

# General ENGLISH

*for*

## GATE • PSU's

**Also useful for**

State public service commissions and other  
competitive examinations



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**General English for GATE • PSUs**

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Section

A

# GRAMMAR

**Tense**

Tense is a form of verb which tells us about the time of action.

1. The Present Tense
2. The Past Tense
3. The Future Tense

**Aspects**

1. Indefinite / Simple
2. Progressive / Continuous
3. Perfect
4. Perfect Progressive

**NOTE**

In fact there are only two tenses in English, but the future aspect is possible with the help of modal i.e. will / shall or **Present Simple / Present Progressive**.

**Simple Present**

introduced by

*Always, Everyday, Sundays, Mondays, Often, Usually, Seldom, .*

**Formation**

1. **Singular Subject** : *He, She, It, Name.*
2. **Plural Subject** : *You, we, They.*
3. 'I' is a singular subject, but treated as plural in the present tense.

**Rule : 1 (Singular sub + V<sub>1</sub> + s/es + ob)**

V<sub>1</sub> [main verb/base form/principal verb/root verb] is always plural; we add s/es to make it singular.

1. *Go* : Plural verb
2. *Goes* : Singular verb

**EXAMPLES —**

1. Mohan *goes* to office.
2. She cooks food.
3. One of my friends lives in Delhi.

**Rule : 2 (Plural sub + V<sub>1</sub> + object)**

1. They go to temple.
2. We help the poor.

**(Negative)**

**[To say no to something or somebody]**

**(Singular sub + does not + V<sub>1</sub> + ob)**

**EXAMPLES —**

1. She does not go to temple.
2. I do not compose a song.

**Never = Not any time in Present, Past or Future.**

1. She never comes on time.
2. They never help the poor.

### Interrogative / Interrogative negative [Asking Question]

**Yes / No Type** [Do/ Does/ Sub + V<sub>1</sub> + ob?]

1. Does she write a letter?
2. Do you play hockey?

**WH type** [WH + do / does + sub + V<sub>1</sub> + ob?]

Where do you live?

When does she go to office?

Why do you not go to school?

#### NOTE

*Who* functions as a singular sub. (**Who + V<sub>1</sub> + s/es + ob?**)

Who teaches you English?

### Usage:

#### 1. Present Habits

- Cindy cooks food [Again and again]

#### 3. Near future

- She goes to Holland next month.

#### 2. News paper headlines

- India wins by three wickets.

#### 4. Universal Truth

- The sun rises in the east.

## Present Continuous Tense

The present continuous tense is used to indicate an action which is going on at the time of speaking.

#### EXAMPLE —

She is writing a letter. [*Now*]

*To understand it better, please read the following points carefully:*

1. Action should be going on while speaking.
2. Action should be deliberate.
3. Action should be temporary.
4. Sometimes action may be incomplete while speaking.
5. Verb should be dynamic

#### EXAMPLE —

I am writing a novel. [It maybe the writer is not writing a novel while speaking]

**Rule :** (Subject + is / am / are + V<sub>1</sub> + ing + object)

#### EXAMPLES —

1. She is writing a letter.
2. I am listening to the music.
3. They are watering the plants.

## Articles

In fact like quantifiers, articles belong to the wider class of determiners. There are two articles in English.

<b>Indefinite Article</b> <i>a / an</i>	<b>Definite Article</b> <i>The</i>
--	---------------------------------------

Indefinite Article **a / an**

We use *a / an* before a singular countable noun when it is not specified, or when we mean no matter which one.

## Some Important Key points

- **A** **Do not use *a / an* before an uncountable noun.**

**Such as** : Information, soap, chalk, bread, etc.

**Wrong** : *an* information, *a* soap, *a* chalk, *a* bread.

**Right** : *a* piece of information

*a* bar of soap

*a* stick of chalk

*a* loaf of bread

**Do not use *a / an* before an adjective which is without a **singular countable noun**.**

**Wrong** : He is a unique.

**Right** : He is unique.

**OR** He is a unique person.

**Do not use *a / an* before a **plural countable noun**.**

**Such as** : Oxen, trousers, theses, oases, teeth, feet, etc.

**Wrong** : He wrote a theses.

**Right** : He wrote theses.

**OR** He wrote a thesis.

**Wrong** : I saw an oxen.

**Right** : I saw several oxen.

**OR** I saw an ox.

**Do not use *a / an* after the following **phrases**.**

kind of, sort of, post of, a number of, the number of	+ no article + Noun
---	---------------------

- ☒ **Wrong** : Shalini has applied for the post of an editor.
- ☑ **Right** : Shalini has applied for the post of editor.
- ☒ **Wrong** : The number of the Crimes seems to be increasing by leaps and bounds in metropolitans.
- ☑ **Right** : The number of crimes seems to be increasing by leaps and bounds in metropolitans.

- **B** Read the following *fixed phrases* with or without articles.

<b>In the morning</b> <b>In the evening</b> <b>At noon</b> <b>At night</b> <b>At midnight</b> <b>Tell a lie</b> <b>Speak the truth</b>	<b>On foot</b> <b>By bus, by car, by plane</b> <b>Make a noise</b> <b>In difficulty</b> <b>In trouble</b> <b>In a hurry</b> <b>On horse back</b>
--	--

- **C** We use *a/ an* before a **singular countable noun** when it is mentioned for the first time,

*Ex. :*

- Once there was a king.
- I bought a car.

- **D** *A/ an* can be used before *food, lunch, breakfast, dinner* if they are preceded by an adjective.

*Ex. :*

- He gave me a delicious food.

### Rules Regarding a / an

- '**A**' is used before a singular countable noun which begins with a consonant sound.
- '**An**' is used before a singular countable noun which begins with a vowel sound.

#### Examples —

an S.D.M

an M.P.

an hour

an heir

an Umbrella

α Unique woman

α European citizen

an L.L.B student

α tube of toothpaste

α sheet of paper

an English woman

Section

**B**

# VOCABULARY

# Enhance Your Word Power

Enhance Your Word Power		
Sl.	Word	Meaning
1.	Penury (Noun)	Extreme poverty
2.	Petulant (Adjective)	Rude, Peevish
3.	Quagmire (Noun)	A difficult situation
4.	Perturb (Verb)	To disturb
5.	Carping (Verb)	To find fault
6.	Chasten (Verb)	To correct by punishment
7.	Stygian (Adjective)	Dark and gloomy
8.	Tirade (Noun)	A long violent speech
9.	Rue (Verb)	To regret
10.	Venerate (Verb)	To respect, honor, adore
11.	Fulsome (Adjective)	Abundant
12.	Imbroglia (Noun)	An extremely confused or complicated situation
13.	Toothsome (Adjective)	Delicious, sexually attractive
14.	Inspid (Adjective)	Tasteless
15.	Futile (Adjective)	Completely useless
16.	Ubiquitous (Adjective)	Omnipresent, found everywhere
17.	Flag (Verb)	To become weak, feeble

Enhance Your Word Power		
Sl.	Word	Meaning
18.	Compromise (Verb)	To reduce the quality
19.	Coin (Verb)	To invent a word or phrase
20.	Dearth (Noun)	Paucity, Shortage of something
21.	Ravenous (Adjective)	Very hungry
22.	Subtle (Adjective)	Difficult to detect
23.	Clandestine (Adjective)	Secret, not open
24.	Indigenous (Adjective)	Native to an area
25.	Enigmatic (Adjective)	Mysterious
26.	Obfuscate (Verb)	To confuse, Perplex
27.	Abjure (Verb)	To reject
28.	Abrogate (Verb)	To abolish, To finish
29.	Alacrity (Noun)	Eagerness
30.	Antipathy (Noun)	Strong dislike
31.	Blandish (Verb)	To coax by flattery
32.	Conflagration (Noun)	Great fire
33.	Contrite (Verb)	To remorse, to feel sorry
34.	Cupidity (Noun)	Greed, strong desire
35.	Decry (Verb)	To criticise, Excoriate

Enhance Your Word Power		
Sl.	Word	Meaning
36.	Enervate (Verb)	To weaken
37.	Evince (Verb)	To show, reveal
38.	Ebullient (Adjective)	Extremely lively
39.	Approbation (Noun)	Praise
40.	Myriad (Adjective)	Many, numerous
41.	Ameliorate (Verb)	To improve, increase
42.	Lucid (Adjective)	Clear, easily understood
43.	Ornate (Verb)	To decorate
44.	Eloquent (Adjective)	Well spoken, expressive
45.	Exonerate (Verb)	To remove blame
46.	Foment (Verb)	To stir up, incite
47.	Gregarious (Adjective)	Sociable, outgoing
48.	Inert (Adjective)	Lethargic, unmoving, sluggish
49.	Fleece (Verb)	To deceive, swindle, dupe
50.	Wane (Verb)	To decrease
51.	Thrifty (Adjective)	A person who spends money wisely or using money wisely
52.	Penurious (Adjective)	Miserly
53.	Affluent (Adjective)	Wealthy
54.	Ruminate (Verb)	To think, ponder
55.	Immaculate (Adjective)	Spotless, Clean, pure

Enhance Your Word Power		
Sl.	Word	Meaning
56.	Sordid (Adjective)	Filthy, dirty
57.	Render (Verb)	To give, deliver
58.	Rattle (Verb)	To make a noise
59.	Advocate (Verb)	To support
60.	Felony (Noun)	A major crime
61.	Congenial (Adjective)	Pleasant, friendly
62.	Accord (Verb)	To agree
63.	Flaunt (Verb)	To display proudly
64.	Abstruse (Adjective)	Hard to understand
65.	Diffident (Adjective)	Shy, timid
66.	Dour (Adjective)	Harsh
67.	Indolent (Adjective)	Lazy, Lethargic
68.	Noxious (Adjective)	Harmful, injurious
69.	Sensitise (Verb)	To make aware
70.	Wrangle (Verb)	To argue
71.	Rampant (Adjective)	Unchecked, something that cannot be controlled
72.	Feign (Verb)	To pretend
73.	Lucrative (Adjective)	Profitable
74.	Elegant (Adjective)	Attractive
75.	Profound (Adjective)	Deep, great
76.	Proclaim (Verb)	To announce something
77.	Serene (Adjective)	Calm and peaceful

# Words Often Confused

## Words Often Confused

### 1. Accede/Exceed

- Accede (V)* ➤ *To agree*  
**Use :** She acceded to the demands of the students.
- Exceed (V)* ➤ *To go beyond the limit.*  
**Use :** Please do not exceed the speed limit.

### 2. Adverse/Averse

- Adverse (Adj)* ➤ *Unfavourable*  
**Use :** Most birds can be seen flying in adverse weather.
- Averse (Adj)* ➤ *To have a strong feelings against.*  
**Use :** Pecola is averse to smoking with her own husband.

### 3. Allude/Elude

- Allude (Verb)* ➤ *To refer indirectly*  
**Use :** Shakespeare did not allude to his poverty in his plays.
- Elude (Verb)* ➤ *To escape, to avoid*  
**Use :** Hester tried to elude captivity.

### 4. Alone/Lonely

- Alone (Adj)* ➤ *Without other people*  
**Use :** I was alone when she entered my office.
- Lonely (Adj)* ➤ *You are unhappy because you are not with other people.*  
**Use :** I still need you because even today I feel lonely without you.

### 5. Appraise / Apprise

- Appraise (Verb)* ➤ *To determine the worth of something.*  
**Use :** I want you to appraise this old car.
- Apprise (Verb)* ➤ *To inform*  
**Use :** She was apprised of the death of her mother.

**6. Borrow/Lend**

- Borrow (Verb)* ➤ *To take something from someone for a certain period of time.*  
**Use :** I borrowed forty thousand rupees from my brother.
- Lend (V)* ➤ *To give something to someone for a certain period of time.*  
**Use :** I can lend you Rs. 5000 on 16 December.

**7. Cite/Site**

- Cite (Verb)* ➤ *To quote*  
**Use :** He cited the constitution in his defence.
- Site (Noun)* ➤ *Location of a town, building etc.*  
**Use :** This site is for our swimming pool.

**8. Alternate/Alternative**

- Alternate (Adj)* ➤ *Every other, or occurring by turns.*  
**Use:** Candida comes to meet me on alternate days.
- Alternate (Verb)* ➤ *To happen or exist one after the other repeatedly.*  
**Use:** She alternated between cheerfulness and deep despair.
- Alternative (Noun)* ➤ *Choice/Option*  
**Use:** There must an alternative to people sleeping on the streets.

**9. Custom/Habit**

- Custom (Noun)* ➤ *A belief that has been established for a long time.*  
**Use:** What customs do you have for new year in your country?
- Habit (Noun)* ➤ *A regular practice or Tendency*  
**Use:** Sandra is unable to give up the habit of smoking.

**10. Freedom/Liberty**

- Freedom (Noun)* ➤ *To have power to act or change without constraint.*  
**Use:** Today we have the freedom to decide our own future.
- Liberty (Noun)* ➤ *Freedom from bondage*  
**Use:** The slaves were set at liberty.

**11. Attack/Assault**

- Attack (Verb)* ➤ *To try to hurt or defeat using violence.*  
**Use :** Most wild animals do not attack unless they are provoked.  
**Note:** Attack also means, to criticise.
- Assault (Noun)* ➤ *A violent physical or verbal attack.*  
**Use:** Racially motivated assaults on Asians are increasing by leaps and bounds.

**12. Regard/Regardless**

- Regard (Verb)* ➤ *To have an opinion about someone or something.*  
**Use:** I regard Kamladas as the greatest poet in Indian literature.
- Regardless (Adverb)* ➤ *Not being affected by something.*  
**Use:** I kept working hard regardless of my failures.

# Synonyms and Antonyms

## SYNONYM

A **synonym** is a word or phrase that means exactly or nearly the same as another **lexeme** (word or phrase) in the same language. Words that are synonyms are said to be **synonymous**, and the state of being a synonym is called synonymy. The words begin, start, commence, and initiate are all synonyms of one another.

Words are typically synonymous in one particular sense: for example, long and extended in the **context** long time or extended time are synonymous, but long cannot be used in the phrase extended family.

Synonyms with exactly the same meaning share a **seme** or denotational **sememe**, whereas those with inexactly similar meanings share a broader denotational or **connotational** sememe and thus overlap within a **semantic field**. The former are sometimes called **cognitive synonyms** and the latter, near-synonyms, plesionyms or poecilonyms.

Utilizing synonyms is an elegant and frequently applied method to make a text more pleasant to read. If the same word is used very often in several sentences, it might very well be the case, that this same word should describe something different in each of the sentences. Since synonyms are usually nuanced variations with slightly different meanings, their use will emphasize special characteristics, and thus the text will be more precise.

### List of Synonyms

#### ACTION —

- Come** : advance, approach, arrive, near, reach  
**Go** : depart, disappear, fade, move, proceed, recede, travel  
**Run** : dash, escape, elope, flee, hasten, hurry, race, rush, speed, sprint



## SOLVE QUESTIONS BASED ON SYNONYM



There's a certain skill involved in choosing the most appropriate synonym; not all are created equal.

It is important to consider the connotation of the word because some synonyms can **inject a different meaning** than what was intended.

**Example** ▶ One synonym for sad is "gloomy." This word carries quite a negative connotation. Depending on the circumstance you can use it but, in this instance, if you just want to say that someone is "down," then another synonym such as "blue" or "unhappy" would be a little less heavy.



Sort out the words from the options that have a negative impact and those which have a positive effect.



If we're asked to find the meaning of a positive word, then it would be easier to relate that word with the positive word from the options.



Now even if we don't know the meaning of any word from the option, we can narrow down the choices to almost half.

- Hurry** : rush, run, speed, race, hasten, urge, accelerate, bustle  
**Hide** : conceal, cover, mask, cloak, camouflage, screen, shroud, veil  
**Move** : plod, go, creep, crawl, inch, poke, drag, toddle, shuffle, trot, dawdle, walk  
**Do** : execute, enact, carry out, finish, conclude, effect, accomplish, achieve, attain

**Have** : hold, possess, own, contain, acquire, gain, maintain, believe, bear, beget, occupy, absorb, fill, enjoy

**Use** : employ, utilize, exhaust, spend, expend, consume, exercise

**Get** : acquire, obtain, secure, procure, gain, fetch, find, score, accumulate, win, earn, rep, catch, net, bag,

### Descriptive —

**Explain** : elaborate, clarify, define, interpret, justify, account for

**Idea** : thought, concept, conception, notion, understanding, opinion, plan, view, belief

**Look** : gaze, see, glance, watch, survey, study, seek, search for, peek, peep, glimpse, stare, contemplate, examine, gape

**Story** : tale, myth, legend, fable, yarn, account, narrative, chronicle, epic, sage, anecdote, record, memoir

**Tell** : disclose, reveal, show, expose, uncover, relate, narrate, inform

**Think** : judge, deem, assume, believe, consider, contemplate, reflect, mediate

### Feelings —

**Anger** : enrage, infuriate, arouse, nettle, exasperate, inflame, madden

**Angry** : mad, furious, enraged, excited, wrathful, indignant, exasperated, aroused, inflamed

**Calm** : quiet, peaceful, still, tranquil, mild, serene, smooth, composed, collected, unruffled, level-headed, unexcited, detached, aloof

**Eager** : keen, fervent, enthusiastic, involved, interested, alive to

**Fear** : fright, dread, terror, alarm, dismay, anxiety, scare, awe, horror, panic, apprehension

**Happy** : pleased, contented, satisfied, delighted, elated, joyful, cheerful, ecstatic, jubilant, gay, tickled, gratified, glad, blissful, overjoyed

**Hate** : despise, loathe, detest, abhor, disfavor, dislike, disapprove, abominate

**Love** : like, admire, esteem, fancy, care for, cherish, adore, treasure, worship, appreciate, savor

**Moody** : temperamental, changeable, short-tempered, glum, morose, sullen, mopish, irritable, testy, peevish

**Sad** : miserable, uncomfortable, wretched, heart-broken, unfortunate, poor, downhearted, sorrowful, depressed, dejected, melancholy, glum, gloomy, dismal, discouraged, unhappy

### Negative —

**Awful** : dreadful, terrible, abominable, bad, poor, unpleasant

**Bad** : evil, immoral, wicked, corrupt, sinful, depraved, rotten, contaminated, spoiled, tainted, harmful, injurious, unfavorable

**Dark** : shadowy, unlit, murky, gloomy, dim, dusky, shaded, sunless, black, dismal, sad

**Dull** : boring, tiring, tiresome, uninteresting, slow, dumb, stupid, unimaginative, lifeless, dead

**Fat** : stout, corpulent, fleshy, beefy, paunchy, plump, full, rotund, tubby, pudgy, chubby, chunky, burly, bulky, elephantine

**Gross** : improper, rude, coarse, indecent, crude, vulgar, outrageous, extreme, grievous, shameful, uncouth, obscene, low

**Hurt** : damage, harm, injure, wound, distress, afflict, pain

**Lazy** : indolent, slothful, idle, inactive, sluggish

**Ugly** : hideous, frightful, frightening, shocking, horrible, unpleasant, monstrous

### Positive —

**Brave** : courageous, fearless, dauntless, intrepid, plucky, daring, heroic, valorous, audacious, bold, gallant, valiant, doughty, mettlesome

**Bright** : shining, shiny, gleaming, brilliant, sparkling, shimmering, radiant, vivid, colorful, lustrous, luminous, incandescent, intelligent, knowing, quick-witted, smart, intellectual

**Enjoy** : appreciate, delight in, be pleased, indulge in, luxuriate in, bask in, relish, devour, savor, like

**Funny** : humorous, amusing, droll, comic, comical, laughable, silly

Section

C

# GATE

Previous Years Solved Questions

1. Which of the following options is the closest in meaning to the word below?  
**Circuitous**  
(a) Cyclic (b) Indirect  
(c) Confusing (d) Crooked  
[2010, 1 Mark]
2. The question below consists of a pair of related words followed by four pairs of words. Select the pair that best expresses the relation in the original pair.  
**Unemployed: Worker**  
(a) Fallow : Land  
(b) Unaware : Sleeper  
(c) Wit : Jester  
(d) Renovated : House  
[2010, 1 Mark]
3. Choose the most appropriate word from the options given below to complete the following sentence:  
**If we manage to ..... our natural resources, we would leave a better planet for our children.**  
(a) uphold (b) restrain  
(c) cherish (d) conserve  
[2010, 1 Mark]
4. Choose the most appropriate word from the options given below to complete the following sentence:  
**His rather casual remarks on politics ..... his lack of seriousness about the subject.**  
(a) masked (b) belied  
(c) betrayed (d) suppressed  
[2010, 1 Mark]
5. Modern warfare has changed from large scale clashes of armies to suppression of civilian populations. Chemical agents that do their work silently appear to be suited to such warfare; and regretfully, there exist people in military establishments who think that chemical agents are useful tools for their cause.  
Which of the following statements best sums up the meaning of the above passage?  
(a) Modern warfare has resulted in civil strife.  
(b) Chemical agents are useful in modern warfare.  
(c) Use of chemical agents in warfare would be undesirable.  
(d) People in military establishments like to use chemical agents in war.  
[2010, 2 Marks]
6. Choose the word from the options given below that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the given word:  
**Amalgamate**  
(a) merge (b) split  
(c) collect (d) separate  
[CE, ME, CS, 2011, 1 Mark (Set-1)]
7. Which of the following options is the closest in the meaning to the word below:  
**Inexplicable**  
(a) Incomprehensible (b) Indelible  
(c) Inextricable (d) Infallible  
[CE, ME, CS, 2011, 1 Mark (Set-1)]
8. Choose the most appropriate word(s) from the options given below to complete the following sentence.  
**I contemplated\_\_\_\_\_ Singapore for my vacation but decided against it.**  
(a) to visit  
(b) having to visit  
(c) visiting  
(d) for a visit  
[CE, ME, CS, 2011, 1 Mark (Set-1)]
9. Choose the most appropriate word from the options given below to complete the following sentence.  
**If you are trying to make a strong impression on your audience, you cannot do so by being understated, tentative or**  
(a) hyperbolic (b) restrained  
(c) argumentative (d) indifferent  
[CE, ME, CS, 2011, 1 Mark (Set-1)]
10. **Few school curricula include a unit on how to deal with bereavement and grief, and yet all students at some point in their lives suffer from losses through death and parting.**  
Based on the above passage which topic would not be included in a unit on bereavement?  
(a) how to write a letter of condolence  
(b) what emotional stages are passed through in the healing process  
(c) what the leading causes of death are  
(d) how to give support to a grieving friend  
[CE, ME, CS, 2011, 2 Marks (Set-1)]

21. The question below consists of a pair of related words followed by four pairs of words. Select the pair that best expresses the relation in the original pair:  
**Gladiator : Arena**  
 (a) dancer : stage  
 (b) commuter : train  
 (c) teacher : classroom  
 (d) lawyer : courtroom  
**[EE, EC, 2011, 1 Mark (Set-2)]**
12. Choose the most appropriate word from the options given below to complete the following sentence:  
 It was her view that the country's problems had been \_\_\_\_\_ by foreign technocrats, so that to invite them to come back would be counter-productive.  
 (a) identified (b) ascertained  
 (c) exacerbated (d) analysed  
**[EE, EC, 2011, 1 Mark (Set-2)]**
13. Choose the word from the options given below that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the given word:  
**Frequency**  
 (a) periodicity (b) rarity  
 (c) gradualness (d) persistency  
**[EE, EC, 2011, 1 Mark (Set-2)]**
14. Choose the most appropriate word from the options given below to complete the following sentence:  
 Under ethical guidelines recently adopted by the Indian Medical Association, human genes are to be manipulated only to correct diseases for which \_\_\_\_\_ treatments are unsatisfactory.  
 (a) similar (b) most  
 (c) uncommon (d) available  
**[EE, EC, 2011, 1 Mark (Set-2)]**
15. The horse has played a little known but very important role in the field of medicine. Horses were injected with toxins of diseases until their blood built up immunities. Then a serum was made from their blood. Serums to fight with diphtheria and tetanus were developed this way.  
 It can be inferred from the passage, that horses were  
 (a) given immunity to diseases  
 (b) generally quite immune to diseases  
 (c) given medicines to fight toxins  
 (d) given diphtheria and tetanus serums  
**[EE, EC, 2011, 2 Marks (Set-2)]**
16. Choose the most appropriate alternative from the options given below to complete the following sentence:  
**Despite several \_\_\_\_\_ the mission succeeded in its attempt to resolve the conflict.**  
 (a) attempts (b) setbacks  
 (c) meetings (d) delegations  
**[CE, ME CS, 2012, 1 Mark (Set-1)]**
17. Which one of the following options is the closest in meaning to the word given below?  
**Mitigate**  
 (a) Diminish (b) Divulge  
 (c) Dedicate (d) Denote  
**[CE, ME CS, 2012, 1 Mark (Set-1)]**
18. Choose the grammatically INCORRECT sentence:  
 (a) They gave us the money back less the service charges to three Hundred rupees.  
 (b) This country's expenditure is not less than that of Bangladesh.  
 (c) The committee initially asked for a funding of fifty lakh rupees, but later settled for a lesser sum.  
 (d) This country's expenditure on educational reforms is very less.  
**[CE, ME CS, 2012, 1 Mark (Set-21)]**
19. Choose the most appropriate alternative from the options given below to complete the following sentence:  
**Suresh's dog is the one \_\_\_\_\_ was hurt in the stampede.**  
 (a) that (b) which  
 (c) who (d) whom  
**[CE, ME CS, 2012, 1 Mark (Set-1)]**
20. Wanted Temporary, Part-time persons for the post of Field Interviewer to conduct personal interviews to collect and collate economic data. Requirements: High School-pass, must be available for Day, Evening and Saturday work. Transportation paid, expenses reimbursed.  
**Which one of the following is the best inference from the above advertisement?**

271. Pen : Write :: Knife : \_\_\_\_\_

Which one of the following options maintains a similar logical relation in the above?

- (a) Sharp
- (b) Cut
- (c) Vegetables
- (d) Blunt

[CS (Set-2) : 2021]

272. Gauri said that she can play keyboard \_\_\_\_\_ her sister.

- (a) as worse as
- (b) as better as
- (c) as well as
- (d) as nicest as

[CS (Set-2) : 2021]

273. Consider the following sentences:

1. After his surgery, Raja hardly could walk.
2. After his surgery, Raja could barely walk.
3. After his surgery, Raja barely could walk.
4. After his surgery, Raja could hardly walk.

Which of the above sentences are grammatically CORRECT?

- (a) 1 and 2
- (b) 1 and 3
- (c) 2 and 4
- (d) 3 and 4

[ME (Set-1) : 2021]

274. Oxpeckers and rhinos manifest a symbiotic relationship in the wild. The oxpeckers warn the rhinos about approaching poachers, thus possibly saving the lives of the rhinos. Oxpeckers also feed on the parasitic ticks found on rhinos.

In the symbiotic relationship described above, the primary benefits for oxpeckers and rhinos respectively are,

- (a) Oxpeckers get a food source, rhinos have no benefit.
- (b) Oxpeckers save their habitat from poachers while the rhinos have no benefit.
- (c) Oxpeckers get a food source, rhinos may be saved from the poachers.
- (d) Oxpeckers save the lives of poachers, rhinos save their own lives.

[ME (Set-1) : 2021]

275. "The increased consumption of leafy vegetables in the recent months is a clear indication that the people in the state have begun to lead a healthy lifestyle".

Which of the following can be logically inferred from the information presented in the above statement?

- (a) Consumption of leafy vegetables may not be the only indicator of healthy lifestyle.
- (b) The people in the state have increased awareness of health hazards causing by consumption of junk foods.
- (c) Leading a healthy lifestyle is related to a diet with leafy vegetables.
- (d) The people in the state did not consume leafy vegetables earlier.

[ME (Set-1) : 2021]

276. The world is going through the worst pandemic in the past hundred years. The air travel industry is facing a crisis, as the resulting quarantine requirement for travelers led to weak demand.

In relation to the first sentence above, what does the second sentence do?

- (a) Second sentence entirely contradicts the first sentence.
- (b) States an effect of the first sentence.
- (c) The two statements are unrelated.
- (d) Restates an idea from the first sentence.

[ME (Set-2) : 2021]

277. Consider the following sentences:

- (i) The number of candidates who appear for the GATE examination is staggering.
- (ii) A number of candidates from any class are appearing for the GATE examination.
- (iii) The number of candidates who appear for the GATE examination are staggering.
- (iv) A number of candidates from my class is appearing for the GATE examination.

Which of the above sentences are grammatically CORRECT?

- (a) (i) and (iii)
- (b) (i) and (ii)
- (c) (ii) and (iii)
- (d) (ii) and (iv)

[ME (Set-2) : 2021]

278. The people \_\_\_\_\_ were at the demonstration were from all section of society.

- (a) whose
- (b) who
- (c) whom
- (d) which

[EE : 2021]

## EXPLANATIONS

1. (b) **Circuitous:** Deviating from a straight course  
⇒ Indirect  
(a) Cyclic: Recurring in cycle  
(b) Indirect: Not leading by straight line  
(c) Confusing: Lacking clarity  
(d) Crooked: For shapes (irregular in shape)
2. (a) **Unemployed:** Worker ⇒ Here one is opposite to other.  
(a) Fallow: Land ⇒ Fallow means undeveloped land.  
(b) Unaware: sleeper ⇒ Both are same unaware or asleep.  
(c) Wit: Jester ⇒ Wit means ability to make jokes and jester is a joker.  
(d) Renovated : House ⇒ Renovate means to make better and house can be renovated.
3. (d) (a) Uphold: to support ⇒ not appropriate  
(b) Restrain: keep under control ⇒ not appropriate  
(c) Cherish: be fond of ⇒ not related  
(d) Conserve: Keep in safety and protect from harm, decay, loss, or destruction ⇒ most appropriate.
4. (c) (a) Masked: Hide under a false appearance ⇒ opposite  
(b) Belied: Be in contradiction with ⇒ not appropriate  
(c) Betrayed: Reveal unintentionally ⇒ most appropriate  
(d) Suppressed: To put down by force or authority ⇒ irrelevant
5. (d) (a) Modern warfare has resulted in civil strife: There is no direct consequence of warfare given, so it is not appropriate.  
(b) Chemical agents are useful in modern warfare: Passage does not say whether chemical agents are useful or not, so not appropriate.  
(c) Use of chemical agents in warfare would be undesirable: Given that people in military think these are useful, undesirable is wrong  
(d) People in military establishments like to use chemical agents in war; Correct choice as last statement tells that military people think that chemical agents are useful tools for their cause (work silently in warfare).
16. (b) **Setbacks:** Despite several setbacks the mission succeeded in its attempt to resolve the conflict. The word 'Despite' indicates that there has to be a contrast in the sentence, use of the word 'Setbacks' in the blank indicates that despite many problems the mission was successful.
17. (a) **Diminish:** Mitigate means to reduce, to lessen etc. So only the word Diminish is close. Rest all choices have no link with the given word. Divulge means to disclose or reveal which has no link with the given word.
19. (a) Suresh's dog is the one that was hurt in the stampede. That is used with restrictive clauses.
20. (d) **Not gender-discriminatory:** Choice (a) cannot be considered since there is no gender discrimination mentioned in the argument. Choice (b) Xenophobic is one who has fear of foreigners, no link with the given argument. Choice (c) It is wrong to say that the profile has not been designed to make the post attractive, since there are certain features which have been added to make the profile lucrative (which are given towards the end of the advertisement, like Transportation paid, expenses reimbursed).
23. (b) Latitude refers to freedom of action, freedom of expression from restrictions etc. For example, he allowed his children a fair amount of latitude. Coercion refers to force which is an opposite of the word Latitude. Meticulousness refers to being extremely careful and conscientious.