

ANSWER KEY

1) d	2) c	3) a	4) b	5) b
6) c	7) b	8) d	9) c	10) d
11) c	12) c	13) c	14) c	15) d
16) b	17) a	18) d	19) a	20) c
21) c	22) b	23) b	24) c	25) d
26) b	27) b	28) d	29) b	30) a
31) c	32) d	33) b	34) c	35) d
36) b	37) c	38) a	39) c	40) c
41) c	42) d	43) d	44) a	45) a
46) a	47) b	48) a	49) b	50) d
51) a	52) b	53) a	54) a	55) a
56) b	57) b	58) b	59) d	60) b
61) a	62) b	63) b	64) c	65) a
66) a	67) c	68) b	69) a	70) a
71) a	72) b	73) b	74) d	75) a
76) a	77) d	78) a	79) b	80) c
81) b	82) b	83) b	84) a	85) a
86) d	87) c	88) b	89) d	90) b
91) a	92) b	93) b	94) a	95) a
96) a	97) d	98) d	99) a	100) b
101) b	102) a	103) a	104) b	105) d
106) b	107) b	108) d	109) b	110) b
111) d	112) b	113) c	114) b	115) c
116) c	117) d	118) c	119) a	120) a

HINTS & SOLUTION

1. (d) Scientists who study soil believe that not all worms and bacteria are harmful. Some are useful as they help in mixing up of nitrogen and air in the soil, while some help break down the decayed matter.
2. (c) The harmful pests and bacteria causes diseases in the plants.
3. (a) While farming, the farmers makes sure to avoid the weeds and pests that attack plants.
4. (b) With the advent in farming methods and technology, resistant seeds which fight weeds and pests are easily available that help farmers in controlling the loss caused by them.
5. (b) Nowadays, farmers can grow crops that ripen quickly and are resistant to frost, drought, disease.
6. (c)
7. (b) Graphology is the study of handwriting.
8. (d)
9. (c)
10. (d)
11. (c) Replace 'are' with 'is'
12. (c) Replace 'with' with 'in'.
13. (c) There is incorrect use of conjunction 'unless' in the underlined part (c). It should be replaced with 'if' to make the sentence correct and meaningful.
14. (c) There is unnecessary use of pronoun 'he' in the underlined part (c). It should be omitted to make the sentence correct.
15. (d) The sentence is grammatically correct, hence, it does not require any correction.
16. (b) The verb 'spend' should be replaced with 'spending' to make the sentence grammatically correct.
17. (a) Replace 'beside' with 'besides'.
18. (d) No error.
19. (a) 'The books which you read are not worth reading' is the correct sentence.
20. (c) 'I did not know where they were going nor could I understand why they had left so soon' is the correct sentence.
21. (c) As we can see that R is the beginning of the sentence but there are two options starting with R. Now, Q followed by P does not make much sense, 'should display round about a huge building or palace'. Thus the correct answer is (c) and the sequence becomes "A good garden laid out on a magnificent scale round about a huge building or palace should display fresh beauties every month".
22. (b) As we can see that R is the beginning of the sentence but there are two options starting with it. Now, P followed by Q does not make much sense, 'had finally paid off on drawing after drawing'. Thus the correct answer is (b) and the proper sequence is "The long gruelling hours working tirelessly on drawing after drawing painting after painting had finally paid off".
23. (b) As we can see that r is the beginning of the sentence and there is only option starting with it. Thus, the proper sequence becomes "Bringing the light from behind a curtain he held it in such a manner that it fell slantwise on her face".
24. (c) As we can see that Q makes the most sensible beginning of the sentence and there are two options starting with Q. Now R followed by S does not make much sense 'at the door when someone knocked'.
25. (d) As we can see that P makes the most sensible beginning of the sentence and there is only option starting with it.

26. (b) We intend to shift to Bombay with our family which consists of three persons.
27. (b) Although he watered the plants regularly and put manure in them, they did not grow well.
28. (d) The correct sequence is PSQR.
29. (b) This question too applies the same logic as 'he knew' must be followed by 'that' which is part S. This leaves us with options A and B. Part R 'and thought.....' must be only after a part that already speaks of an action which is part P 'sat under the tree'. Thus, P precedes R. Also, the adverbial phrase in Q must be placed in the end.
30. (a) As we can see that Q is most appropriate beginning of the sentence and no other option starts with it. Therefore, the proper sequence is "If I were to give a definition I would begin like this".
31. (c) under a cloud : under a suspicion
32. (d) flogging a dead horse : wasting your effort by trying to do something that is no longer possible
33. (b) helter-skelter : done in a hurry and in a way that lacks unity Clothes were scattered helter-skelter. The best option is in disorderly haste.
34. (c) to play to the gallery : to behave in an exaggerated way to attract people's attention.
Abhay is a competent actor, but he has a tendency to play to the gallery. The best option is to seek to win approval.
35. (d) take thee at thy word : believe someone truly
I told my friend, "I take thee at thy word."
The best option is truly believe you.
36. (b) yeoman's service : very useful work
We should all put in yeoman's service to achieve success. The best option is excellent work.
37. (c) to gather roses only : to seek all the enjoyments of life
Gathering roses only, without taking care of parents is not a good quality in any child. The best option is to seek all enjoyments of life.
38. (a) make a mountain out of a molehill : to make an unimportant matter seem important.
Bhanu is always making mountains out of molehills. The best option is exaggerate a minor problem.
39. (c) a man of letters : a man who is devoted to literary/scholarly pursuits.
A.P.J. Abdul Kalam was a man of letters. The best option is a literary person
40. (c) To take French Leave : to leave work without asking permission first.
The best option is absenting oneself without permission
41. (c) The proper sequence should be "It was a bitterly cold night and even at the far end of the bus the wind cut like a knife. The bus stopped, and two women and a man got in together and filled the vacant places. The conductor came in and took the fares. The younger of the two women was dressed in sealskin and carried one of those little Pekinese dogs that women like to carry in their laps. Then his eyes tested with cold malice on the beady-eyed little dog. I saw trouble brewing."
42. (d) The correct option is PQRS
43. (d) So, the proper sequence should be "Many things about Konark seem shrouded in mystery. Long before the temple was built, sometime in the 13th century, Konark was one of the five holiest places in Orissa. It is, of course, a religious shrine. But here there also seems to be a great emphasis on purely human grandeur. Why was it built? King Narasimha probably had it built as much as a memorial to himself as he did in honour of the Sun-God."
44. (a) The correct option is RQSP

45. (a) The correct sequence is – Man's growth from barbarism to civilization is supposed to be the theme of history. But it is difficult to believe this ideal has been reached. There is ample evidence of barbarism even today. Strong countries attack and oppress weaker ones. Individuals to exploit their fellows. In many ways, therefore, man has not made very great progress.
46. (a) The correct sequence is RQPS. The sentence S1 talks about that Mark and Delia ventured into the desert to study the ecology of that region. The next sentence should be R because it tells the directions that the two have taken to find roar of a lion. The next sentence should be Q because it tells that he heard a soft groan that startled him. After listening the roar, he lifted his head to survey the scene. The next sentence thus should be P. The last sentence S is in sync with S6 and talks about lioness that was standing in front and coming towards them
47. (b) After the first sentence, the conversation reflects back to the 16th century so option R follows. After this sentence Q should follow as it tells how nations started coming closer to each other. Then S should follow as it contrasts the situation with an example where Romans and Hans believed themselves to be a global leader. Last comes P where it is concluded that such illusions cannot exist today.
48. (a) In s the sentence simply says that we learn to write by writing. Then comes option R which supports previous sentence by saying that we should not wait to write in hope of an inspiration. Then comes P which further supports the argument saying that even famous writers don't sit idle in search of an inspiration. Q gives statistical proof for the above sentences.
49. (b) The sentence S₁ talks about that the bank opened at 10 am. All the other sentences talk about peon, manager and safe. Of all the sentences, Q should follow S₁ because it talks about what happened after the bank was open i.e the manager and peon went to the safe in the vault. Next sentence should be P because in continuation, it describes that the manager asked the peon to open the safe. What happened next is described in sentence R where the peon and manager look into the open safe. The sentence S and S₆ are in continuation and thus last sentence should be S.
50. (d) Q will be the first sentence as it gives the reason why Gandhi remained in college for only part of the year. When we look at the options, we see that only option (d) starts with Q. hence, option (d) is the answer, thereby, making QPSR the correct sequence.
51. (a) reversal (Noun) : opposite of what it was. Look at the sentence : The government suffered a total reversal of fortune(s) last year. Here, reversal is the right usage.
52. (b) bring out : to produce something; to publish something. Look at the sentence: The band have just brought out their second album.
53. (a) the ball is in your/ somebody's court : It is your responsibility to take action next. Here, your court is the right usage.
54. (a) remark : something that you say or write which expresses an opinion about something. Here, remarked is the right usage.
55. (a) in collaboration with : the act of working with another person. Look at the sentence: She wrote the book in collaboration with one of her friends. Here, collaboration is the right option.
56. (b) Preposition by is the right option.
57. (b) Subject + has/ have + been + V-ing is the right structure. Hence, deteriorating is the right option.

58. (b) Before a gerund, possessive case (his) should be used.
59. (d) Beside = by the side of
60. (b) Accede (Verb) = agree to demand, request or treaty; assume an office.
61. (a) The word Innocuous means not harmful or injurious; harmless.
62. (b) The word Cursory means going rapidly over something, without noticing details; hence the synonym Quick is the correct answer.
63. (b) Punctilious means scrupulous or careful. Serious means grave. Careful means cautious. Punctual means on time. Hardworking means diligent.
64. (c) Deplore means feel or express strong condemnation of. Its synonym is regret meaning feel sad, repentant, or disappointed over something that one has done or failed to do. Losing heart means being discouraged. Entreat means to urge and malign means hurtful
65. (a) 'Obeisance' means the fact of obeying or respecting someone. 'homage' means expressing special honour or respect to someone. Therefore, 'homage' is the most similar synonym of 'Obeisance'.
66. (a) Penury means poverty. Poverty is same as penury. Petty means little, phony means fake. Pathetic means wretched.
67. (c) 'Pall' means 'to become less interesting'
68. (b) Imperceptibly: Hard to sense, faint
 (a) Extremely: Intensely
 (b) Invisibly: Out of sight
 (c) Inconceivably: Beyond reason, unbelievable.
 (d) Intensely: deeply, strongly Most similar word is invisibly
69. (a) 'Pecuniary' means 'pertaining to money'
70. (a) The word Commiseration means to feel or express sorrow or sympathy for; empathize with; pity.
71. (a) The word Nadir means an extreme state of adversity; the lowest point of anything; zenith is the opposite.
72. (b) The word Ostentation means pretentious or conspicuous show, as of wealth or importance; display intended to impress others.
73. (b) The word Obsequious means obedient or attentive to an excessive or servile degree. Dignified is the proper farthest word.
74. (d) The word Denigrate means to speak damagingly of; criticize in a derogatory manner, sully, defame; hence the antonym Praise is the correct answer.
75. (a) Defile means pollute or corrupt. Purify means cleanse. Disturb means bother. Glorify means worship.
76. (a) Vexation means displeasure. Comfort means soothe. Slyness means cunning. Fright means fear. Nervousness means anxiety.
77. (d) Apparent means evident. Real means genuine. Significant means important. Unimportant means insignificant. Vague means unclear.
78. (a) Adulation means praise. Therefore option (c) and (d) can be excluded. Condemnation means to blame publicly. However, option a back-biting is the perfect antonym for adulation as it means to speak bad about.
79. (b) Ill at ease: Awkward, embarrassed, and uneasy
 (a) Easy to deal with: Uncomplicated, Not difficult
 (b) Comfortable: relax, untroubled
 (c) Chronically ill: confirmed, habitual
 (d) Strong: forceful, powerful
 Most nearly opposite is Comfortable.

80. (c) The word Plausible means having an appearance of truth or reason; seemingly worthy of approval or acceptance; likely. Unlikely is the right antonym.
81. (b) "Behind" shows the relationship between "cat" and "cur"
82. (b) "Across" shows the relationship between "ran" and "field," making it a preposition.
83. (b) "Met" is an action performed by the committee, making it a verb.
84. (a) "Between" shows the relationship between "choose" and "two options," making it a preposition.
85. (a) "Recklessly" describes how he drove the car, making it an adverb.
86. (d) "Promptly" describes when they responded, making it an adverb.
87. (c) "Discussion" is the subject of the sentence, making it a noun.
88. (b) "Diligently" describes how she worked, making it an adverb.
89. (d) "Swiftly" describes how they reacted, making it an adverb.
90. (b) "Ultimately" describes when the decision was made, making it an adverb.
91. (a) Serendipity. The correct spelling of the word is "Serendipity."
92. (b) Exquisite. The correct spelling of the word is "Exquisite."
93. (b) Conscientious. The correct spelling of the word is "Conscientious."
94. (a) Prevaricate. The correct spelling of the word is "Prevaricate."
95. (a) Ubiquitous. The correct spelling of the word is "Ubiquitous."
96. (a) Connoisseur. The correct spelling of the word is "Connoisseur."
97. (d) Ostentatious. The correct spelling of the word is "Ostentatious."
98. (d) Insouciant. The correct spelling of the word is "Insouciant."
99. (a) Enervate. The correct spelling of the word is "Enervate."
100. (b) Syzygy. The correct spelling of the word is "Syzygy."
101. (b) The correct combination uses "although" to show the contrast between her age and her wisdom
102. (a) The correct combination uses "so" to show the cause and effect relationship.
103. (a) The correct combination uses "so" to show the cause and effect relationship.
104. (b) The correct combination uses "despite" and "because" to indicate the contrast and reason.
105. (d) The correct combination uses "although" to show the contrast between his effort and the outcome.
106. (b) The correct combination uses "although" to show the contrast between the project's difficulty and her success.
107. (b) The correct combination uses "despite" to show the contrast between the practice and the performance.
108. (d) The correct combination uses "although" to show the contrast between the duration of work and his continued love for the job.
109. (b) The correct combination uses "despite" to show the contrast between her learning ability and her struggle with complex problems.
110. (b) The correct combination uses "despite" to show the contrast between the experiment's outcome and the insights gained.
111. (d) The direct speech "I am sorry for what I did" changes to "she was sorry for what she had done" in reported speech to maintain the tense consistency.

- 112.(b) "Will" changes to "would" in reported speech when the reporting verb is in the past tense.
- 113.(c) "Can" changes to "could" and "next week" changes to "the following week" in reported speech.
- 114.(b) "Have been working" changes to "had been working" and "this" changes to "that" in reported speech.
- 115.(a) "Will be launching" changes to "would be launching" and "next month" changes to "the following month" in reported speech.
- 116.(c) "Didn't attend" changes to "hadn't attended" and "yesterday" changes to "the day before" in reported speech.
- 117.(d) Conditional sentences remain the same but require adjustment of pronouns to maintain the meaning in reported speech.
- 118.(c) Exclamatory sentences in direct speech are reported with a statement in indirect speech.
- 119.(a) "Will" changes to "would" in reported speech.
- 120.(a) "Am considering" changes to "was considering" in reported speech.