

ARYAN CLASSES

NTSE 2013 2nd stage

(For Students of Class X)
LANGUAGE TEST

Time allowed : 45 Min.

Maximum Marks : 50

ENGLISH

I. Read the following passage and answer the question given after it.

Jyoti lived with her mother in a small village. From a young age she had witnessed her mother, a widow, being ill treated by the villagers. But when she was in high school she began to understand things. She couldn't take the insults to her mother anymore. She decided to change the way widows were viewed in village society. Jyoti started a "Widow Empowerment Campaign". She spoke to village elders and knocked on two hundred doors to spread her message. She learned to organize street plays which she used to make people aware about the plight of widows. Naturally her ideas were not acceptable to the society entrenched in tradition. People pushed her out of their houses and refused to listen to what she had to say. But she went on relentlessly without faltering. Today, widows are allowed go out of their homes like others. Many, including her mother are now employed at organisations and literacy centres.

1. The story of Jyoti is an illustration of
- (1) rigidity of traditional families.
 - (2) organisation of street plays.
 - (3) the spread of employment opportunities for widows
 - (4) crusade of a young girl for social change.

Ans. (4)

Sol. Option 1, 2 and 3 are partially correct. Option 4 provides the complete solution.

2. A major factor in Jyoti's success seems to be :
- (1) social and economic development programmes.
 - (2) sympathy and encouragement from her mother.
 - (3) her own courage and determination.
 - (4) support from her friends.

Ans. (3)

Sol. Her own courage and determination were the major factors in her success. The other options are only partially true.

3. "She knocked on two hundred doors" indicates that Jyoti
- (1) went knocking at the doors one after the other.
 - (2) visited people at their houses individually.
 - (3) approached a large number of people.
 - (4) spoke to every family in the village.

Ans. (3)

Sol. Approached a large number of people.

4. The words 'entrenched in tradition' imply that villagers .

- (1) deeply believed in traditions.
- (2) were opposed to traditions.
- (3) had begun to shed traditions.
- (4) had begun to follow traditions.

Ans. (1)

Sol. Deeply believed in traditions and found it difficult to change themselves.

5. Jyoti's relentless campaign

- (1) created an unrest.
- (2) created a dent in society.
- (3) left people untouched.
- (4) created a revolution.

Ans. (2)

Sol. Created a dent in society and made people change their thinking.

Q. 6-10 Read the following passage and answer the questions given after it.

Designing toys for children is challenging yet stimulating. Considering the low attention span of today's kids, toys with higher play value are able to engage them longer. Young minds are also quite impressionable. So toy design has to be conscious about ethics and values and also aid their cognitive, physical, emotional and social skills. But above all, fun is the primary objective of play, Fun is what makes them come back for more; makes them learn and remember. Another crucial factor is eco-friendliness. Some of the best pro-environment design processes can actually be found in the Indian handicrafts industry. One such example is the lathe-turned toy craft of Channapatna— a town near Bangaluru. The age old craft uses wood and colours made completely from natural materials like turmeric, *kumkum*, indigo, etc. Creating modern designs based on such conventional techniques opens up a new range of products that are unique, educational and organic.

6. Toys are said to have a high play value when

- (1) they present challenges to designers and to children who play with them.
- (2) they are costly but also have high quality.
- (3) they are able to keep children's attention for long periods.
- (4) they are used by a large number of children.

Ans. (3)

Sol. They engage children's attention for longer periods.

7. The reference to the 'impressionable nature' of young children is to suggest that

- (1) they are attracted to toys that are well designed and brightly coloured.
- (2) their attitudes, values and ethics can easily be influenced by others.
- (3) they like toys that help them learn and remember while having fun..
- (4) they like toys which are small in size.

Ans. (2)

Sol. Their attitudes, values and ethics can be easily MOULDED at this tender age.

8. Toys that are considered eco-friendly are those that

- (1) promote interest in preserving the natural environment.
- (2) use natural materials.
- (3) help the development of social skills
- (4) use high quality fibre. .

Ans. (2)

Sol. Use natural materials and don't harm the environment.

9. Which of the following is true for the toy craft of Channapatna?

- (1) It is famous for their beautiful shapes and bright colours.
- (2) It is made by artificial materials.
- (3) It is based on modern design principles and efficient machines.
- (4) It is an old and traditional practice.

Ans. (4)

Sol. Channapatna toy craft is an old and traditional practice.

10. 'Fun is what makes them come back for more; makes them learn and remember,' means

- (1) Children learn through fun and play.
- (2) Children play more and more for fun.
- (3) Children remember things while playing.
- (4) Children learn only through play.

Ans. (1)

Sol. Children learn and enjoy when they have fun during play.

Q.11-15 Read the following passage and answer the questions that follow.

Years ago, people woke up to find sparrows chirping in their backyard. A noisy lot, they took grains right from your hand if you had befriended them. They got over their fear easily and demanded food or water with their loud chirping if you had forgotten to give them their regular share of food. Tiny pink beaks opened to morsels of food or worms sometimes regurgitated by the parent birds. We had a splendid time watching the bird family bond and as children sat gazing at them as they picked up grain or splashed about us in muddy water.

Many people have written poems and lyrics on sparrows, their noisy chirps, their friendly nature, and their spotty feathers. Sparrows were a menace on the fields. There were guards with slings and stones to chase them away as they ate grain from standing crops. Now people are trying to woo them back to nature.

11. The author calls sparrow a friendly bird because

- (1) they chirp in the backyard.
- (2) they demand food.
- (3) they eat from our hand
- (4) they are with humans always.

Ans. (4)

Sol. They are friendly as they are always near humans.

12. Which of the following statements shows that watching sparrows was fun for the author?

- (1) Tiny beaks opened to morsels of food or worms sometimes regurgitated by the parent birds.
- (2) Children sat gazing at them as they picked up grain or splashed about us in muddy water.
- (3) They demanded food or water with their loud chirping.
- (4) They live near our houses.

Ans. (2)

Sol. The statement "children sat gazing at them..." shows it was fun to watch sparrows.

13. The farmers consider sparrows a nuisance because

- (1) they are loud and noisy.
- (2) they chirp loudly.
- (3) they splash around in muddy water.
- (4) they eat up the grains from the fields.

Ans. (4)

Sol. Farmers considered them a nuisance because they ate grain from standing crops in the fields.

14. 'Regurgitated by the parent birds' means

- (1) chewed and fed
- (2) digested and brought back
- (3) chewed and spat out.
- (4) swallowed and brought back

Ans. (2)

Sol. 'Regurgitated' means digested and brought back.

15. Sparrows have been a topic of interest for many...

- (1) poets
- (2) scientists
- (3) farmers
- (4) children

Ans. (1)

Sol. Poets found sparrows a topic of interest 'as many poems and lyrics were written on them'.

Q.16-17 The following five sentences come from a paragraph. The first and the last sentences are given.

Choose the order in which the three sentences (PQR) should appear to complete the paragraph.

16. S1 One major problem that the world faces today is the rapid growth of population.

S2 _____

S3 _____

S4 _____

S5 This will cause serious problems of hunger and overcrowding!

P – This is often referred to as population explosion.

Q – It is not so much the actual population, but its increase that is alarming.

R – Experts predict that by 2020 there will be about 10 billion people in the world.

Choose from the options given below:

- (1) QPR
- (2) PRQ
- (3) PQR
- (4) QRP

Ans. (3)

Sol. The rapid growth of population is referred to by 'this' in P. Q, the next sentence gives a further detail that it is not the 'actual population' but the 'increase' that is alarming. R follows naturally and links to the last statement.

17. S1 Supposing you have to make a payment of Rs. 100, you could do so in coins.

S2 _____

S3 _____

S4 _____

S5 This paper money saves you a lot of trouble and also saves precious metal.

- P – The person to whom the payment is being made would also find it very tedious.
Q – So the government gives you the alternative of paper money.
R – But so many coins would be very cumbersome to carry around.

Choose from the options given below:

- (1) RQP (2) PRQ (3) PQR (4) RPQ

Ans. (4)

Sol. The first word 'but' in R provides a link to the first statement. In P, 'tedious' is another link to 'cumbersome' in R and explains further why carrying coins would be difficult. 'So the government' in Q completes the argument given in the first statement.

Q.18-19 Following questions have the second sentence missing. Choose the appropriate sentence from the given options to complete it.

18. A. My sister and I have never seen a house on fire before.

- B. _____
C. We rushed out and saw fire blazing in the distance.

- (1) We joined a large crowd of people who had gathered at the end of the street.
(2) One evening when we heard fire engines rushing past my house.
(3) What a terrible scene we saw that day.
(4) We went out with everyone.

Ans. (2)

Sol. Option 2 fits in neatly after sentence A and links to what happened later in sentence C.

19. A. By climbing summit of Mount Everest you are overwhelmed by a deep sense of joy and thankfulness.

- B. _____
C. The experience changes you completely and you are never the same again.

- (1) It is a joy that lasts a lifetime. (2) Yet, it is a fleeting moment.
(3) You feel humiliated. (4) It is a justification

Ans. (1)

Sol. Option 1 'a joy that lasts a lifetime' links with sentence C that tells how you change completely after the experience.

Q.20-29 Choose the word which best fills the blank from the four options given.

20. It is a good practice to _____ the document once again before sending it for publication

- (1) scan (2) peer (3) look up (4) see

Ans. (1)

Sol. 'Scan' is the right word which means look through quickly to spot errors.

21. When the teacher asked Ravi a question, he gave her a blank _____.

- (1) gaze (2) glare (3) stare (4) peek

Ans. (3)

Sol. 'stare' is the right word that goes with 'blank'

22. She had her _____ fixed on the horizon.
(1) glance (2) sight (3) gaze (4) look

Ans. (2)

Sol. 'sight' is suitable for 'fixed on the horizon'.

23. If you _____ something amiss, please contact the authorities
(1) notice (2) view (3) sight (4) glimpse

Ans. (1)

Sol. 'notice' is the right word to go with 'something amiss'.

24. I caught a _____ of him in the crowd for a fleeting moment before he disappeared.
(1) glare (2) glance (3) glimpse (4) look

Ans. (3)

Sol. 'glimpse' is a fleeting look-so this is the right choice.

25. After the shipwreck, they were _____ on the island for three days.
(1) sleeping (2) marooned (3) guided (4) found

Ans. (2)

Sol. A shipwrecked person is said to be 'marooned', so this is the right word.

26. The landlord _____ the tenant for not paying rent.
(1) evicted (2) posted (3) forced (4) shooed

Ans. (1)

Sol. 'evicted' is the right word which means 'forced' to leave a place.

27. The village in the wake of tsunami, was a terrifying _____ of a devastation.
(1) scenery (2) scene (3) landscape (4) moment

Ans. (2)

Sol. 'scene' is the right word that goes with 'terrifying' and 'devastation'.

28. The workers angrily voiced their _____ to the management.
(1) preservation (2) resentment (3) irritation (4) resistant

Ans. (2)

Sol. 'resentment' is the right choice, it goes with 'angrily voiced'

29. A fair-minded person is required to _____ the dispute between the two brothers.
(1) mediate (2) interrupt (3) intercept (4) moderate

Ans. (1)

Sol. 'mediate' means go between two angry persons.

Q.30-35 Select the meaning of the given phrases/idioms.

30. Pulled up
(1) helped (2) advised (3) told (4) scolded

Ans. (4)

Sol. 'Pulled up' means to be scolded by someone.

31. Keep up

- (1) maintain (2) leave behind (3) confirm (4) accept

Ans. (1)

Sol. 'keep up' means to maintain an appearance or to pretend.

32. Carry on

- (1) start (2) execute (3) finish (4) continue

Ans. (4)

Sol. 'carry on' has the meaning of continuing to do something.

33. Hand in glove

- (1) in collusion
(2) holding opposite views
(3) warm and secure
(4) with friends

Ans. (1)

Sol. 'Hand in glove' means to be a partner with someone doing evil, to be in collusion.

34. Be in someone's shoes

- (1) wear shoes that do not belong to self
(2) be like them
(3) to pretend to be somebody else
(4) imagining oneself to be in another person's situation

Ans. (4)

Sol. When you are 'in someone's shoes' you are imagining you are in that person's situation.

35. Pull someone's leg

- (1) to tease somebody (2) to throw somebody out
(3) to trip a person purposely (4) to stretch someone's leg

Ans. (1)

Sol. When you are 'pulling someone's leg' you are teasing that person.

Q.36-43 In the following passage there are some numbered blanks. Fill in the blanks by selecting the most appropriate word for each blank from the given options.

At markets or at county fairs in the old days, the customer had to be on guard against a dishonest trader.

A

house wife, for example, wanting (36) __buy a live piglet might be (37) _____ a discount if she bought (38) ____ packed one, tied up in a small sack (39) – a poke. Anyone who agreed to (40) _____ a pig in a poke was naturally (41) _____ a risk. The pig might be ill (42) _____ even dead: Or it might turn (43) _____ to be not a piglet at all.

36. (1) for (2) from (3) into (4) to

Ans. (4)

Sol. 'to' goes before 'wanting'

37. (1) served (2) offered (3) preferred (4) liked

Ans. (2)

Sol. 'offered' goes with a discount'

38. (1) the (2) an (3) a (4) some

Ans. (3)

Sol. 'a' – goes before 'packed one'.

39. (1) said (2) known (3) called (4) thought

Ans. (3)

Sol. 'called' – is the right choice.

40 (1) buy (2) sell (3) give (4) eat

Ans. (1)

Sol. 'buy'- goes with 'a pig in a poke'

41. (1) taking (2) making (3) getting (4) sitting

Ans. (1)

Sol. 'taking' – is the right word to go before 'a risk'.

42. (1) but (2) taking (3) or (4) to

Ans. (3)

Sol. 'or' – goes with the earlier phrase 'might be ill'.

43. (1) on (2) out (3) in (4) into

Ans. (2)

Sol. 'out' is the right word to complete the phrase 'turn out'

Q.44-47 Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blanks from the given alternatives.

44. The teacher spoke _____ to the students who were naughty.

(1) kind (2) kindness (3) kindly (4) kindness

Ans. (3)

Sol. 'kindly'-adverb to follow 'spoke'

45. The builder _____ her problem by not constructing a boundary wall around her house.

(1) compound (2) compounded (3) comprehend (4) compounding

Ans. (2)

Sol. 'compounded' – the right word to mean 'added to a number of problems'

46. _____ he has started arriving on time for all the functions.

(1) Lately (2) Late (3) Later (4) Latter

Ans. (1)

Sol. 'Lately' – the right word meaning 'recently'

47. After a week's rain, the _____ was as its highest.

- (1) humid (2) humidness (3) humidity (4) humidify

Ans. (3)

Sol. 'humidity' – right word for the sentence.

Q.48-50 Select the word which means the opposite of the given word.

48. Scared

- (1) nervous (2) brave (3) cautious (4) timid

Ans. (2)

Sol. 'brave' is the opposite of 'scared'

49. Conquer

- (1) descent (2) victory (3) perish (4) surrender

Ans. (4)

Sol. 'surrender' meaning 'to give up' is the opposite of 'to conquer'.

50. Criticize

- (1) fault (2) create (3) defend (4) acclaim

Ans. (4)

Sol. 'acclaim' means to praise someone, the antonym of 'criticize'.

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