

SSC Exams English Practice Challenge Quiz for Beginners

Direction (1-10): Improve the bracketed part of the sentence.

Q1. Kevin's songs have such a lively (carnal) that they are very popular in dance clubs.

- (a) cachinnate
- (b) blizzard
- (c) cadence
- (d) No Improvement

S1. Ans.(c)

Sol. Cadence: a consistent rhythm or beat.

Q2. Despite his father's financial assistance he was always (hard on).

- (a) hard in
- (b) hard up
- (c) hard out
- (d) No Improvement

S2. Ans.(b)

Sol. Hard up: to not have enough of something important or valuable.

Hard on: to treat or criticize somebody.

Hence, 'hard up' is the right usage.

Q3. The centre has its policies for the agriculture sector, under which we provide interest (repudiation) and other support.

- (a) subvention
- (b) recalcitrant
- (c) disinclination
- (d) No Improvement

S3. Ans.(a)

Sol. Subvention: a grant of money, as by a government or some other authority; in aid or support of some institution or undertaking.

Q4. The police were called to the party when John's drunken (sapience) became violent.

- (a) caper
- (b) appellation
- (c) tout
- (d) No Improvement

S4. Ans.(a)

Sol. Caper: an illicit/ridiculous activity or escapade.

Appellation: a name or title.

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Q5. You must (accustom yourself with) new ideas.

- (a) accustomed with
- (b) accustom to
- (c) accustom yourself to
- (d) No Improvement

S5. Ans.(c)

Sol. 'Accustom' takes preposition 'to' with it.
Hence option 'C' fits in the context.

Q6. Being a handicapped youth, he (was put hard to) complete his military course.

- (a) was hard put to
- (b) was put to it hard
- (c) was hardly put to
- (d) No Improvement

S6. Ans.(a)

Sol. Hard put to do (something) is an idiom which means struggling to do or accomplish something,
Hence option A improves the sentence.

Q7. Uncle Johnson didn't have much money, but he always seemed to (drop by) without borrowing money from relative.

- (a) give in
- (b) get by
- (c) brush up
- (d) No Improvement

S7. Ans.(b)

Sol. Drop by: visit without appointment.

Get by: survive.

Give in: To surrender; especially in a fight or argument.

Brush up: To practice and review your knowledge or a skill that you haven't used in a while.

Hence option B improves the sentence.

Q8. I would love (to availing) a short holiday, and go for an overnight trek.

- (a) to be availed
- (b) to avail of
- (c) to avail myself
- (d) No Improvement

S8. Ans.(c)

Sol. There should be infinitive after 'love', thus 'to avail' should be used and avail is a transitive verb which should have an object and as the object is not given thus reflexive pronoun 'myself' is to be used here.

Q9. If the screen (was any brighter), it would have been easier to read from the tablet.

- (a) was bright enough
- (b) was more brighter
- (c) had been brighter
- (d) No Improvement

S9. Ans.(c)

Sol. It is the type of closed conditional and the structure of closed conditional is:

'If +subject+ had +V3 +.....Subject + would have + V3'.

Thus, option C is correct.

Q10. The teacher said, "It is time that your daughter (has learned) how to write."

- (a) should have learned
- (b) had learned
- (c) learned
- (d) No Improvement

S10. Ans.(c)

Sol. "It is time" takes past indefinite tense with it. Thus, option C is correct.

Direction (11-12): Choose among the following that best expresses the meaning of the given word.

Q11. IMPLEAD

- (a) convince
- (b) neglect
- (c) accuse
- (d) request

S11. Ans.(c)

Sol. Implead: prosecute or take proceedings against.

Q12. ESPIAL

- (a) administrator
- (b) spying
- (c) apathy
- (d) restriction

S12. Ans.(b)

Sol. Espial: the action of watching or catching sight of something or someone.

Direction (13-14): In the following questions, out of the four alternatives, select the word opposite in meaning to the word given.

Q13. DISCOMFIT

- (a) console
- (b) ruffle
- (c) foil
- (d) persuade

S13. Ans.(a)

Sol. Discomfit: make (someone) feel uneasy or embarrassed.

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Q14. LANGUOR

- (a) frailty
- (b) flurry
- (c) indictment
- (d) impetus

S14. Ans.(d)

Sol. Languor: tiredness or inactivity, especially when pleasurable.

Impetus: something that makes a process or activity happen or happen more quickly.

Q15. In the following question, four words are given out of which one word is incorrectly spelt. Select the incorrectly spelt word.

- (a) Pagent
- (b) Paranoid
- (c) Pillory
- (d) Pipette

S15. Ans.(a)

Sol. Correct spelling is Pageant.

Q16. In the following question, four words are given out of which one word is incorrectly spelt. Select the incorrectly spelt word.

- (a) Barbiturate
- (b) Genelogy
- (c) Vacuum
- (d) Decathlon

S16. Ans.(b)

Sol. Correct Spelling is Genealogy.

Direction (17-18): Out of the four alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given words/sentences.

Q17. Not willing to yield or comply.

- (a) Gouge
- (b) Ford
- (c) Gristle
- (d) Froward

S17. Ans.(d)

Q18. A noxious atmosphere or influence, an oppressive or unpleasant atmosphere which surrounds or emanates from something

- (a) Miasma
- (b) Swirl
- (c) Tycoon
- (d) Vintage

S18. Ans.(a)

Direction (19-20): Four alternatives are given for the Idioms/Phrase printed in bold. Choose the alternative which best expresses the meaning of Idiom/Phrase.

Q19. Raise one's hackles

- (a) expedite
- (b) irritate
- (c) hesitate
- (d) pirate

S19. Ans.(b)

Sol. Raise one's hackles: to greatly irritate, annoy, or aggravate one.

Q20. Pass the buck

- (a) to give credit of one's success to another person
- (b) to buy more than required
- (c) to pass one's money to the relatives
- (d) to evade responsibility

S20. Ans.(d)

Sol. Pass the buck: fail to take responsibility for a problem and want someone else to solve it.

Directions (21-25): A passage is given with 5 questions following it. Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer to each question out of the four alternatives.

A classless society, however, does not mean a society without leaders. It means rather one in which every citizen becomes for the first time eligible for leadership, if he has the power to lead. It means a society in which everyone is given, as far as possible, the chance to develop this power by the widest diffusion of educational opportunities in the broadest sense, and by keeping the career wide open to talents of every useful kind. It is often said that a community of equals will not allow itself to be led. But in fact, most men are, in most things, very willing to be led, and more in danger of giving their leaders too much than too little authority, especially if they are free to choose them, and assured that the leaders cannot exploit them for personal economic advantage; leadership, so far from disappearing, will come into its own in a truly democratic society. But it is likely to be a more diffused leadership than we are used to; for a better-nurtured people will have more citizens with strong wills and minds of their own, wishful to lead; some in politics, some in industry, and some in professions and arts of life.

This is the idea of a classless society. Some will reject it as contrary to their interest, some as utopian and against 'Human nature,' for there are some who deny, indeed if not in word, that the aim of society should be to promote the greatest happiness and welfare of the greatest number and others who hold, with pessimistic honesty, that most men must be driven and not led.

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Q21. According to the passage, a classless society is ____

- (a) A society in which there are no leaders
- (b) A society where no one is willing to be led.
- (c) A society where everyone would not give authority to their leaders
- (d) A society where everyone can become a leader.

S21. Ans.(d)

Sol. Refer to, "It means rather one in which every citizen becomes for the first time eligible for leadership, if he has the power to lead".

Q22. What kind of leadership would a classless society have?

- (a) Leaders would not exploit others for their personal advantage.
- (b) Leaders would not have too much authority over people.
- (c) Many would develop leadership in the field of their interest.
- (d) Every person would have a reason to lead.

S22. Ans.(c)

Q23. What kind of people would be ideal for a classless society?

- (a) People who are assertive enough to lead.
- (b) People who book no opposition.
- (c) People with conviction in their ideas.
- (d) People willing to innovate.

S23. Ans.(c)

Sol. Refer to, "With strong wills and minds of their own, wishful to lead; some in politics, some in industry, and some in professions and arts of life".

Q24. According to the passage, the kind of people who deny the idea of a classless society may be called ____

- (a) Utopian
- (b) Cynical
- (c) Idealists
- (d) Dictatorial

S24. Ans.(b)

Sol. Cynical means believing that people are motivated purely by self-interest; distrustful of human sincerity or integrity. Hence option (b) is the correct choice.

Q25. What is the tone adopted by the author in this passage?

- (a) Expository
- (b) Factual
- (c) Critical
- (d) Satirical

S25. Ans.(a)

Sol. The tone adopted by the author in this passage is "expository" because he intended to explain or describe something.

Directions (26-30): A passage is given with 5 questions following it. Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer to each question out of the four alternatives.

A guest speaker was addressing the faculty and the students in the college auditorium. I had joined the faculty the year before, and was already drawing attention. I was 27, full of assumptions about myself, quick with a comment on everything, and expected people to pay attention to all that I had said. I listened to the talk for the first five minutes. By the seventh, I was looking around to check if others were listening. By the tenth, I had glanced at my watch three times, and yawned once. After twenty minutes I was thoroughly bored, and telling myself that it was difficult to sit through such an insipid talk. I wanted to share some of my expert comments with my neighbor. But he was completely sold out to the speaker, and looked like it was the greatest day of his life. I was disgusted. I tried to catch a word or phrase from the talk, only to convince myself that this should be his last talk ever.

The one-hour talk took ages to end, and before the thanks were said, I jumped to my feet with a sigh of relief. My neighbor smiled at me and said, "The talk was wonderful, wasn't it?" I retorted, "It almost killed me with kindness".

Q26. What do you understand about the narrator from the description in the first paragraph?

- (a) He was a genius
- (b) He was knowledgeable
- (c) He was self-conceited
- (d) He was charismatic

S26. Ans.(c)

Sol. Refer to, "I was 27, full of assumptions about myself, quick with a comment on everything, and expected people to pay attention to all that I had said." Hence option (c) is true.

Q27. How did the narrator respond to the speech?

- (a) He was glued
- (b) He was bored
- (c) He did not mind it
- (d) He was engrossed in it

S27. Ans.(b)

Sol. Refer to, "After twenty minutes I was thoroughly bored, and telling myself that it was difficult to sit through such an insipid talk." Hence option (b) is correct choice.

Q28. The narrator was disgusted because

- (a) His neighbor was engrossed in an insipid talk
- (b) The talk was boring
- (c) He could not understand it
- (d) He was impatient

S28. Ans.(a)

Sol. Refer to, "I wanted to share some of my expert comments with my neighbor. But he was completely sold out to the speaker, and looked like it was the greatest day of his life. I was disgusted." So option (a) is correct.

Q29. When the speech ended the narrator was

- (a) Happy
- (b) Relieved
- (c) Exhausted
- (d) Disgusted

S29. Ans.(b)

Sol. Refer to, "The one-hour talk took ages to end, and before the thanks were said, I jumped to my feet with a sigh of relief." Hence option (b) is true.

Q30. How long did the narrator listen to the speech without judgement?

- (a) Seven minutes
- (b) Ten minutes
- (c) Five minutes
- (d) Twenty minutes

S30. Ans.(c)

Sol. Refer to, "I listened to the talk for the first five minutes. By the seventh, I was looking around to check if others were listening." Hence option (c) is correct.

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