

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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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 + V₁ + s/es + ob)

V₁ [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 + V₁ + object)

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

(Negative)

[To say no to something or somebody]

(Singular sub + does not + V₁ + 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 + V₁ + ob?]

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

WH type [WH + do / does + sub + V₁ + 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 + V₁ + 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 + V₁ + ing + object)

EXAMPLES —

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

VERB	
Action	State
Reading	Taste
Writing	Hate
Playing, etc.	Prefer, like, etc.

To indicate 'state' we do not use progressive tense.

Some verbs are not used in progressive tenses. They are called **Stative Verbs**.

Stative Verbs

like, dislike, know, belong to, love, hate, detest, realise, seem, appear, sound, agree, mind, believe, remember, forget, [look = seem] prefer, resemble, see, hear, smell, taste, astonish, have, recognise, own, wonder, understand, think.

- Wrong** : I am understanding your problem.
- Right** : I understand your problem.
- Wrong** : He is wondering to see her shouting at the beggar.
- Right** : He wonders to see her shouting at the beggar.

NOTE

Some *Stative verbs* can be used in continuous to indicate temporary action.

1. Think (Stative) : Opinion / believe

Ex: I *think* you are right [correct]

It *means*, It is my opinion that you are right.

Think (Dynamic) : Consider, or to have something on mind

Ex: I am *thinking* about my friend.

2. See (Stative) : Understand / see with your eyes

Ex: I *see* what you mean.

I *see* a donkey on the road.

See (Dynamic) : To meet

I am *seeing* her tomorrow.

Present Perfect Tense

This tense is used to indicate an action which is finished just now / recently.

[Sub + has / have + V₃ + ob]

[V₃ = Past Participle]

1. [He / She / It / Name + has]
2. [I, you, we, they + have]

EXAMPLES —

1. He has written a letter.
2. They have composed a song.

Negative [Subject + has / have + not + V₃ + Ob]

He has not written a letter.

They have not composed a song.

Interrogative / Negative**WH + (has / have + subject + V₃ + object?)**

1. Have they watered all the plants?
2. Why have you not eaten food yet?

Errors in the use of present perfect.**Rule : 1 (Imperative sentence + when + subject + has / have + V₃ + object.)**

- Wrong** : Take this medicine when you ate food.
- Right** : Take this medicine when you have eaten food.
- Wrong** : Ask him to go to school when he completes his homework.
- Right** : Ask him to go to school when he has completed his homework.

Rule : 2 (Gone / been)

Gone : To go somewhere and be there.

Been : To go somewhere and come back.

- Wrong** : Have you ever gone to Holland?
- Right** : Have you ever been to Holland?
- Wrong** : Cindy has been to office, so Rochester is waiting for her.
- Right** : Cindy has gone to office, so Rochester is waiting for her.

Rule : 3 (It is the first time, the second time + + Subject + has / have + V₃ + object.)

- Wrong** : It is the third time, I saw her melting in his arms.
- Right** : It is the third time, I have seen her melting in his arms.

Rule : 4 (This is the only time + Subject + has / have + V₃ + object.)

- Wrong** : This is the only time Cathy went to America to meet her Sunday husband.
- Right** : This is the only time Cathy has gone to America to meet her Sunday husband.

Rule : 5 (Present Perfect + since + subject + V₂ + object.)

- Wrong** : Five years have passed since I have seen him reading a detective novel.
- Right** : Five years have passed since I saw him reading a detective novel.

Rule : 6 (Subject + has / have + V₃ of stative verb + object + since / for + time.)

- Wrong** : I know her since childhood.
- Wrong** : I have been knowing her since childhood.
- Right** : I have known her since childhood.
- Wrong** : I have this car since 2015.
- Right** : I have had this car since 2015.
- Wrong** : How long do you love Belinda?
- Right** : How long have you loved Belinda?

Rule : 7 (Do not use the Present Perfect Tense with the Past Time)

- Wrong** : Lydia has left her home town bag and baggage ten years ago.
- Right** : Lydia left her home town bag and baggage ten years ago.
- Wrong** : Meera has written a letter yesterday.
- Right** : Meera wrote a letter yesterday.

Present Perfect Continuous

This tense is used to indicate an action which starts in the past and continues while speaking.

1. [Subject + has / have + been + V₁ + ing + object + since / for + time]
2. Usage of [since / for]

'Since' is used to denote point of time.

- Morning, evening, noon
- Sunday, Monday,
- January, February,
- 2010, 2012,
- 2 o'clock, 3 o'clock,
- Birth, death, childhood, boyhood,
- Festivals : Holi, Diwali,
- Century : 19th century, 18th Century,
- **O'clock** — of the clock [5 o'clock means 5 of the clock]

REMEMBER

Since + last

For + the last

For is used to denote period of time such as for two months, years, hours, etc.

NOTE

The Present Perfect continuous is not used with '*Stative Verbs*'.

- Wrong** : They are watering the plants since morning.
- Right** : They have been watering the plants since morning.
- Wrong** : How long are you sitting in this classroom?
- Right** : How long have you been sitting in this classroom?

EXAMPLES —

1. They have been teaching in this school for the last two years.
 2. Mother has been cooking food since morning.
- Negative** : They have not been reading this book for two days.

Interrogative / Negative

Has it been raining since morning?

Why have they not been reading their books since 5 o'clock?

Simple Past Tense

The simple past tense is applied to indicate

Past Habits**Past Events****Past Habits [Subject + used to + V₁ + object]****EXAMPLES —**

'*She used to smoke*'. means now she does not smoke or we can say she was in the habit of smoking, but now, she does not smoke.

We used to read novels

Negative [Subject + did not + use to + V₁ + object]

- She did not use to smoke. **OR** • She used not to smoke.

Interrogative/Negative [Did + subject + use to + V₁ + object]

- Did she use to take tea?
- Did he not use to read books?

Past Events [Subject + V₂ + object]**EXAMPLES —**

1. He wrote a number of books last year.
2. Ram went to Agra to see the Taj Mahal.
3. They helped the poor yesterday.

Negative**[Subject + did not + V₁ + object]****[Subject + never + V₂ + object]**

- He did not go to Agra to see the Taj Mahal.
- She did not help me yesterday.
- I never saw him smoking.

Interrogative/Negative**[Did + subject + V₁ + object]**

- Did he come here yesterday?
- Where did you go yesterday?
- Why did you not go there?

SPECIAL USAGE

It is time	+ Subject + V₂ + Object.
It is high time	
It is about time	

EXAMPLES —

- Wrong** : It is time she goes to office.
 Right : It is time she went to office.
- Wrong** : It is high time we help the poor.
 Right : It is high time we helped the poor.

Do not shift the tense without any proper reason.

EXAMPLE —

- Wrong** : He went to office, completed his work, and report it to the manager.
 Right : He went to office, completed his work and *reported* it to the manager.

Past Continuous Tense

[When + subject + V₂ + object, sub + was / were + V₁ + ing + object.]

EXAMPLES —

- Wrong** : When I saw him, he wrote an application to his principal.
 Right : When I saw him, he was writing an application to his principal.
- Wrong** : When you rang me up, I sat in the classroom.
 Right : When you rang me up, I was sitting in the classroom.

OR

I was sitting in the classroom when you rang me up.

REMEMBER

1. *I, he, she, it, name + was*
2. *You, we, they + were*

Past Perfect Tense

This tense is applied to indicate two actions finished in the past before or after.

Rule : 1 (Subject + had + V₃ + object + before + subject + V₂ + object)

EXAMPLES —

- Wrong** : He wrote a letter before she went to school.
 Right : He had written a letter before she went to school.

Negative

He had not written a letter before she went to school.

Interrogative / Negative

Had he written a letter before she went to school?

Had he not written a letter before she went to school.

Rule : 2 (Subject + V₂ + object after Subject + had V₃ + object)

EXAMPLES —

- Wrong** : Rochester composed a song after mother went to market.
 Right : Rochester composed a song after mother had gone to market.

Future Perfect Continuous Tense

We use the future perfect continuous tense to show that something will continue until a particular event or time in the future.

[Subject + will have been + V₁ + ing + object + by the / for + time]

- ☒ **Wrong** : It *will have been* raining since morning.
- ☑ **Right** : It *will have been* raining by the morning.
- ☑ **Right** : Alison *will have been* teaching in this school for five years.

Negative

- He *will not have been* reading this book by the noon.

Interrogative / Negative

- *Will he have been* reading this book by the noon?
- *Will he not have been* reading this book by the noon?

NOTE

Do not use since with the *Future Perfect Continuous*.



PRACTICE EXERCISE

Tenses

Instructions : Out of the following four sentences, select the most suitable sentence with respect to grammar and usage.

1. (a) He has left his home town with bag and baggage last year.
(b) He has leave his home town with bag and baggage last year.
(c) He had left his home town with bag and baggage last year.
(d) He left his home town with bag and baggage last year.
2. (a) How long do you know him?
(b) How long have been knowing him?
(c) How long have you known him?
(d) How long are you knowing him?
3. (a) I am understanding your problem.
(b) I understand your problem.
(c) I understanding your problem.
(d) I understands your problem.
4. (a) I am reading this book since noon.
(b) I do read this book since noon.
(c) I had read this book since noon.
(d) I have been reading this book since noon.
5. (a) They have been teaching in this school since the last ten years.
(b) They have been teaching in this school for the last ten years.
(c) They have been teaching in this school for the last ten year.
(d) They have being teaching in this school since the last ten years.
6. (a) Return this book to me when you read it.
(b) Return this book to me when have you read it.
(c) Return this book to me when you have read it.
(d) Return this book to me when you will read it.
7. (a) It is the only time she goes to office.
(b) It is the only time she went to office.
(c) It is the only time she has gone to office.
(d) It is the only time she is going to office.
8. (a) It is high time he writes a letter.
(b) It is high time he wrote a letter.
(c) It is high time he was writing a letter
(d) It is high time he is writing a letter.
9. (a) It will have been raining since morning.
(b) It will have been raining for morning.
(c) It will have been raining by the morning.
(d) It will has been raining by the morning.

10. (a) Sandra cooked food before you came.
 (b) Sandra has cooked food before you came.
 (c) Sandra had cooked food before you come.
 (d) Sandra has cooked food before you comes.

Answer Key >**Tenses**

1. (d) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (d) 5. (b) 6. (c)
 7. (c) 8. (b) 9. (c) 10. (c)

Explanations >**Tenses****1. (d)**

Present perfect is not followed by past time, so options (a) and (b) are wrong. For single action we don't use past perfect tense, so option (c) is wrong.

For past time we use past indefinite tense so option (d) is the best option choice.

2. (c)

'How long' is followed by either perfect tense or perfect continuous tense. So options (a), (b) and (d) are wrong.

According to rule option (c) is the best option choice.

3. (b)

Understand is a stative verb so it has no continuous tense, so options (a) and (c) are wrong.

'I' takes plural verb (V_1) so option (d) is wrong. Option (b) is the best option choice.

4. (d)

In case of since or for, perfect tense is required, so options (a), (b) and (c) are wrong.

According to rule option (d) is the best option choice.

5. (b)**The Rule says :**

For + The last
Since + last

According to the above rule

Option (a) is wrong.

Option (c) is wrong because it contains ten year instead of the ten years.

Being is not used with perfect continuous tense, so option (d) is wrong.

Thus according to rule option (b) is the best option choice.

6. (c)**The Rule says :**

[Imperative sentence + When + Present Perfect Tense]

According to above rule options (a), (b) and (d) are wrong.

Option (c) is the best option choice.

7. (c)**The Rule says :**

[It is the only time + Present Perfect Tense]

Options (a) and (b) are wrong.

Option (c) is the best option choice.

8. (b)**The Rule says :**

[It is high time + Past Indefinite Tense]

According to above rule options (a), (c) and (d) are wrong.

Option (b) is the best option choice.

9. (c)

We do not use since with future perfect continuous tense, so option (a) is wrong.

We do not use for before morning. So option (b) is wrong.

Will is not followed by has, so option (d) is wrong.

We use by the at the place of since with future perfect continuous tense, so option (c) is the best option choice.

10. (c)**The Rule says :**

[Subject + had + V_3 + object + before + subject + V_2 + Object]

According to rule of past perfect tense

Options (a), (b) and are wrong.

Option (c) is the best option choice.

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 fools 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)]

11. 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?

- (a) Gender-discriminatory
- (b) Xenophobic
- (c) Not designed to make the post attractive
- (d) Not gender-discriminatory

[CE, ME CS, 2012, 2 Marks (Set-1)]

21. Choose the most appropriate alternative from the options given below to complete the following sentence:

If the tired soldier wanted to lie down, he _____ the mattress out on the balcony.

- (a) should take
- (b) shall take
- (c) should have taken
- (d) will have taken

[EE, EC, 2012, 1 Mark (Set-2)]

22. One of the parts (A, B, C, D) in the sentence given below contains an ERROR. Which one of the following is INCORRECT?

I requested that he should be given the driving test today instead of tomorrow.

- (a) requested that
- (b) should be given
- (c) the driving test
- (d) instead of tomorrow

[EE, EC, 2012, 1 Mark (Set-2)]

23. Which one of the following options is the closest in meaning to the word given below?

Latitude

- (a) Eligibility
- (b) Freedom
- (c) Coercion
- (d) Meticulousness

[EE, EC, 2012, 1 Mark (Set-2)]

24. Choose the most appropriate word from the options given below to complete the following sentence:

Given the seriousness of the situation that he had to face, his _____ was impressive.

- (a) beggary
- (b) nomenclature
- (c) jealousy
- (d) nonchalance

[EE, EC, 2012, 1 Mark (Set-2)]

25. One of the legacies of the Roman legions was discipline. In the legions, military law prevailed and discipline was brutal. Discipline on the battlefield kept units obedient, intact and fighting, even when the odds and conditions were against them.

Which one of the following statements best sums up the meaning of the above passage?

- (a) Thorough regimentation was the main reason for the efficiency of the Roman legions even in adverse circumstances.
- (b) The legions were treated inhumanly as if the men were animals.
- (c) Discipline was the armies inheritance from their seniors.
- (d) The harsh discipline to which the legions were subjected to led to the odds and conditions being against them.

[EE, EC, 2012, 2 Marks (Set-2)]

26. Friendship, No matter how _____ it is, has its limitation

- (a) cordial
- (b) intimate
- (c) secret
- (d) pleasant

[CE, 2013, 1 Mark (Set-1)]

27. The pair that best express a relationship similar to that expression in the pair:

Medicine : Health

- (a) Science : Experiment
- (b) Wealth : Peace
- (c) Education : Knowledge
- (d) Money : Happiness

[CE, 2013, 1 Mark (Set-1)]

28. Which of the following options is closest in meaning to the word given below:

"Primeval"

- (a) Modern
- (b) Historic
- (c) Primitive
- (d) Antique

[CE, 2013, 1 Mark (Set-1)]

29. The professor ordered to
(I) (II)

the student to go out of the class
(III) (IV)

The incorrect one is

- (a) (I)
- (b) II
- (c) (III)
- (d) (IV)

[CE, 2013, 1 Mark (Set-1)]

30. Abhishek is elder to Savan, Savan is younger to Anshul. The correct relations is

- (a) Abhishek is elder to Anshul
- (b) Anshul is elder to Abhishek
- (c) Abhishek and Anshul are of same age
- (d) No conclusion can be drawn

[CE, 2013, 2 Marks (Set-1)]

31. Complete the sentence :
Universalism is to particularism as diffuseness is to _____.
(a) specificity (b) neutrality
(c) generality (d) adaptation
[ME, PI & CS/IT, 2013, 1 Mark (Set-2)]
32. Were you a bird, you _____ in the sky.
(a) would fly (b) shall fly
(c) should fly (d) shall have flown
[ME, PI & CS/IT, 2013, 1 Mark (Set-2)]
33. Which one of the following options is the closest in meaning to the word given below?
Nadir
(a) Highest (b) Lowest
(c) Medium (d) Integration
[ME, PI & CS/IT, 2013, 1 Mark (Set-2)]
34. Choose the grammatically **INCORRECT** sentence:
(a) He is of Asian origin.
(b) They belonged to Africa
(c) She is an European.
(d) They migrated from India to Australia.
[ME, PI & CS/IT, 2013, 1 Mark (Set-2)]
35. After several defeats in wars, Robert Bruce went in exile and wanted to commit suicide. Just before committing suicide, he came across a spider attempting tirelessly to have its net. Time and again, the spider failed but that did not deter it to refrain from making attempts. Such attempts by the spider made Bruce curious. Thus, Bruce started observing the near-impossible goal of the spider to have the net. Ultimately, the spider succeeded in having its net despite several failures. Such act of the spider encouraged Bruce not to commit suicide. And then, Bruce went back again and won many a battle, and the rest is history.
Which one of the following assertions is best supported by the above information?
(a) Failure is the pillar of success
(b) Honesty is the best policy
(c) Life begins and ends with adventures
(d) No adversity justifies giving up hope
[ME, PI & CS/IT, 2013, 2 Marks (Set-2)]
36. Choose the grammatically **CORRECT** sentence:
(a) Two and two add four.
(b) Two and two become four.
(c) Two and two are four.
(d) Two and two make four.
[EE, EC & IN, 2013, 1 Mark (Set-3)]
37. **Statement:** You can always give me a ring whenever you need.
Which one of the following is the best inference from the above statement?
(a) Because I have a nice caller tune.
(b) Because I have a better telephone facility.
(c) Because a friend in need is a friend indeed.
(d) Because you need not pay towards the telephone bills when you give me a ring.
[EE, EC & IN, 2013, 1 Mark (Set-3)]
38. Complete the sentence:
Dare _____ mistakes.
(a) commit (b) to commit
(c) committed (d) committing
[EE, EC & IN, 2013, 1 Mark (Set-3)]
39. They were requested not to quarrel with others. Which one of the following options is the closest in meaning to the word **quarrel**?
(a) make out (b) call out
(c) dig out (d) fall out
[EE, EC & IN, 2013, 1 Mark (Set-3)]
40. **Statement:** There were different streams of freedom movements in colonial India carried out by the moderates, liberals, radicals, socialists, and so on.
Which one of the following is the best inference from the above statement?
(a) The emergence of nationalism in colonial India led to our Independence.
(b) Nationalism in India emerged in the context of colonialism.
(c) Nationalism in India is homogeneous.
(d) Nationalism in India is heterogeneous.
[EE, EC & IN, 2013, 2 Marks (Set-3)]
41. Choose the most appropriate phrase from the options given below to complete the following sentence.
The aircraft _____ take off as soon as its flight plan was filed.
(a) is allowed to (b) will be allowed to
(c) was allowed to (d) has been allowed to
[EC & ME, 2014, 1 Mark (Set-1)]

Answer Key — GATE : Previous Years Solved Questions

1. (b)	43. (b)	85. (c)	127. (b)	169. (a)	211. (c)
2. (a)	44. (b)	86. (a)	128. (a)	170. (a)	212. (d)
3. (d)	45. (b)	87. (b)	129. (c)	171. (a)	213. (d)
4. (c)	46. (c)	88. (a)	130. (d)	172. (b)	214. (c)
5. (d)	47. (c)	89. (c)	131. (d)	173. (a)	215. (d)
6. (b)	48. (b)	90. (c)	132. (c)	174. (b)	216. (c)
7. (a)	49. (b)	91. (a)	133. (a)	175. (a)	217. (b)
8. (c)	50. (a)	92. (a)	134. (c)	176. (a)	218. (a)
9. (b)	51. (b)	93. (c)	135. (d)	177. (d)	219. (c)
10. (c)	52. (b)	94. (b)	136. (c)	178. (c)	220. (a)
11. (d)	53. (b)	95. (a)	137. (b)	179. (a)	221. (b)
12. (c)	54. (c)	96. (b)	138. (b)	180. (c)	222. (b)
13. (b)	55. (c)	97. (b)	139. (b)	181. (a)	223. (c)
14. (d)	56. (c)	98. (a)	140. (a)	182. (d)	224. (a)
15. (b)	57. (b)	99. (b)	141. (b)	183. (a)	225. (b)
16. (b)	58. (a)	100. (c)	142. (a)	184. (a)	226. (d)
17. (a)	59. (b)	101. (b)	143. (b)	185. (d)	227. (c)
18. (d)	60. (a)	102. (b)	144. (c)	186. (c)	228. (d)
19. (a)	61. (b)	103. (b)	145. (c)	187. (c)	229. (b)
20. (d)	62. (d)	104. (b)	146. (c)	188. (a)	230. (c)
21. (a)	63. (d)	105. (a)	147. (b)	189. (d)	231. (d)
22. (a)	64. (c)	106. (b)	148. (b)	190. (d)	232. (c)
23. (b)	65. (c)	107. (a)	149. (b)	191. (c)	233. (d)
24. (d)	66. (b)	108. (b)	150. (a)	192. (b)	234. (b)
25. (a)	67. (d)	109. (c)	151. (c)	193. (b)	235. (a)
26. (b)	68. (a)	110. (c)	152. (d)	194. (c)	236. (b)
27. (c)	69. (b)	111. (a)	153. (b)	195. (b)	237. (a)
28. (c)	70. (d)	112. (b)	154. (b)	196. (c)	238. (a)
29. (b)	71. (d)	113. (a)	155. (d)	197. (b)	239. (a)
30. (d)	72. (a)	114. (b)	156. (c)	198. (d)	240. (c)
31. (a)	73. (c)	115. (c)	157. (a)	199. (b)	241. (b)
32. (a)	74. (c)	116. (b)	158. (a)	200. (b)	242. (a)
33. (b)	75. (b)	117. (c)	159. (d)	201. (a)	243. (b)
34. (c)	76. (b)	118. (a)	160. (a)	202. (b)	244. (a)
35. (d)	77. (c)	119. (b)	161. (c)	203. (d)	245. (c)
36. (d)	78. (b)	120. (c)	162. (c)	204. (c)	246. (a)
37. (c)	79. (d)	121. (c)	163. (d)	205. (d)	247. (b)
38. (b)	80. (b)	122. (a)	164. (d)	206. (d)	248. (c)
39. (d)	81. (b)	123. (d)	165. (b)	207. (c)	249. (c)
40. (d)	82. (d)	124. (a)	166. (c)	208. (a)	250. (a)
41. (c)	83. (c)	125. (a)	167. (a)	209. (c)	251. (c)
42. (d)	84. (d)	126. (b)	168. (a)	210. (d)	252. (c)

Answer Key — GATE : Previous Years Solved Questions

253. (c)	268. (b)	283. (c)	298. (c)	313. (b)	328. (a)
254. (c)	269. (b)	284. (d)	299. (d)	314. (c)	329. (a)
255. (a)	270. (b)	285. (d)	300. (c)	315. (d)	330. (c)
256. (d)	271. (a)	286. (d)	301. (*)	316. (d)	331. (a)
257. (b)	272. (b)	287. (b)	302. (d)	317. (c)	332. (a)
258. (c)	273. (d)	288. (c)	303. (c)	318. (c)	333. (d)
259. (c)	274. (a)	289. (b)	304. (a)	319. (c)	334. (c)
260. (b)	275. (d)	290. (d)	305. (b)	320. (d)	335. (d)
261. (b)	276. (b)	291. (b)	306. (a)	321. (d)	336. (c)
262. (c)	277. (c)	292. (d)	307. (d)	322. (a)	337. (a)
263. (c)	278. (c)	293. (b)	308. (b)	323. (a)	338. (c)
264. (c)	279. (d)	294. (d)	309. (b, d)	324. (d)	339. (d)
265. (c)	280. (b)	295. (a)	310. (d)	325. (d)	340. (a)
266. (b)	281. (b)	296. (a)	311. (a)	326. (d)	
267. (b)	282. (c)	297. (d)	312. (d)	327. (d)	

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.