He wanted to test the court jester's intelligence
 - (D) He wanted to see Ramaya's face, the first thing every morning
 - (E) He wanted to verify whether the rumour about Ramaya was true or false
- Ans : (E)

37. According to the rumour, what would happen if someone saw Ramaya's face, first thing in the morning ?

- (A) That person would not get a chance to eat, the whole day
- (B) That person would be executed by the king
- (C) That person would eat the whole day
- (D) That person would receive gifts from the king
- (E) That person would become an outcast in the village

Ans : (A)

38. Why did the king refuse to eat breakfast ?

- (A) The king had seen Ramaya's face, first thing in the morning
- (B) The royal chef had forgotten to cook the king's favourite dish
- (C) The royal chef had forgotten to prepare Ramaya's favourite dish
- (D) One of the ministers had insulted the king at the breakfast table
- (E) The king was on a diet

Ans : (D)

39. What did the king do when he caught sight of a fly in the food during lunch ?

- (A) He ignored it and finished the lunch
- (B) He fired the chef and asked him to throw the food
- (C) He simply left the dining hall in disgust
- (D) He ordered his soldiers to kill Ramaya
- (E) He asked his ministers to cook another meal

Ans : (C)

40. When was the king convinced that Ramaya was jinxed ?

- (A) When he realised that he had not eaten the whole day after he had seen Ramaya's face the first thing in the morning
- (B) When he realised that each time he saw Ramaya, he fell sick
- (C) When he heard the rumour that anyone who saw Ramaya's face first thing in the morning would not get a chance to eat the whole day
- (D) When he saw that the chef had not prepared his favourite dish on the day he had seen Ramaya's face the first thing in the morning
- (E) When the soldiers went to him with Ramaya's final wish

Ans : (A)

41. Which of the following is true according to the given passage ?

- (A) Ramaya had many friends in the village
- (B) The king had dinner on the day he saw Ramaya's face first thing in the morning
- (C) Ramaya told the villagers that the king was jinxed
- (D) One of the ministers had started eating before the king during dinner
- (E) None is true

Ans : (D)

42. Arrange the following incidents in a chronological order as they occurred in the passage.

- (1) The court jester met Ramaya
 - (2) Ramaya received gifts from the king
 - (3) Ramaya slept at the palace
 - (4) The villagers realised their mistake
- (A) 1324 (B) 3214 (C) 3241 (D) 3142 (E) 3124

Ans : (E)

43. What was Ramaya's last wish ?

- (A) He wanted to have a meal with the king
- (B) He wanted to talk to the court jester
- (C) He wanted to pass on a message to the king
- (D) He wanted to speak to a minister
- (E) Not mentioned in the passage

Ans : (C)

44. What was the king's request to Ramaya ?

- (A) That Ramaya must accept that he is unlucky
 - (B) That Ramaya must tell the villagers that the king is very kind
 - (C) That Ramaya must not tell the villagers that a minister had insulted the king
 - (D) That Ramaya must not tell the villagers about the incident
 - (E) That Ramaya must not tell anyone about the gifts he had received
- Ans : (D)

45. Who helped save Ramaya from being hanged ?

- (A) The court jester
 - (B) The king
 - (C) The soldiers
 - (D) The villagers
 - (E) The chef
- Ans : (A)

Directions—(Q. 46 to 48) Choose the word/group of words which is most similar in the meaning to the word/group of words printed in bold as used in the passage.

46. Adjacent to

- (A) Far away (B) Beside (C) Opposite to (D) Same as (E) Below
- Ans : (B)

47. Caught sight of

- (A) Searched for (B) Forgot about (C) Suddenly noticed (D) Held (E) Nabbed
- Ans : (C)

48. Unfair

- (A) Dark (B) Unhappy (C) Unaware (D) Unreasonable (E) Rational
- Ans : (D)

Directions—(Q. 49 and 50) Choose the word/group of words which is most opposite in meaning to the word/group of words printed in bold as used in the passage.

49. Refused

- (A) Unused (B) Remembered (C) Agreed (D) Invited (E) Declined
- Ans : (B)

50. Ordered

- (A) Requested (B) Unplanned (C) Punished (D) Silenced (E) Explained
- Ans : (A)