

English Proficiency

General Vocabulary

Check Your Concepts

Q.1. Match the following:

Directions: Given below are two columns - column I and column II. Match the two columns and write the correct answer in the given blank grid.

1. Match the following:

Column – I (Word)		Column – II (Synonyms)	
(A)	Cognitive	(i)	avoid
(B)	Eschew	(ii)	deserted
(C)	Aphorism	(iii)	bewilder
(D)	Aegis	(iv)	knowledge
(E)	Callous	(v)	permanent
(F)	Bemuse	(vi)	avoiding
(G)	Forlorn	(vii)	protection
(H)	Evasive	(viii)	frankness
(I)	Candour	(ix)	wise saying
(J)	Indelible	(x)	insensitive

2. Match the following:

Column – I (Word)		Column – II (Synonyms)	
(A)	Retrospect	(i)	dull
(B)	Aboriginal	(ii)	strong desire
(C)	Monotonous	(iii)	pacify
(D)	Tenable	(iv)	looking back
(E)	Cupidity	(v)	poor
(F)	Retaliation	(vi)	slaughter
(G)	Forestall	(vii)	repayment in kind
(H)	Mollify	(viii)	defensible
(I)	Penurious	(ix)	primitive
(J)	Decimate	(x)	prevent

3. Match the following:

Column – I (Word)		Column – II (Synonyms)	
(A)	Alacrity	(i)	Love
(B)	Relinquish	(ii)	Aggravate
(C)	Adamant	(iii)	Claim
(D)	Alleviate	(iv)	Lawful
(E)	Astute	(v)	Slowness
(F)	Proximity	(vi)	Colossal
(G)	Impertinent	(vii)	Absurd
(H)	Illicit	(viii)	Remoteness
(I)	Infinitesimal	(ix)	Respectful
(J)	Abominate	(x)	Yielding

4. Match the following:

Column – I (Word)		Column – II (Synonyms)	
(A)	Tender	(i)	Extravagance
(B)	Allure	(ii)	Faulty
(C)	Frugality	(iii)	Repel
(D)	Impeccable	(iv)	Hindrance
(E)	Ephemeral	(v)	Retract
(F)	Accumulate	(vi)	Noble
(G)	Vigilant	(vii)	Everlasting
(H)	Succour	(viii)	Squander
(I)	Heinous	(ix)	Unwary
(J)	Propitious	(x)	Unfavourable

Q.2. Prefix/Suffix:

Directions: A prefix is an affix which is placed before the stem of a word. Particularly in the study of Semitic languages, a prefix is called a preformative, because it alters the form of the words to which it is affixed. A suffix is an affix which is placed after the stem of a word. Particularly in the study of Semitic languages, a suffix is called an afformative, as they can alter the form of the words to which they are fixed.

1. Given below are certain Prefixes / Suffixes. Write their meanings and provide at least 2 example words for each of them.

Prefix/ Suffix	Meanings	Example Words
Aqua, aqua		
chrom-		
chron-		
crac, crat		
demo-		
geo-		
scrib, script		
theo		
vac		
-cide		
-phobia		

Q.3. Fill in the blanks:

Directions: Complete the following statements with an appropriate word / term to be filled in the blank space(s).

A. Fill in the blanks with the most suitable words provided in the box.

languish	surfeit	exonerate	abeyance	oblivious
credence	relinquish	frivolous	conducive	bolster

1. It requires to keep the reservoir empty during the monsoon month to deal with an anticipated _____ of water.
2. This does not however _____ the Pakistan government from blame.
3. Most of the fundamental rights fell into _____ after imposition of emergency.
4. She appears to be completely _____ of the subtleties of Indian politics.
5. The atmosphere in India was not _____ to research work as it was polluted with politics.
6. If he felt that the charges were _____ he could file a suit of damage against them.
7. The people were being told that a free market would _____ the economy and help them develop fast.

8. A government that has once armed itself with extraordinary powers, is far likely to _____ them.
9. A large number of innocent victims continue to _____ behind bars.
10. Indian press did not put _____ to the British publicity.

B. Fill in the blanks with the most suitable words provided in the box.

<i>treason</i>	<i>insinuation</i>	<i>parsimonius</i>	<i>mingle</i>	<i>mortified</i>
<i>Untoward</i>	<i>recuperating</i>	<i>transiency</i>	<i>piquant</i>	<i>garnering</i>

1. So a _____ situation arose in which the state government was spying on its own cabinet ministers.
2. When life's _____ and frailty are ommipresent what we have grows sweeter.
3. He made an astounding _____ that I could be bought by money.
4. He has been lodged in maximum security prison, on charges of high _____.
5. He is _____ from the strains of a heart attack, which left him bed ridden till recently.
6. He began the vote gathering exercise well in advance through a series of meetings aimed at _____ the support of various groups.
7. Despite the _____ incident, the role of Indian peacekeepers has been lauded.
8. She let no one in her immediate circle, to see how _____ she was by the frustation of her hopes.
9. All my life I have wanted to _____ with strangers who could widen my interests.
10. She was a hard, cruel, managing, ambitious _____ and stupid woman.

Q.4. Multiple choice questions:

Directions: Pick out the nearest correct meaning or synonym of the words given below:

1. LOQUACIOUS
(a) Victorian (b) bombastic (c) verbose (d) ambiguous
2. BEQUEST
(a) Parsimony (b) matrimony (c) heritage (d) patrimony
3. TRAVERSE
(a) mingle (b) frustrate (c) take (d) cross

4. Which of the following words has same meaning as RIVALRY?
(a) Competition (b) Cooperation (c) Compromise (d) Campaign.
5. Which of the following words has same meaning as APPEASE?
(a) Agitate (b) Pacify (c) Qualify (d) Interrupt.
6. Which of the following has opposite meaning to VENGEFUL?
(a) Forgiving (b) Revenge (c) Vindictive (d) Vicious.
7. Which of the following has opposite meaning to SUBLIME?
(a) Base (b) Coincide (c) Partial (d) Insist

Directions: Pick out the antonym of the words given below:

8. ACCOLADE
(a) balcony (b) outer garment (c) drink (d) criticism
9. PROCLAIM
(a) denounce (b) pretend (c) attend (d) distend
10. FEIGN
(a) condone (b) attend (c) willing (d) original
11. LUMINOUS
(a) dark (b) ludicrous (c) unsteady (d) provoking
12. NAIVE
(a) subtle (b) energise (c) spotless (d) clever

Directions: Each question has four items. Select the item that does not belong to the group.

13. (a) buxom (b) plump (c) chubby (d) obscene
14. (a) cajole (b) coax (c) wheedle (d) laconic

15. (a) renovate (b) flourish (c) thrive (d) blossom
16. (a) bluffer (b) notorious (c) imposter (d) fraud
17. (a) bizarre (b) fantastic (c) extravagant (d) tentative
18. (a) illegible (b) indecipherable (c) unintelligible (d) illiterate
19. (a) expedition (b) campaign (c) crusade (d) cruise

Directions: Select a single word which means most nearly the same as the given phrase.

20. One who hates the institution of marriage:
(a) misogynist (b) misanthrope (c) philanthropy (d) misogynist
21. Next month
(a) ultimo (b) instant (c) praximo (d) pronto
22. A theft from the works of the others
(a) fusion (b) truism (c) plagiarism (d) calibre
23. Interesting narrator of stories
(a) novelist (b) broadcaster (c) raconteur (d) orator
24. Genocide based on race or religion
(a) apartheid (b) segregation (c) animism (d) pogrom

Q.5. Cloze Test:

Directions: Complete the following paragraphs with appropriate words/ terms which are listed just above the paragraph.

A. Pity, intelligent, puzzled, touched, plucked

An ant was being carried along the current. It was trying to reach the bank but was _____. A parrot sitting in a tree on the bank was watching all this. It took _____ on the ant. It _____ a leaf from the tree and dropped it close to the ant. The ant climbed on to the leaf. After sometime the leaf _____ the bank. In this way, the life of the ant was saved. Really the parrot was both kind and _____.

B. *fine, learned, bond, practical; joy, investment, voiced, mistaking, initial, special*

I quickly _____ that even for _____ country folk, some animals are more than _____. The _____ between humans and their pets is a _____ one. There was no _____ the pain in that man's eye when I _____ Queenie's _____ diagnosis, or the _____ in his voice weeks later, when he told me she was doing _____.