

SELECTING WORDS

An important subsection of English Language section of CDS Examination is 'Selecting Words for blank spaces in a passage'. Another name for such a test is 'cloze test' which is an exercise where the candidates are provided with a passage which has certain words missing from it. It follows logically that to ace such an assessment, candidates must have a strong command over English language, along with a flair for grammar and a good vocabulary. This subsection is a highly scoring part of English Language section of CDS examination and if it is mastered, with lots of practice, it can help you in fetching 100% marks in this subsection. More importantly, it is important to understand the flow and context of the passage. While 'selecting words questions' in CDS examination are considered by many to be the toughest question type in the paper, there are some simple tips and tricks to solving these questions.

1. Review the options first

The answer gives you three choices. Usually there is confusion between 2 options and one option is almost close to the answer. Avoid answering questions where you are unaware of the meanings of words used in the options.

2. Read through the given paragraph thoroughly

The best way to tackle these questions is to read the passage thoroughly before attempting to fill in the blanks. This would give you a reasonable idea of the message/main idea of the passage. Keeping this message in the background of your mind, choosing the best possible word from the set of given answer choices becomes easier.

3. Think like the author

Understand the tone of the passage and answer the questions based on the opinion of the author. Don't enforce your own opinion while filling the blanks. You might end up choosing the antonym of the word that was actually the answer.

4. Sentences are interconnected in a passage

Always link the sentences together. If you fill in the blanks by treating the sentence as an individual sentence there are high chances that you will make mistakes. Logically link up the sentences together and you will be able to insert perfect words in the blanks.

5. Eliminate the improbable answers one by one

There are times when one can easily spot an answer. But, if you are not able to spot the answer easily then eliminate the doubtful option one by one and reach at the correct answer.

6. Fill in the blanks on the basis of commonly used phrases

It is possible at times that you are not able to decide between two close words. Here, if you see a word in the options that is more often used with the words just around the blanks, in this case pick up that option.

Example:

Tens of thousands of demonstrators in Malaysia defied police orders on Saturday, massing in the capital in a _____ of anger at the government of Prime Minister Najib Razak, who has been accused of corruption involving hundreds of millions of dollars.

- (a) Show
- (b) Display
- (c) Expression

Explanation:

Answer is display. We use some words more frequently with some others. 'Display' fits in the sentence most appropriately. You cannot use the word 'expression' here as E is a vowel and you have to insert 'an' before a vowel. 'Show of anger' is not incorrect but 'display of anger' is commonly used. Thus the answer is display.

7. Type of word suitable to fill in the blank

Read the sentences carefully and assess as to what type of words need to be filled in. It could be a noun, a verb, an adverb, an article, conjunction or a preposition. You will know this if the base of your Grammar is strong. This will help you quickly eliminate unsuitable options.

Example:

Finance minister said on Tuesday that India will be _____ the lesser impacted economies because of the global economic turnoil.

- (a) in
- (b) among
- (c) known as

Explanation:

By looking at the given sentence, it is clear that the blank will be filled by a preposition. This will eliminate 'known as' and 'in'. Answer is 'among'. B-112 Selecting Words

8. Go with Frequently Used Words

Sometimes, you may not be able to decide between two words. In this case, if you see a word in the options that is frequently used with the words around the blank, then pick that option.

Example:

Can I have a word with you?

- (a) Swift
- (b) Quick
- (c) Prompt

Explanation:

Sometimes in English, some words are used more frequently with some others. Like 'bad habit', 'hardly ever', 'happy ending', 'take a seat', 'make room', etc. In the same way, the words 'quick' and 'word' are used together frequently. So 'quick' should be your answer in this case.

9. Check Tone

The passage is usually written in a certain tone; sometimes narrative, sometimes critical, sometimes humorous. Pick words that fit in with the tone of the passage.

Example:

Jonah ____ down the stairs, bumping along like a quarter in a tumbling dryer.

- (a) Tumbled
- (b) Fell
- (c) dropped

Explanation:

Clearly, you can use either 'tumbled' or 'fell' in this blank. But the rest of the sentence is written in a humorous vein. So we try to maintain the tone of the sentence. This is best accomplished by the use of the word 'tumbled' as it brings to mind images of people falling funnily.

10. Reading helps develop linguistic skills

Reading helps in building language skills. We recommend you to read as much as possible as it will hone your overall English language skills. This way you will be better able to answer vocabulary questions. It will inculcate in you the judgment of what word will go where. Linguistic skills can also be strengthened when you put in effort to build your grammar. A person who learns basic grammar minutely will never fail in answering a cloze test question accurately.

11. Do a lot of Practice

In the end, there is no substitute for hard work and practice. Try to complete three to four passages each day while preparing and get an insight into your problem areas. Work on them and go deliver your best. This will give you a head start in 'selecting words questions' in CDS examination.

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EXERCISE

Directions (Qs. 1-45): In the following passages. There are blanks each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each three words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case.

PASSAGE-1

Gandhiji once said, "I would say that if the village perishes, India will perish too. India will be 1 more India. Her own mission in the world will get 2. The 3 of the village is possible only when it is no more 4. Industrialisation on a mass scale will 5 lead to passive or active exploitation of the villagers as the problem 6 competition and marketing come in. Therefore, we have to 7 on the village being self-contained, manufacturing mainly, for use. Provided this character of the village industry is 8 there would be no objection to villagers using even the modern machines and tools that they can make and 9 to use. Only, they 10 not be used as a means of exploitation of others."

- (a) certainly 1.
- (b) scarcely
- (c) no
- (a) 2. lost
- extension
- elevated
- rehabilitation 3. (a)
- pruning
- (c) revival
- denuded 4.
- exploited
- contaminated
- passionately 5. (a)
- (b) surprisingly
- necessarily forming
- of (c)
- (b) enhancing

6.

8.

- 7. concentrate
- (b) ponder
- imagine (c) regained
- maintained

(a)

- (b) neglected
- prepare (a)
- 9.
- (b) afford
- hesitate
- 10. (a) can
- (b) could
- should (c)

PASSAGE-2

The tea plant, a native of Southern China, was known 11 very early times in Chinese botany and medicine. It is 12 in the classics 13 the various names of Tou, Tseh, Chung, Kha and Ming and was 14 praised for possessing the virtues of 15 fatigue, delighting the soul, strengthening the will and repairing the eyesight. It was not only administered as an internal dose, but often 16 externally in the form of paste to 17 rheumatic pains. The Taoists claimed it 18 an important 19 of the elixir of

immortality. The Buddhists used it extensively to prevent drowsiness during 20 long hours of meditation.

- 11. (a) to
- (b) after
- from (c)
- 12 (a) taken
- (b) resorted
- awarded (c)
- under 13. (a)
- (b) between
- (c) among
- 14. (a) rarely
- (b) loosely
- highly
- absorbing 15. (a)
- (b) relieving
- avoiding
- inserted (a)
- developed
- applied (c)
- recuperate 17. (a)
- alleviate
- conceal
- 18. (a) to

16.

- also (b)
- (c) as
- ingredient 19. (a)
- aspect (b)
- offshoot (c)
- 20. (a) that
- (b) these
- (c) their

PASSAGE-3

The most attractive and unique feature of crossword puzzle is that it is a game one can play alone. There are several kinds of crossword puzzles. One kind is the prize competition in which the (21) who finds the correct answer gets a big prize (22) the answers are very hard to find, since several (23) appear equally appropriate: bad, mad or sad, for (24) in the clue sentence, "people are seldom popular" Such (25) attract people who are fond of gambling, because by (26) a small entry fee, they can win big prizes. The (27) type of crossword puzzle is one in which (28) is only one possible answer to every clue. But (29) answer is elusive and calls for some detective work (30) our part. The clue gives only hints about the word . A (31) like' mate changes to flesh for food I (32) elude you till you realise that by changing the (33) of I mate' you getr ' meat ' your comprehension and your (34) knowledge are put to the test. The effort to (35) such crosswords is an intellectual exercise.

- 21. (a) persons
- (b) person
- (c) actor
- although **22.** (a)
- though
- (c) but
- words **23.** (a)
- letters
- alphabets

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illustration assumption, (b) 24. (a) example (c) competitions puzzles (a) 25. (c) races (a) paying buying (b) 26. giving (c) another second (a) (b) 27. (c) two 28. (a) their (b) this there (c) this 29. (a) (b) an (c) any in 30. (a) (b) on upon (c) (a) word clue 31. (b) puzzle (c) did shall (a) (b) 32. will (c) words spelling (a) 33. lettering (c) overall (a) common sense 34. general (c) think of solve (a) 35. dissolve (c)

PASSAGE-4

Women have (36) made (37) in the corporate workplace but certainly not as much as they had (38) We have new laws, rules and (39) relating to women in the workplace, but what we have not changed much is the male (40) Women have fallen short in their goals because we (41) the potency of the male need to (42) their power. We can abide (43) by the laws and rules we create in order to (44) women an equal opportunity in the corporate workplace and still not (55) the problems that afflicted and eventually capsized the women's raft.

- 36. (a) perhaps (b) seldom (c) undoubtedly efforts (a) progress 37. (c) attempts prescribed (a) predisposed 38. (c) expected (a) activities cases 39. policies hatred (a) (b) patterns 40. (c) behaviour (a) retaliate (b) respect 41.
- (c) risk
- (a) maintain know 42. (b) absolve
- partially occasionally 43. excessively

44. (a) share

(b) deny

assure (c)

(b) mentioned overcome 45. (a)

> judge (c)

DIRECTIONS (Qs. 46-65): In the following passage at certain points you are given a choice of three words, one of which fits the meaning of the passage. Choose the best word. Mark the letter, viz. (a), (b) or (c) relating to this word on your Answer Sheet.

PASSAGE-5

We know that the average depth of the sea is about two and a half miles, but in a few places it is very deep indeed-over six miles. The air presses upon our bodies with a weight of about fifteen pounds to the square inch at 46. (a) sea-water/ (b) sealevel/(c) sea-bed We are used to this air pressure 47. (a) do/(b) did/(c) does not notice it. In the sea this 48. (a) weight/(b) volume/ (c) pressure is doubled at a depth of thirty-five feet, and it 49. (a) expands/ (b) decreases/ (c) increases at this rate for greater depths. In the great deeps 50. (a) off/ (b) of/ (c) on the Philippine Islands, a man would be squeezed and utterly crushed by a pressure of 51. (a) severe / (b) several/ (c) sheer tons per square inch. The pressure near the ocean floor is 52. (a) such/ (b) not/(c) so great that if you were to weigh a piece of wood and 53. (a) measure/ (b) follow/ (c) lower it to a great depth and then pull it 54. (a) up/(b) off/(c) down again it would no longer float, 55. (a) but/ (b) for/ (c) when it would have become waterlogged. All the tiny wood cells and cavities 56. (a) should/ (b) could/ (c) would have burst and become filled with water 57. (a) know/(b) have known/ (c) are knowing that animals live at a depth of three miles and more and we wonder 58. (a) why/ (b) how/ (c) what this can be. This bodies of animals down 59. (a) here/ (b) where/ (c) there are almost entirely filled with water, and 60. (a) this/(b) these/(c) thus saves them from being crushed. However, many of 61. (a) such/ (b) those/ (c) there animals contain some gases as well, for 62. (a) then/ (b) since/ (c) when they are captured in nets and drawn 63. (a) on/ (b) to/ (c) from the surface these gases expand so much that the animal 64. (a) immediately/(b) eventually/ (c) actually explodes. Its body is torn to shreds as it 65. (a) bursts/(b) jumps/(c) lands.

DIRECTIONS (Qs. 66-71): In the following passage at certain points you are given a choice of three words marked (a), (b) and (c), one of which fits the meaning of the passage, Choose the best word out of the three Mark the letter, viz (a), (b) or (c), relating to this word.

PASSAGE-6

After having slept for an hour, Bond decided to go out into the city and try to find his contact. After changing his suit, he carefully locked his room and stepped out of the hotel. No one was around. But he had walked only for a few minutes when it Selecting Words B-115

suddenly 66. (a) felt/ (b) occurred/ (c) happened to him that he was being 67. (a) followed/ (b) shot/ (c) looked by someone. There was really no 68. (a) reason/ (b) cause/ (c) evidence for it except a very slight 69. (a) weight/ (b) sound./ (c) hurting. of footsteps. He was now walking 70. (a) from/ (b) down/ (c) over the main street, which was crowded 71. (a) with/ (b) by/ (c) in people. He became extremely aware of the danger of people threatening him.

DIRECTIONS (Qs. 72-83): In the following passage at certain points, you are given a choice of three words marked (a), (b) and (c), one of which fits the meaning of the passage. Choose the best word out of the three. Mark the letter, viz., (a), (b) or (c), relating to this word.

PASSAGE-7

Drobny defied the critics. He had played through the Wimbledon fortnight and reached the final. Could he win just one more match and take the crown, or would he fail again at the last test and justify those who said that he lacked that little extra something that makes the champion? His opponent was the Australian Ken Rosewall, 72. (a) that/ (b) a/ (c) the brilliant youngster and already a master 73. (a) with / (b) of/ (c) for world experience behind him. Jaroslav Drobny, 74. (a) a/ (b) that/ (c) the son of a Czech carpenter who 75. (a) had/(b) was/(c) has started the boy off at the 76. (a) age/ stage/ (c) career of five with a wooden 'bat' in lieu 77. (a) for/(b) of/(c) to a racquet, went on 78. (a) to/(b) for/(c) with the famous Centre Court at Wimbledon 79. (a) in/(b) on/(c) that day with the full knowledge that this 80. (a) can/(b) must/(c) would be the game of his 81. (a) life/(b) age/(d) day He had kept on typing, and 82. (a) he/ (b) one/ (c) you could keep on trying, but 83. (a) games/ (b) matches/ (c) opportunities would become fewer and fewer. He knew that he had to gain an advantage from the start, and he had this young rival set off against him.

DIRECTIONS (Qs. 84-103): In the following passage at certain points you are given a choice of three words marked (a), (b) and (c), one of which fits the meaning of the passage. Choose the best word out of the three. Mark the letter, viz., (a), (b) or (c), relating to this word on your Answer Sheet. Examples K and L have been solved for you. (CDS)

K L

The (a) boy was in the school in Shimla, (a) She was home sick.

- (b) horse
- (b) It

(c) dog

(c) He

Explanation: Out of the list given in item K, only. 'boy' is the correct answer because usually, a boy, and not a horse or a dog, attends school. So '(a)' is to be marked on the Answer Sheet for item K. A boy is usually referred to as 'he', so for item L, '(c)' is the correct answer. Notice that to solve the first item K you have to read the rest of the sentence and then see what fits best.

PASSAGE-8

I was engaged in many activities and I wanted a proper reconciliation between activity and thought. Thought without 84 (a) wish is undeveloped thought. Action (b) action / (c) idea without 85 (a) thought / (b) wish / (c) idea is folly. of course we 86(a) never/ (b) belatedly / (c) sometimes act on some impulse or 87(a) peaceful (b) uncontrollable / (c) indisputable urge If suddenly you throw 88 (a) no/(b) an/(c) a brick at me and my 89. (a) hand/(b) wrist/(c) finger goes up in front to 90 (a) stimulate / (b) rescue / (c) protect myself, it is an automatic, 91 (a) uncontrollable / (b) instinctive / (c) impulsive action and not a result 92 (a) to / (b) in / (c) of deliberate thought Our living is 93(a) made / (b) conditioned / (c) developed by a series of automatic 94 (a) thoughts/(b) actions/(c) wishes from morning till night. Anything 95 (a) we / (b) I / (c) they do outside that common range of 96 (a) thoughts/(b) ideas/(c) action however, has to be 97 (a) proceeded / (b) preceded / (c) followed by some measure of thinking. 98 (a) Some/(b) If/(c) The more action and thought are 99 (a) developed / (b) allied / (c) hostile and integrated, the more effective 100 (a) they / (b) thoughts / (c) we become and the happier you 101 (a) appear. / (b) develop / (c) grow There will then be no 102 (a) reconciliation / (b) conflict / (c) inflict between a wish to do something and 103 (a) inability/ (b) probability / (c) Plausibility to act.

DIRECTIONS (Qs. 104-128): In the following passage at certain points you are given a choice of three words marked (a), (b) and (c), one of which its the meaning of the passage. Choose the best word out of the three. Mark the letter, viz., (a), (b) or (c), relating to this word on your Answer Sheet. Examples K and L have been solved for you. [CDS]

K The (a) boy/ (b) horse/ (c) dog was in the school in Shimla.
L (a) She/ (b) It/ (c) He was homesick.

Explanation: Out of the list given in item K, only 'boy' is the correct answer because usually, a boy, and not a horse or a dog, attends school. So'(a)' is to be marked on the Answer Sheet for item K. A boy is usually referred to as 'he', so for item L, '(c)' is the correct answer. Notice that to solve the first item K you have to read the rest of the sentence and then see what fits best.

PASSAGE-9

What 104. (a) can / (b) will / (c) must happen to them after us? This most 105. (a) joyous / (b) distressing / (c) distracting question continually toments the parents of these 106. (a) unethical / (b) unnatural/ (c) unfortunate children. So they are mainly interested in 107. (a) providing / (b) making / (c) giving 108. some kind of vocational training for them. (a) But /(b) Yet /(c) Hence special schools for such children spread all 109. (a) above / (b) under / (c) over the world, lay emphasis 110. (a) However/ (b) Accordingly/ (c) Similarly, on vocational training. They are taught to make paper bags, 111. (a) dubious/ (b) simple / (c) clumsy wall hangings, etc. This, of course is quite 112. (a) agreeable / (b) astute/ (c) additional and admirable. But what about play and 113. (a) sport?/ (b) game?/ (c) grounds?

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PASSAGE-10

Galileo used mathematical calculation as well as observation of nature and was the first astronomer to use a telescope. With an instrument of his own 114. (a) experiment, / (b) construction, / (c) calculation, Galileo observed Jupiter and four of 115. (a) the / (b) their / (c) observations moons, the phases of Venus and the spots on the sun. His 116. (a) observing / (b) observations / (c) observed and calculations confirmed that Copernicus and Kepler were right. He saw 117. (a) by / (b) from / (c) with his own eyes 118. and made other people (a) to see/ (b) see / (c) seeing too that the earth was not the fixed center of 119. (a) an / (b) a/ (c) the universe as Ptolemy had said. Galileo 120. (a) instead/ (b) also/

(c) therefore made some important discoveries in mechanics. He did not 121. (a) as legend says/ (b) as stories say / (c) as people say drop cannon balls from the Leaning Tower of Pisa 122. (a) having proved/ (b) proving / (c) to prove that all bodies fall at the 123. (a) same/ (b) equal / (c) similar speed, but he did roll balls 124. (a) downside/ (b) down over / (c) down a slope to show that the 125. (a) track/ (b) distance/ (c) path a body falls is proportionate 126. (a) to / (b) of/ (c) with the square of the time it takes to fall. Galileo 127. also noticed the regular (a) swings/ (b) swinging / (c) swaying of the lamps in Pisa Cathedral; 128. (a) these / (b) this / (c) those gave him the idea of the pendulum, a device that enabled him to make the clock a scientific instrument for the first time.

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45.

(a)

(c)

74.

78.

3. (b) 5. (c) (a) (c) (c) 1. 8. (c) (a) (c) (b) 10. (c) 6. 12. 15. (c) (d) 13. (a) 14. (c) (b) 11. 17. 20. 16. (c) (b) 18. (d) 19. (c) (a) 21 22 23 25 (b) (c) (a) 24 (c) (b) 27 30 (a) (b) (b) 26 (b) 28 (c) (c) 32 (c) 31 (b) 33 (b) 34 35 (a) 37 38 36 39 40 (c) (c) (a) (c) (c)

(c)

46. (b) sea level is the most appropriate word.

43

47. (a) do is the most appropriate word.

(a)

42

41

(b)

- 48. (c) pressure is the most appropriate word.
- 49. (c) Increases is the most appropriate word.
- 50. (b) of is the most appropriate word.
- 51. (b) several is the most appropriate word.
- (c) so is the most appropriate word.
- 53. (c) lower is the most appropriate word.
- (a) up is the most appropriate word.
- 55. (b) for is the most appropriate word.
- (c) would is the most appropriate word.
- (a) know is the most appropriate word.
- 58. (b) how is the most appropriate word.
- 59. (c) there is the most appropriate word.
- (a) this is the most appropriate word.
- (b) those is the most appropriate word.
- 62. (c) when is the most appropriate word.
- 63. (b) to is the most appropriate word.
- 64. (b) eventually is the most appropriate word.
- 65. (a) burst is the most appropriate word.
- 66. (b) Occurred is the most appropriate word.
- 67. (a). Followed is the most appropriate word.
- (c) Evidence is the most appropriate word.
- 69. (b) Sound is the most appropriate word.
- 70. (b) down is the most appropriate word.
- 71. (a) With is the most appropriate word.
- 72. (b) Out of the list of options provided for question 72. 'a' suits best with the remaining phrase because when we talk about youngster, it's a generic word, suggesting lot of people are young. That brilliant does not sound appropriate as the person in question is directly being talked about. He is not far off or is not in a particular direction. The can also be not used as it is used with a specific or exclusive word or group. Thus option (b) is the answer.
- 73. (a) Here we must notice that preposition is used for the word experience. Option (a) "with" is a preposition used to indicate "having". Option (b) "of" is used for belonging to, relating to, or connected with. Option (c) 'for' is used to indicate the use of something. Out of all three options, option (a) is the best and correct answer as experience is something one has or possesses.

- (c) In this sentence it is mentioned about the son of Jaroslov Drobny, a Czech carpenter. Now Jaroslov Drobny is a particular man with an exclusive identity, so his son is also a particular person being referred to. So in this case before son "the" should be used not "a" or "that". Thus "the" is the answer.
- 75. (a) If we closely look at the sentence then we find that it is indicating the starting point of play in his career. When we say about starting something by a second person then has or had is used. Has for present tense and had for past tense. Here option (a) is "had". Was cannot be used here as it does not refer to the starting of just playing. Since the sentence is referring to an incident of the past has cannot be used. Thus we are left with the option (a) i.e., had.
- 76. (a) The boy started playing at the age of five. Age fits the blank perfectly as the next word is anumerical value. We generally refer to someone's age by a number. Now for stage we cannot use a number. Similarly for career, a number cannot be used. Thus option (a) is the answer.
 - (a) In English grammar, it is known that with in lieu, always' of is used not "for" or "to". Thus in lieu of is a phrase generally used for in place of. Option (a) is the answer.
 (a) We always go to a place. We don't go for or with a place. To is preposition which is used to indicate the place, person, or thing that someone or something moves toward, or the direction of something. For is used to indicate the use of something, time or duration. 'With' is used to indicate being together or being involved. Thus the most suitable preposition would
- 79. (c) If we look at the option (a) "in", it should be noted that in cannot be used with day, grammatically. So this option is nullified. It is a common practice that when we use on to denote a day or a date then we use the before the word day. But here in the sentence "the" has not been used. Now we are left with the option (c) 'that', which fits well when we direct towards a particular day in the past.

be option (a) "to".

80. (b) It is evident that the person has full knowledge of his mental state and he is driving himself to do the best. Going by the mental situation of the subject, it hints that the work he is doing is extremely necessary for him without a doubt. In places where full willingness and authority is represented then 'can' or 'would' should not be used as these words suggest capability and politeness in attitude respectively. But option (b) 'must' define the person's stance that he has to complete the work whatsoever.

- 81. (a) From the previous item, we know that how much important this game is for the subject. It was his dream to play in Wimbledon. Seeing the importance of this match, it should be noted that this match is not just important for this particular day but for his life. Option (b) 'age' also does not lend edge to the statement. Thus, option (a) 'life' is the best and correct answer.
- 82. (a) In this sentence the subject is the player and "he" has been used as a pronoun. The second part of the sentence also keeps talking about the player only not for a general person. Thus you or one cannot be used in this sentence. However 'he' fits the bill as the sentence is in continuation with the person's actions.
- 83. (c) From the previous item we get the hint that the person has played an important match and wants to excel from the very beginning as he knows that life is dynamic and the same person does not always get unlimited chances although games and matches would always happen. So the sentence becomes a little philosophical and hints more at number of opportunities available than at games and matches, thus option (c) 'opportunities' seems the most correct answer.
- 84. (b) 85. (a) 86. (c) 87. (b)
- 88. (c) 89. (a) 90. (c)
- (b) "instinctive" means done with conscious thought.
 Therefore, option (b) is correct.
- 92. (c) 93. (b) 94. (b) 95. (a) 96. (c)
- 97. (b) "preceded" means to come before in time. The option(b) is correct.
- 98. (c) 99. (b) 100. (a) 101. (a)
- 102. (b) 103. (a)
- 104. (b) 'will' relates to the future of the special kids in the passage.
- 105. (b) 'distressing' means discomfort or agony of the parents in the passage.

- 106. (b) 'unfortunate' relates to special children who are different than the normal children.
- 107. (a) 'providing' is most appropriate here as providing in this case means importing training to the children.
- 108. (c) 'Hence' is appropriate as it is related to consequence of an action.
- 109. (c) 'over' is most correct as it shows extent or reach.
- 110. (a) 'However' is the correct option as it used to introduce a statemenet that contrasts with something said previously. And in this case the children getting only trained to make paper bags etc is in contrast with their future prospects.
- 111. (b) 'Simple' is the appropriate option as 'Clumas' means something difficult to handle where as 'dubious' means something of questionable value.
- 112. (a) 'agreeable' is most appropriate as it means something which is enjoyable and pleasant.
- 113. (a)
- 114. (b) 'Construction' here refers to building of telescope by Galileo.
- 115. (c) 116. (b) 117. (c) 118. (b)
- 119. (c) 'the' is correct option as the definite article is used for 'universe'.
- 120. (c) 'therefore' is correct option as it refers to the consequence of an action.
- 121. (b) 122. (c)
- 123. (a) 'same' here refers to the cannon balls travelling or moving in identical speed.
- 124. (c)
- 125. (b) 'distance' here refers to the linear extent covered by the cannon balls.
- 126. (a)
- 127. (a) 'swings' here refers to the " to and fro' movement of the lamps in Pisa Cathedral.
- 128. (c) 'those' is correct as the lamps denote plurality and those is pronoun used for denoting more than one object.