

# SCO INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH OLYMPIAD

## SAMPLE QUESTION PAPER

Class 11 | Set A | Rebranded practice paper with answers and explanations

### Sample Paper Set A

**Designed for Class 11 learners with global English-language standards, academic reading, grammar accuracy, rhetoric, and critical-response readiness.**

- Based on the older English Olympiad practice paper and corrected for grammar, answer clarity, and duplicate option issues.
- Answer and explanation are kept inside the main question block for student self-learning.
- Passages are placed inside the question-content block, not in the question-number block.

Reading	Grammar	Vocabulary	Rhetoric	Writing	Style
Critical Response	Reported Speech	Editing	Punctuation	Communication	Global Skills

## Guidelines for the Candidate

### Candidate instructions and paper structure

- Class: 11 | Paper: SCO International English Olympiad | Sample Paper | Time: 60 minutes | Total Questions: 50.
- This sample paper is for student practice and teacher orientation. Answers and explanations are included for learning support.
- Questions assess grammar, vocabulary, literature, reading comprehension, passage analysis, paragraph ordering, and critical reasoning.
- Students should practise under timed conditions and then review explanations to improve accuracy and reasoning.

## Sample Paper Questions with Answers and Explanations

**Q1**

Identify the verb in the following sentence:

"Despite her efforts to maintain a sense of normalcy amidst the chaos, she found herself increasingly overwhelmed by the mounting pressures of her responsibilities."

- A) maintain
- B) found
- C) overwhelming
- D) chaos

**Answer:**

B) found

Explanation:

The verb "found" indicates the action of discovering or realizing something. The sentence is complex, so understanding the roles of other words like "maintain" (which is a verb in gerund form functioning as a noun) and "overwhelming" (an adjective describing the state) helps in identifying the main verb.

**Q2**

Identify the verb in the following sentence:

"Having meticulously crafted her proposal after countless revisions, she submitted it with the hope that her innovative ideas would impress the board members during the meeting."

- A) crafted
- B) submitted
- C) impressed
- D) hope

**Answer:**

B) submitted

Explanation:

"Submitted" is the main verb in the sentence, indicating the action she took regarding the proposal. "Crafted" is a participle that describes her actions but is not the main verb. The verb "submitted" is the key action.

**Q3**

(NOUN): Nithya could not wait for the bartender to finish her delicious \_\_\_\_\_.

- A) decoction
- B) concoction
- C) effusion
- D) suffusion

**Answer:**

B) concoction

Explanation:

"Concoction" refers to something that has been made by combining various ingredients, typically in cooking or mixing drinks, making it the correct choice. "Decoction" refers to extracting flavor from boiling, often in herbal or medicinal contexts, while the other options do not fit as naturally in this context.

**Q4**

(ADJECTIVE): The act was both intimidating and \_\_\_\_\_. It is not appreciated by anyone.

A) vindictive

B) proactive

C) denotative

D) connotative

**Answer:**

A) vindictive

Explanation:

"Vindictive" means showing a strong desire for revenge, fitting the description of an act that is intimidating and unappreciated. "Proactive" means taking initiative, "denotative" refers to the literal meaning, and "connotative" relates to implied meanings, neither of which fit the context of an unpleasant act.

**Q5**

(IF CLAUSE): I'd win the competition if I \_\_\_\_\_.

A) have practiced

B) had practiced

C) practiced

D) practice

**Answer:**

B) had practiced

Explanation:

The correct form for the third conditional, which talks about hypothetical past situations, is "had practiced." It indicates a condition that did not happen but would have led to a different outcome if it had. "Have practiced" is incorrect for past hypothetical situations, and the other options do not convey the past hypothetical nature properly.

**Q6**

(PRONOUN): Find the type of pronoun from the underlined word.

"Thulasi taught herself Hindi."

A) personal pronoun

B) intensive pronoun

C) reflexive pronoun

D) relative pronoun

**Answer:**

C) reflexive pronoun

Explanation:

"Herself" is a reflexive pronoun because it refers back to the subject "Thulasi" and shows that she did the action on herself. Reflexive pronouns are used when the subject and the object of the sentence are the same.

**Q7**

(IDIOM): After so much consideration, he quit alcohol \_\_\_\_\_ last month.

- A) hot dog
- B) cold turkey
- C) warm horse
- D) haggard hen

**Answer:**

- B) cold turkey

Explanation:

The idiom "cold turkey" means to quit something abruptly and completely, often used for quitting substances like alcohol or drugs. The other options do not convey this meaning.

**Q8**

(CONJUNCTION): He must not be late \_\_\_\_\_ he will be punished.

- A) yet
- B) nor
- C) unless
- D) or

**Answer:**

- C) unless

Explanation:

"Unless" introduces a condition for something to happen, indicating that the punishment will occur only if the subject is late. "Yet," "nor," and "or" do not correctly express the conditional relationship in this sentence.

**Q9**

Identify the sentence with the correct use of the subjunctive mood:

- A) If I was you, I would go to the party.
- B) I wish I was able to attend the meeting.
- C) It is essential that he attend the class every day.
- D) I would have preferred that she is here.

**Answer:**

- C) It is essential that he attend the class every day.

Explanation:

The subjunctive mood is used after expressions of necessity such as "it is essential that." The base verb "attend" is correct; "attends" would be ordinary indicative form.

**Q10**

Choose the correct sentence:

- A) Neither the students nor the teacher have completed the assignment.
- B) Neither the teacher nor the students has completed the assignment.
- C) Neither the students nor the teacher has completed the assignment.
- D) Neither the teacher nor the students has completed the assignments.

**Answer:**

- C) Neither the students nor the teacher has completed the assignment.

Explanation:

In a “neither...nor” construction, the verb usually agrees with the subject nearer to it. Here, “teacher” is singular, so “has” is correct.

**Q11**

Identify the sentence with correct parallelism:

- A) She likes to read books, swim, and going to the gym.
- B) He enjoys playing soccer, hiking, and to play chess.
- C) The children sang, danced, and played in the park.
- D) The team won the match, celebrated, and going home.

**Answer:**

- C) The children sang, danced, and played in the park.

Explanation:

Parallelism requires that all elements in a list or series follow the same grammatical structure. In sentence C, the verbs "sang," "danced," and "played" are all in the same form, making the sentence parallel.

**Q12**

Select the correct conditional sentence:

- A) If she will study harder, she will pass the exam.
- B) If I were you, I would have helped him.
- C) If he studied harder, he would pass the exam.
- D) If they are arrived earlier, they would have caught the train.

**Answer:**

- C) If he studied harder, he would pass the exam.

Explanation:

This is a second conditional sentence, which expresses a hypothetical situation and its probable result in the present or future. "Studied" (past simple) and "would" (modal verb) are used correctly here to form the second conditional.

**Q13**

Which sentence is grammatically correct?

- A) The dog, which I saw yesterday, were very friendly.
- B) The team is playing their best game.
- C) Neither of the boys have done his homework.
- D) The books on the shelf need to be arranged.

**Answer:**

- D) The books on the shelf need to be arranged.

Explanation:

In sentence D, the subject "books" is plural, and the verb "need" agrees with it. The other sentences contain subject-verb agreement errors, such as using "were" with "which I saw yesterday" (incorrect subject-verb agreement) and "his" with "Neither of the boys" (incorrect pronoun usage).

**Q14**

Identify the sentence that correctly uses the gerund form:

- A) I enjoy to read books in my free time.
- B) She is interested in to learn new languages.
- C) Reading books is a good habit.

D) They discussed about going to the party.

**Answer:**

C) Reading books is a good habit.

Explanation:

Gerunds (verb forms ending in -ing) are used as nouns. In sentence C, "Reading" is the subject of the sentence, correctly using the gerund form. The other sentences misapply infinitives where gerunds should be used (e.g., "to read" should be "reading").

**Q15**

Select the sentence that correctly uses an idiomatic expression:

A) I'll take a raincheck on the meeting.

B) She decided to throw the towel in the wind.

C) He let the cat out of the box.

D) She was on the cloud nine during the celebration.

**Answer:**

A) I'll take a raincheck on the meeting.

Explanation:

"I'll take a raincheck" is an idiomatic expression meaning to decline something now but suggest that the opportunity will be accepted later. The other options misuse idiomatic expressions (e.g., "throw the towel in the wind" should be "throw in the towel," and "on the cloud nine" should be "on cloud nine").

**Q16**

Which of the following sentences contains a dangling modifier?

A) Walking down the street, the car passed me quickly.

B) I finished my homework after the movie.

C) Running late, she skipped breakfast.

D) While reading the book, I found a hidden clue.

**Answer:**

A) Walking down the street, the car passed me quickly.

Explanation:

A dangling modifier occurs when the introductory phrase does not logically modify the subject of the main clause. In sentence A, "Walking down the street" seems to describe "the car," which is illogical. It should be reworded to indicate that the person walking down the street is the one who was passed by the car. The other sentences correctly match the modifier with the subject of the main clause.

**Q17**

Choose the most appropriate preposition to complete the sentence:

"He is proficient \_\_\_\_\_ using various programming languages."

A) at

B) in

C) with

D) on

**Answer:**

B) in

Explanation:

"Proficient in using" is the most natural structure when referring to competence in an activity or field. "Proficient with" is usually used before tools or systems, such as "proficient with Python."

**Q18**

Identify the sentence that uses the correct past participle form of the verb:

- A) The homework was well done by the students.
- B) The homework was well do by the students.
- C) The homework was well did by the students.
- D) The homework was well does by the students.

**Answer:**

- A) The homework was well done by the students.

Explanation:

The past participle "done" is the correct form in passive voice constructions like this one. Sentences B, C, and D use incorrect forms ("do," "did," and "does"), which do not function as past participles in this context.

**Q19**

Choose the sentence that clearly illustrates subject-verb agreement:

- A) The list of items are on the desk.
- B) The group of students were preparing their speeches.
- C) The books on the shelf need to be arranged.
- D) The bouquet of flowers smell fresh.

**Answer:**

- C) The books on the shelf need to be arranged.

Explanation:

The subject "books" is plural, so the plural verb "need" is correct. The intervening phrase "on the shelf" does not change the subject-verb relationship.

**Q20**

Select the sentence that correctly uses parallel structure:

- A) The project was interesting, challenging, and it was rewarding.
- B) She enjoys reading, hiking, and to swim.
- C) The team played hard, practiced daily, and won the championship.
- D) He is a great artist, musician, and plays the piano.

**Answer:**

- C) The team played hard, practiced daily, and won the championship.

Explanation:

Parallel structure requires that all elements in a series follow the same grammatical form. In sentence C, all items in the series are simple past verbs ("played," "practiced," and "won"), maintaining consistency. The other sentences fail to keep the same form within the series (e.g., "reading, hiking, and to swim" mixes gerunds and infinitives).

**Q21**

**Read the following and answer the questions. (Q.No 21 to 25)**

Passage on English Literature

The panorama of English literature is as vast as it is varied, encompassing an extensive array of genres, periods, and linguistic evolutions that transcend mere words on paper. From the quixotic idealism of Sir Thomas More's Utopia to the tumultuous complexity of James Joyce's Ulysses, the literary tradition in the English language is a veritable repository of intellectual and emotional nuances. The exquisite intricacies of Elizabethan drama, epitomized by the works of William Shakespeare, continue to

reverberate through contemporary theatrical and cinematic productions. Shakespeare's multifaceted exploration of human nature, reflected in the interplay of fate, love, and power, is arguably the apex of literary craftsmanship.

The Romantic era marked a profound departure from the neoclassical emphasis on reason and order, foregrounding the emotional and subjective experience. Poets like William Wordsworth and Samuel Taylor Coleridge, through their luminous verses, sought to elevate the commonplace and the pastoral, imbuing nature with a transcendent, almost divine significance. This period's lyrical exploration of sublime beauty and profound emotion set the stage for the intense individualism of the Victorian poets, such as Alfred Lord Tennyson and Robert Browning, who imbued their narratives with psychological depth and introspection.

The turn of the 20th century witnessed the emergence of modernism, a movement that shattered traditional narrative forms and conventions. Writers such as Virginia Woolf and T.S. Eliot employed stream-of-consciousness techniques and fragmented, non-linear structures to express the alienation and disillusionment of the modern world. The ephemeral nature of time, the disintegration of coherent self-identity, and the inexorable march of modernity were major themes in this literary period.

Yet, it is not only the canonical works that define English literature. The marginalized voices of women, ethnic minorities, and the working class have become increasingly central in recent decades. Authors like Toni Morrison and Chinua Achebe have provided us with unflinching portrayals of societal injustices, challenging historical narratives and offering alternative perspectives on cultural identity and belonging. Their work has forced a reconsideration of the literary canon, advocating for the inclusion of diverse voices and narratives that were once relegated to the margins.

**Question:**

In the expression "a veritable repository of intellectual and emotional nuances," what does the word "repository" most nearly mean in context?

- A) A temporary confusion
- B) A rich storehouse or collection
- C) A simple summary
- D) A strict rulebook

**Answer:**

- B) A rich storehouse or collection

Explanation:

The passage describes English literature as containing many intellectual and emotional qualities. "Repository" therefore means a rich storehouse or collection.

**Q22**

Which of the following sentences uses a subjunctive mood correctly?

- A) If he was here, he would help us.
- B) If he were here, he would help us.
- C) If he is here, he would help us.
- D) If he had been here, he would help us.

**Answer:**

- B) If he were here, he would help us.

Explanation:

The subjunctive mood is used to express hypothetical or contrary-to-fact situations. "If he were here" correctly uses the past subjunctive form "were," which is used in hypothetical situations, while sentence A incorrectly uses "was" instead of "were."

**Q23**

Choose the sentence that demonstrates proper parallelism in a list:

- A) She enjoys running, to swim, and biking.
- B) She enjoys running, swimming, and biking.
- C) She enjoys running, to swim, and to bike.

D) She enjoys running, swimming, and to bike.

**Answer:**

B) She enjoys running, swimming, and biking.

Explanation:

Parallelism requires that all elements in a list be in the same grammatical form. Sentence B uses three gerunds ("running," "swimming," and "biking"), maintaining parallel structure. The other sentences mix infinitives and gerunds, violating parallelism rules.

**Q24**

Which of the following sentences uses an appropriate semicolon to join two independent clauses?

A) The book was long, I didn't finish it.

B) The book was long; I didn't finish it.

C) The book was long, but I didn't finish it.

D) The book was long; but I didn't finish it.

**Answer:**

B) The book was long; I didn't finish it.

Explanation:

A semicolon is used to join two independent clauses without a conjunction. In sentence B, the semicolon correctly connects the two independent clauses. Sentence A incorrectly uses a comma (comma splice), and sentence D incorrectly places a conjunction after the semicolon.

**Q25**

Which sentence correctly uses a conditional perfect tense?

A) If I had known, I would have gone to the party.

B) If I know, I would have gone to the party.

C) If I had known, I would go to the party.

D) If I knew, I will go to the party.

**Answer:**

A) If I had known, I would have gone to the party.

Explanation:

The conditional perfect tense is used to talk about an action that would have happened in the past if certain conditions had been met. Sentence A correctly uses "had known" (past perfect) and "would have gone" (conditional perfect). The other sentences mix tenses incorrectly.

**Q26**

**Read the following and fill in the blanks (Q. No 26 to 32)**

The concept of identity is not just a mere reflection of how one perceives oneself, but is profoundly shaped by the interactions one has with society. From early childhood, individuals are influenced by various external 26..... such as cultural norms, familial expectations, and social hierarchies. These external forces 27..... a person's sense of self, shaping not only their worldview but also their personal aspirations. While some people might embrace societal roles, others may 28..... them, seeking a sense of individuality outside the predefined boundaries. In the modern world, where the tension between conformity and individuality is ever-present, the notion of personal identity has become increasingly 29..... as it is subject to constant negotiation and evolution. With the rise of social media, many are now pressured to craft a carefully curated 30..... that aligns with popular ideals, yet it remains an ongoing struggle to balance authenticity with societal expectations.

The external \_\_\_\_\_ such as cultural norms, familial expectations, and social hierarchies.

- A) pressures
- B) forces
- C) structures
- D) ideologies

**Answer:**

B) forces

Explanation:

"External forces" is the most fitting choice here as it refers to powerful influences shaping a person's sense of self. "Pressures" could work, but it has a slightly different nuance, focusing more on stress. "Structures" refers to systems or organizations, and "ideologies" would refer to specific sets of beliefs, which doesn't quite capture the broad external influences implied.

**Q27**

These external forces \_\_\_\_\_ a person's sense of self.

- A) fortify
- B) distort
- C) shape
- D) ignore

**Answer:**

C) shape

Explanation:

"Shape" is the most appropriate word here because it suggests the formation or development of a person's sense of self, which fits perfectly in the context. "Fortify" implies strengthening, "distort" means to misrepresent, and "ignore" doesn't make sense in this context.

**Q28**

While some people might embrace societal roles, others may \_\_\_\_\_ them, seeking a sense of individuality outside the predefined boundaries.

- A) challenge
- B) accept
- C) conform
- D) discard

**Answer:**

A) challenge

Explanation:

"Challenge" fits well as it means to oppose or question societal roles, which aligns with the desire for individuality. "Accept," "conform," and "discard" have different connotations that don't quite capture the tension between societal expectations and personal identity as effectively.

**Q29**

The notion of personal identity has become increasingly \_\_\_\_\_ as it is subject to constant negotiation and evolution.

- A) flexible
- B) rigid
- C) ambiguous
- D) stable

**Answer:**

C) ambiguous

Explanation:

"Ambiguous" is the most fitting word here because it suggests that personal identity is unclear or open to interpretation, which fits with the idea of constant negotiation. "Flexible" and "rigid" suggest specific types of changes, while "stable" contradicts the idea of negotiation and evolution.

**Q30**

Many are now pressured to craft a carefully curated \_\_\_\_\_ that aligns with popular ideals.

- A) identity
- B) persona
- C) character
- D) behavior

**Answer:**

B) persona

Explanation:

"Persona" refers to the image or identity that one presents to the world, especially in a controlled or calculated way. "Identity" could work, but "persona" more directly addresses the idea of a constructed or curated image. "Character" and "behavior" don't quite capture the same idea of a social mask.

## Reading Passage Section (Q31-35)

### Passage: The Evolution of English Literature

**PASSAGE**

English literature, a rich tapestry woven over centuries, has its roots deeply embedded in the diverse and dynamic history of the British Isles. The evolution of English literature can be divided into distinct periods, each reflecting the political, social, and cultural changes of its time. These periods, such as Old English, Middle English, the Renaissance, and the modern era, illustrate how literature has not only mirrored the evolution of the English language but also influenced the philosophical and artistic currents of their respective eras.

The Old English period (450-1150 AD) is marked by the influence of Germanic tribes, particularly the Angles, Saxons, and Jutes, who brought their languages and cultures to the British Isles. The earliest examples of English literature from this period are oral traditions, such as *Beowulf*, an epic poem that stands as a monument of Old English literature. These works were often deeply rooted in the warrior culture of the time, focusing on heroism, fate, and the supernatural. The language of this period, known as Anglo-Saxon, was vastly different from Modern English, with complex grammar and vocabulary.

As the Norman Conquest of England in 1066 brought French-speaking rulers to the throne, the Middle English period (1150-1500 AD) emerged, characterized by a significant linguistic transformation. The French influence introduced a vast number of loanwords into the English language, particularly in the areas of law, government, and the arts. This period also saw the rise of notable figures like Geoffrey Chaucer, whose *Canterbury Tales* remains a cornerstone of Middle English literature. Chaucer's work not only provided a vivid depiction of medieval society but also contributed to the development of the English vernacular as a literary language, moving away from Latin and French.

The Renaissance period (1500-1700 AD) ushered in a new era of intellectual and artistic achievement, influenced by the rediscovery of classical antiquity and the rise of humanism. Writers such as William Shakespeare, John Milton, and Christopher Marlowe dominated this period, creating works that are still celebrated for their linguistic mastery and profound exploration of human nature. Shakespeare's plays, particularly, delve into the complexities of the human condition, covering themes of love, jealousy, ambition, and betrayal. Milton's *Paradise Lost* reimagines the Biblical fall of man with unmatched grandeur and linguistic elegance, marking a turning point in religious and philosophical thought.

The Romantic period (1798-1837), characterized by a return to nature and emotion, emerged as a reaction to the Industrial Revolution and the Enlightenment's emphasis on reason. Poets like William Wordsworth, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, Percy Bysshe

Shelley, and John Keats emphasized individualism, the sublime in nature, and the power of the imagination. Their works often explored themes of revolution, personal freedom, and the connection between humanity and the natural world, reflecting the turbulent times in which they lived.

The Victorian era (1837-1901), named after Queen Victoria, was a time of profound social, political, and industrial change. Writers like Charles Dickens, the Brontë sisters, and George Eliot examined the effects of industrialization, class disparity, and moral dilemmas on society. Dickens's novels, such as *A Tale of Two Cities* and *Great Expectations*, provided scathing critiques of the social structures of the time, while also exploring the themes of redemption and personal growth.

Finally, the Modern period (1901-1945) and the Postmodern era (1945-present) saw the breakdown of traditional narrative forms and the exploration of more fragmented, experimental styles. Writers like James Joyce, Virginia Woolf, and T.S. Eliot pushed the boundaries of language and structure, reflecting the disillusionment and alienation that came with the aftermath of the two World Wars. Themes of existentialism, identity, and the search for meaning pervaded the works of this period.

Through its evolution, English literature has mirrored the shifting tides of history, responding to and reflecting the experiences, aspirations, and anxieties of society. Its development continues to influence not only literary traditions but also the way we view language, culture, and human experience.

**Q31**

The Old English period is primarily characterized by which of the following?

- A) The influence of French-speaking rulers after the Norman Conquest
- B) A focus on heroism, fate, and the supernatural in literature
- C) The rise of humanism and the study of classical antiquity
- D) The use of the English vernacular in literary works

**Answer: B) A focus on heroism, fate, and the supernatural in literature**

Explanation: The Old English period was defined by works such as *Beowulf*, which focused on themes of heroism, fate, and the supernatural, reflecting the warrior culture of the time.

**Q32**

Who is considered a central figure in Middle English literature?

- A) William Shakespeare
- B) Geoffrey Chaucer
- C) John Milton
- D) Samuel Taylor Coleridge

**Answer: B) Geoffrey Chaucer**

Explanation: Geoffrey Chaucer, with works like *The Canterbury Tales*, is considered a central figure in Middle English literature. He contributed significantly to the development of the English vernacular as a literary language.

**Q33**

What major intellectual movement influenced English literature during the Renaissance period?

- A) Romanticism
- B) Humanism
- C) Realism

D) Existentialism

**Answer: B) Humanism**

Explanation: The Renaissance period was deeply influenced by the intellectual movement of humanism, which emphasized the study of classical antiquity and the value of human experience.

**Q34**

Which of the following themes is most associated with the Romantic period in English literature?

- A) Industrialization and social reform
- B) The exploration of reason and logic
- C) The sublime in nature and the power of imagination
- D) The breakdown of traditional narrative forms

**Answer: C) The sublime in nature and the power of imagination**

Explanation: The Romantic period emphasized a return to nature, the exploration of emotion, and the power of the imagination, often reacting against industrialization and the rationalism of the Enlightenment.

**Q35**

What is a central theme explored in the works of Charles Dickens during the Victorian era?

- A) The breakdown of traditional narrative structures
- B) The effects of industrialization and class disparity on society
- C) The exploration of existentialism and identity
- D) The romanticization of nature and individualism

**Answer: B) The effects of industrialization and class disparity on society**

Explanation: Charles Dickens's works, such as *Great Expectations*, often explored the social effects of industrialization, highlighting class disparity and moral dilemmas within Victorian society.

**Q36**

Assertion (A): The Renaissance period in English literature was characterized by the flourishing of humanism, a renewed focus on classical antiquity, and an emphasis on individual expression.

Reason (R): Writers such as William Shakespeare and Christopher Marlowe played a significant role in advancing humanist ideals through their works.

- A) Both assertion and reason are correct, and the reason correctly explains the assertion.
- B) Both assertion and reason are correct, but the reason does not explain the assertion.
- C) The assertion is correct, but the reason is incorrect.
- D) The assertion is incorrect, but the reason is correct.

**Answer: A) Both assertion and reason are correct, and the reason correctly explains the assertion.**

Explanation: The Renaissance period saw a renewed interest in humanism, focusing on classical learning and individual expression, with Shakespeare and Marlowe embodying these ideals in their works.

**Q37**

Assertion (A): The Enlightenment period in English literature emphasized reason, logic, and the power of scientific thought over religious faith.

Reason (R): Philosophers and writers like John Locke and Voltaire championed rational thought as the basis for human progress and social reform.

- A) Both assertion and reason are correct, and the reason correctly explains the assertion.
- B) Both assertion and reason are correct, but the reason does not explain the assertion.
- C) The assertion is correct, but the reason is incorrect.
- D) The assertion is incorrect, but the reason is correct.

**Answer: A) Both assertion and reason are correct, and the reason correctly explains the assertion.**

Explanation: The Enlightenment was a period that emphasized reason, rationality, and scientific progress, as advocated by philosophers like John Locke and Voltaire, who believed that logic and reason should guide societal reforms.

#### Q38

Assertion (A): The Modernist period in English literature was marked by a focus on fragmented narrative structures and existential themes.

Reason (R): The aftermath of World War I led to a sense of disillusionment and a breakdown of traditional forms of storytelling.

- A) Both assertion and reason are correct, and the reason correctly explains the assertion.
- B) Both assertion and reason are correct, but the reason does not explain the assertion.
- C) The assertion is correct, but the reason is incorrect.
- D) The assertion is incorrect, but the reason is correct.

**Answer: A) Both assertion and reason are correct, and the reason correctly explains the assertion.**

Explanation: The disillusionment caused by World War I led Modernist writers to break away from traditional narrative forms, embracing fragmented narratives and exploring existential themes in response to the traumatic effects of the war.

#### Q39

Assertion (A): In the Victorian era, English literature often focused on the moral dilemmas and social issues created by industrialization.

Reason (R): Charles Dickens and the Brontë sisters addressed the effects of industrialization through the lens of personal morality, class, and social justice in their novels.

- A) Both assertion and reason are correct, and the reason correctly explains the assertion.
- B) Both assertion and reason are correct, but the reason does not explain the assertion.
- C) The assertion is correct, but the reason is incorrect.
- D) The assertion is incorrect, but the reason is correct.

**Answer: A) Both assertion and reason are correct, and the reason correctly explains the assertion.**

Explanation: Victorian literature frequently examined the moral consequences of industrialization, with authors like Dickens addressing issues such as class disparity, exploitation, and social justice.

#### Q40

Given below are six sentences in a random order. Rearrange them to form a coherent paragraph.

P: People often find it difficult to make decisions when faced with too many options.

Q: This phenomenon is known as decision fatigue, and it can lead to poor choices or the avoidance of decisions.

R: In today's world, we are bombarded with choices, from what to eat to what career path to pursue.

S: As a result, simplifying choices or limiting options can help improve decision-making.

T: Psychological studies show that the brain becomes overwhelmed when presented with excessive choices.

U: Over time, this overload can reduce one's ability to make thoughtful and rational decisions.

Options:

- A) R-P-Q-T-U-S
- B) P-Q-R-T-S-U
- C) P-T-Q-R-U-S
- D) R-T-P-Q-S-U

**Answer:**

A) R-P-Q-T-U-S

Explanation:

The paragraph begins with the modern context of too many choices, then explains the difficulty, names the phenomenon, provides psychological support, explains the consequence, and ends with a solution.

**Q41**

Given below are six sentences in a random order. Rearrange them to form a coherent paragraph.

P: Learning a new language can be a rewarding but challenging experience.

Q: The process of acquiring a second language improves cognitive function and can increase career opportunities.

R: Language learners often face difficulties such as unfamiliar grammar rules and vocabulary.

S: Immersion, where learners are surrounded by the language in practical contexts, is an effective method to accelerate learning.

T: However, the effort required to master a new language can be overwhelming for many individuals.

U: Despite the challenges, the benefits of learning a new language far outweigh the difficulties.

Options:

A) P-Q-R-T-S-U

B) P-R-T-Q-S-U

C) Q-P-R-T-S-U

D) P-Q-S-R-T-U

**Answer:**

A) P-Q-R-T-S-U

Explanation:

The paragraph opens generally, gives benefits, acknowledges difficulties, intensifies the challenge, offers immersion as a strategy, and concludes with the overall value of language learning.

**Q42**

Given below are six sentences in a random order. Rearrange them to form a coherent paragraph.

P: Technological innovations have greatly impacted the way we live and work.

Q: While these advancements have improved efficiency, they also present new challenges.

R: Artificial intelligence is one of the most significant technological developments of the 21st century.

S: Many experts argue that AI will reshape entire industries and redefine the job market.

T: The rapid pace of these innovations requires constant adaptation and learning to stay relevant.

U: As we embrace the future, it is crucial to consider both the benefits and potential risks of these changes.

Options:

A) P-Q-R-S-T-U

B) P-R-S-Q-T-U

C) R-P-Q-S-T-U

D) P-Q-T-R-S-U

**Answer:**

A) P-Q-R-S-T-U

Explanation:

The sequence moves from a broad statement about technology, to benefits/challenges, to AI as an example, to industry impact, adaptation, and balanced conclusion.

**Q43**

Given below are six sentences in a random order. Rearrange them to form a coherent paragraph.

P: Innovation is essential for driving economic growth and improving the quality of life.

Q: Entrepreneurs are often at the forefront of this process, introducing new ideas and solutions.

R: The success of these innovations depends on factors such as market demand and timing.

S: Governments also play a critical role by providing funding and supportive policies.

T: In recent years, technological innovations have led to breakthroughs in healthcare, education, and energy.

U: Ultimately, innovation leads to a more dynamic and prosperous society.

Options:

A) P-Q-R-S-T-U

B) P-T-Q-R-S-U

C) Q-P-R-S-T-U

D) P-Q-T-S-R-U

**Answer:**

A) P-Q-R-S-T-U

Explanation:

The paragraph defines the importance of innovation, introduces entrepreneurs, discusses success factors, adds the role of government, gives examples, and concludes with social benefit.

**Q44**

Given below are six sentences in a random order. Rearrange them to form a coherent paragraph.

P: Social media has become an integral part of daily life, allowing people to connect and share information instantly.

Q: However, it has also raised concerns about privacy, misinformation, and mental health.

R: Many individuals spend hours each day scrolling through various platforms, often losing track of time.

S: Despite these concerns, social media continues to be a powerful tool for communication and activism.

T: The challenge lies in finding a balance between the benefits and the potential harms of social media use.

U: Researchers continue to study its effects on well-being and its role in shaping public opinion.

Options:

A) P-Q-R-S-T-U

B) P-R-Q-S-U-T

C) P-Q-S-R-T-U

D) Q-P-R-S-T-U

**Answer:**

A) P-Q-R-S-T-U

Explanation:

The paragraph introduces social media, states concerns, gives a usage example, notes its continued value, identifies the balancing challenge, and ends with ongoing research.

**Q45**

Given below are six sentences in a random order. Rearrange them to form a coherent paragraph.

P: Climate change is one of the most urgent global issues we face today.

Q: Rising temperatures, extreme weather events, and shifting ecosystems are evidence of its effects.

R: The causes are largely linked to human activities such as burning fossil fuels and deforestation.

S: Immediate action is required to reduce further damage to the environment.

T: Governments, businesses, and individuals all have a role to play in addressing this crisis.

U: Failure to act now could result in irreversible damage to the planet and future generations.

Options:

- A) P-Q-R-S-T-U
- B) P-R-Q-S-T-U
- C) Q-P-R-S-U-T
- D) P-Q-S-R-T-U

**Answer:**

- A) P-Q-R-S-T-U

Explanation:

The sequence identifies the issue, presents evidence, explains causes, calls for action, assigns responsibility, and concludes with consequences of inaction.

#### Q46

Identify the error in the following sentence and choose the correct option to rectify it:

"Neither the teacher nor the students was aware of the upcoming event."

- A. Neither the teacher nor the students was aware of the upcoming event.
- B. Neither the teacher nor the students were aware of the upcoming event.
- C. Neither the teacher nor the students is aware of the upcoming event.
- D. Neither the teacher nor the students are aware of the upcoming event.

**Answer Key:**

Correct Option: B. Neither the teacher nor the students were aware of the upcoming event.

Explanation:

In sentences with "neither...nor," the verb should agree with the noun closest to it. Since "students" is plural, the verb should be "were," not "was."

- Option A is incorrect because it uses "was," which does not agree with "students."
- Option C uses "is," which is incorrect since "were" is needed for plural subjects.
- Option D uses "are," which is incorrect for this structure.

Therefore, Option B is the grammatically correct choice.

#### Q47

Use of Subjunctive Mood in Hypothetical Situations

Which of the following sentences correctly uses the subjunctive mood for a hypothetical situation?

- A) If I was you, I would not make that decision.
- B) If I were you, I would not make that decision.
- C) If I am you, I would not make that decision.
- D) If I had been you, I would not make that decision.

**Correct Answer: B) If I were you, I would not make that decision.**

Explanation:

The subjunctive mood is used to express hypothetical or contrary-to-fact situations, and it is traditionally used with "were" instead of "was" after "if" when discussing an unreal condition. In this case, "If I were you" is the correct form.

- Option A is incorrect because "was" is not used for hypothetical conditions.
- Option C is incorrect because "am" should not be used in hypothetical situations.
- Option D is incorrect because it uses the past perfect tense ("had been"), which is not appropriate for this context.

**Q48****Symbolism in Allegory: Meaning of the Setting**

In an allegorical novel, how does the author use symbolism in the setting to convey deeper meanings about society?

- A) By making the setting purely decorative, without contributing to the themes.
- B) By choosing a setting that reflects the internal struggles of the characters only.
- C) By using the setting as a symbol of societal flaws and the human condition.
- D) By using an unrealistic setting that does not correlate to any societal issues.

**Correct Answer: C) By using the setting as a symbol of societal flaws and the human condition.**

Explanation:

In allegorical novels, the setting is often used symbolically to represent larger themes related to society, culture, or human nature. This choice reflects how the environment mirrors or critiques societal issues, providing a deeper layer of meaning.

- Option A is incorrect because the setting usually carries significance in allegory.
- Option B is incorrect because the setting typically extends beyond just the characters' personal struggles.
- Option D is incorrect because the setting in allegory usually correlates with the societal themes.

**Q49****Characterization in Dystopian Fiction**

How do dystopian authors typically develop characters to highlight the oppressive nature of their world?

- A) By portraying characters as overly idealistic, without flaws.
- B) By showing characters who adapt to and accept the system without resistance.
- C) By depicting characters who are passive observers with no agency in the world.
- D) By creating characters who rebel or question the oppressive system, emphasizing their struggle for freedom.

**Correct Answer: D) By creating characters who rebel or question the oppressive system, emphasizing their struggle for freedom.**

Explanation:

In dystopian fiction, characters often serve as symbols of resistance or awakening, questioning the oppressive regime or system. This rebellion or internal struggle is central to the narrative, highlighting the themes of freedom and control.

- Option A is incorrect because dystopian characters are rarely idealized; they often have flaws that make their struggle more relatable.
- Option B is incorrect because characters in dystopian fiction typically do not accept the system without question.
- Option C is incorrect because passive characters do not usually serve the function of critiquing the oppressive world in dystopian stories.

**Q50****Allegory and its Message**

How does an allegory differ from a straightforward narrative in its delivery of a message?

- A) An allegory avoids conveying any moral or societal lessons.
- B) It uses characters, events, and settings as symbols to represent deeper moral, political, or philosophical ideas.
- C) Allegories primarily focus on the personal development of a character without broader implications.
- D) Allegories focus solely on providing entertainment without conveying deeper meaning.

**Correct Answer: B) It uses characters, events, and settings as symbols to represent deeper moral, political, or philosophical ideas.**

Explanation:

Allegory is a literary technique where the characters and events represent abstract ideas, allowing the author to convey broader societal or moral messages. This differs from straightforward narratives, which typically focus on a linear plot without symbolic meanings.

- Option A is incorrect because allegories are specifically designed to teach lessons.
- Option C is incorrect because allegories aim to illustrate universal themes, not just personal development.
- Option D is incorrect because the primary purpose of allegories is to convey deeper meaning, not simply to entertain.