

SBI Clerk English Prelims

Previous Years' Questions (2015-16)

A. Directions: Each sentence given below has a blank indicating that something has been omitted. Choose the word that best suits the meaning of the sentence.

1. Ideally you should set aside funds to help you _____ over situations such as a sudden medical emergency or unexpected expenses.

- (1) come
- (2) turn
- (3) reach
- (4) pass
- (5) tide

2. Organizations should implement some practices that the army follows _____ younger staff with important conclusions.

- (1) experiencing
- (2) nominating
- (3) responsible
- (4) entrusting
- (5) supportive

3. From teaching young students about entrepreneurship, we also provide funds to start and sustain their business for the short time.

- (1) While
- (2) Whether
- (3) Apart
- (4) Further
- (5) Perhaps

4. Cost of fuel is the second most crucial in a person's decision to buy a car.
- (1) event
 - (2) advice
 - (3) factor
 - (4) opportunity
 - (5) aspects
5. The green revolution which was started in the 1960's helped to reduce food scarcity and improved the health of the economy.

The green revolution which was started in the 1960's helped to reduce food scarcity and improved the health of the economy.

- (1) still
- (2) rapidly
- (3) expected
- (4) growing
- (5) extremely

B. Directions: In these questions, sentences with four bold words are given.

One from four words given in the bold may be either wrongly spelt or inappropriate in the context of the sentence.

Find out the word which is wrongly spelt or inappropriate. If any, that word will be your answer. If all words given in the bold are correctly spelt and also appropriate in the context of the sentence, then 'All Correct' is your answer.

6. According to the management the bank is likely to perform better in the next quarter.
- (1) management
 - (2) likely
 - (3) perform
 - (4) quarter
 - (5) All correct

7. It is difficult to gain access to the hospital because there is no permanent road.
- (1) difficult
 - (2) gain
 - (3) access
 - (4) permanent
 - (5) All correct
8. One of the most important tasks of the modern government is to run an efficient welfare system.
- (1) most
 - (2) tasks
 - (3) morden
 - (4) efficient
 - (5) All correct
9. Even experienced bankers were surprised by RDF's decision to cut rates prior to the budget.
- (1) Even
 - (2) experienced
 - (3) surprised
 - (4) prior
 - (5) All correct
10. The new generation is confident, tech-savvy and is not fearful of trying new things.
- (1) generation
 - (2) fearful
 - (3) trying
 - (4) things
 - (5) All correct

C. Directions: Read the following passage carefully and answer the given questions.

A group of employees was working in a software company. It was a team of thirty employees. They were young, energetic and dynamic team with keen enthusiasm and a desire to learn and grow. The management decided to teach the employees how to find real solutions to problems. The team was called to play a game in banquet hall. The group was quite surprised that they were called to play a game. Everyone reached the venue with various thoughts on their minds. As they entered the hall, they found the hall decorated beautifully with colorful decorated papers and balloons all over the place. It was more like a children's party area than a corporate meeting hall. Everyone was surprised and gazed at each other. Also, there was a huge box of balloons placed at the center of the hall. The team leader asked everyone to pick a balloon from the box and blow it up. Everyone picked up the balloon and blew it up. Then the team asked them to write names on their balloons carefully so that the balloons didn't burst. Everyone tried to write their names on their balloons, but not everyone was successful. A few balloons burst due to pressure and the people whose balloons were burst, were given another chance to pick a balloon. Those who failed to write their names even after the second chance were asked to leave the game. After the second chance, Twenty five employees qualified for the next level. All the balloons were collected and then put into a room. The team leader asked the employees to go to the room and pick the same balloons that had his/her name on it. Also he told them that no balloon should burst and warned them to be very careful. All the employees reached the room, where the balloons carrying their names were thrown here and there. They were searching for their respective balloons. While they were in a rush to find the respective balloons, they tried not to burst the balloons. Fifteen minutes passed away and no one was able to find the balloons carrying their own name. The team was told that the second level of the game-was over. Now was the time for third and final level. The employees were asked to pick any balloon in the

room and give it to the person named on the balloon. Within a couple of minutes all balloons reached the hands of the respective employees and everyone reached the hall. The team leader then said. “This is called the new solution to a problem. Everyone is frantically haunting for solutions to problem without understanding the ideal way. Many times, sharing and helping others gives you real solutions to all problems”.

11. Which of the following cannot be said about the employees?

- (A) At least one employee found the balloon when they were asked to pick up a balloon with their name on it.
- (B) They participated whole heartedly in the task
- (C) They all failed to follow the instructions given by the team leader in the end.

- (1) Only (A)
- (2) Only (A) and (B)
- (3) All (A) (B) and (C)
- (4) Only (B)
- (5) Only (A) and (C)

12. Why was everyone surprised reaching on their corporate meeting hall ?

- (1) Their team leader was dressed as a kid
- (2) Their seniors were missing from the hall
- (3) The hall was equipped with the latest and high technological gadgets
- (4) The hall was too small to accommodate all of them
- (5) other than those given as options

13. Which of the following can be said about the mangement’s idea of trying to teach their employees something ?

- (A) The idea did not indeed teach anything for the people who did not finish the task
- (B) The idea was ill received by all



testbook



ATTEMPT ALL TESTS
ACROSS ALL EXAMS

₹399 FOR
4 MONTHS
BUY NOW



(C) The idea was creative

- (1) Only (A)
- (2) Only (B) and (C)
- (3) Only (C)
- (4) All (A) (B) and (C)
- (5) Only (A) and (B)

14. Which one of the following aspects come across very strongly in the story?

- (1) One should not worry about goals
- (2) One should be honest and sincere regarding one's work
- (3) One should be helpful towards others regardless what the end results in
- (4) One should look beyond personal goals to achieve success in a task
- (5) One should share one's problem with others to feel better

15. Choose the word which is most opposite in meaning to the word given in bold as used in the passage ?

Qualified

- (1) illiterate
- (2) ignorant
- (3) failed
- (4) pushed
- (5) silly

16. Choose the word which is most similar in meaning to the word given in bold as used in the passage ?

Warned

- (1) threatened
- (2) cautioned
- (3) pressurized
- (4) intermediated

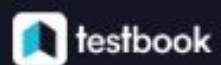


testbook



ATTEMPT ALL TESTS
ACROSS ALL EXAMS

₹149 FOR
1 MONTH
BUY NOW



(5) **bullied**

17. Choose the word which is most similar in meaning to the word given in **bold** as used in the passage?

Dynamic

- (1) vibrant
- (2) colourful
- (3) explosive
- (4) **different**
- (5) noisy

18. Which of the following is true according to the story ?

- (1) The task was successful only after the employees were shown the right way to go about it
- (2) The only way to make a task successful is by helping others, otherwise the task fails
- (3) The employees who were asked to leave the game were disinterested in it
- (4) There were more than four levels in the task
- (5) All the given statements are true

19. Choose the word which is most opposite in meaning to the word given in **bold** as used in the passage?

Frantically

- (1) nervously
- (2) **secretively**
- (3) crazily
- (4) calmly
- (5) minutely

20. Which of the following can be the most appropriate title for the story ?

- (1) **Sharing and caring**



testbook



ATTEMPT ALL TESTS
ACROSS ALL EXAMS

₹399 FOR 4 MONTHS
BUY NOW

- (2) The game of balloons
- (3) The company with a team leader
- (4) A friend in need is a friend indeed
- (5) The twenty-five employees

D. Directions: Rearrange the given six sentences/ group of sentences (A)(B) (C) (D) (E) and (F) in a proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph and then answer the given questions.

- (A) Beena grew day by day and was charming and polite but as the goddess predicted she had to have a new outfit every day and for a while the king and queen were happy to let their heir way but soon realized that this had to stop.
- (B) They longed for the child and prayed and prayed till finally one day their prayers were heard but the goddess warned, you will soon have a little girl and though she will be a loving child, she will love new clothes too much and will be cursed if she covets, another's clothes.
- (C) They tried to get her mend her ways but in vain and one day when Beena saw a beautiful girl simply dressed in a cotton sari and noticed how people were admiring the simply dressed girl she demanded the dress.
- (D) The kingdom was at peace. subjects were happy and there was a bumper crop but the King and Queen were very sad.
- (E) As foretold, Beena turned into an onion. A plant with many layers to symbolize the many dresses she had.
- (F) The King and Queen were ready to accept this flow and when the Queen gave birth to a baby girl the entire kingdom rejoiced.

21. Which of the following should be the FIFTH sentence after the rearrangement?



testbook



ATTEMPT ALL TESTS
ACROSS ALL EXAMS

₹149 FOR 1 MONTH
BUY NOW

- (1) A
- (2) C
- (3) D
- (4) E
- (5) F

22. Which of the following should be the SIXTH (last) sentence after the rearrangement?

- (1) A
- (2) B
- (3) C
- (4) D
- (5) E

23. Which of the following should be the FIRST sentence after the rearrangement ?

- (1) A
- (2) B
- (3) C
- (4) D
- (5) F

24. Which of the following should be the SECOND sentence after the rearrangement?

- (1) A
- (2) B
- (3) C
- (4) D
- (5) F

25. Which of the following should be the THIRD sentence after the rearrangement ?

- (1) A
- (2) B
- (3) D

(4) E

(5) F

E. Directions: Read the sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical mistake/error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number of the part with the error is your answer. If there is no error, then 'no error' is your answer. Ignore the errors of punctuations if any.

One night, freiddle the fox was (1)/prowling around (2)/ an actor's house when he

(3) 1 found an open window. (4)/ No error (5)

26. Millie was (1)/a mouse who had (2)/a cousin named Tora (3)/ living from the city. (4)/ No error (5)

27. In a jungle there lived (1)/a lion who felt ashamed (2)/of himself because (3)/he was scared on chickens. (4)/No error (5)

28. The big bad wolf gobbled (1)/ up the little lamb so fast (2)/ that a bone was stick (3)/in his throat. (4)/No error (5)

29. Hares are rather (1)/noise animals who (2)/love to bear (3)/themselves talking. (4)/No error (5)

F. Direction: In the given passage there are blanks, each of which is numbered. Against each five words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case.

Once in a town of Shimpola, there lived a rich and cunning money lender called Vidushan. He (a) money to poor people and (b) them to give their land. The troubled people went to Subhadhar who (c) to visit their town soon. One morning, a jeweller visited Vidushan with some expensive looking jewellery. When Vidushan asked for its price, the jeweller said it was worth a handful grain. He also said if you are (d), to give me a grain, give me a thousand gold coins and return the poor people's land as well. Greedy Vidushan was very (e). He gave the jeweller a handful of grains. The jeweller (f) to take it and took him to court. Tthe

(g) judge, “My Lord, had asked him for a single grain that was the (h) of a full hand and he gave me a handful of eil he should pay me a thousand of gold coins and return the poor people’s land to them.” The Judge (i) and adjudged the case in his (j). The jeweler was actually Subhadhar and he had helped poor get their land back.

30. (a) lent

- (1) borrowed
- (2) grant
- (3) presented
- (4) showed

31. (b) empowered

- (1) forced
- (2) punished
- (3) prevent
- (5) destroy

32. (c) said

- (2) assuring
- (3) promise
- (4) guarantee
- (5) vouched

33. (d) not

- (1) powerless
- (2) unqualified
- (3) unable
- (4) there

34. (e) contents

- (1) delightful

(2) blessed

(3) happy

(4) gladly

35. (f) accepted

(1) denies

(2) loved

(3) wanted

(4) refused

36. (g) lengthy

(1) growth

(2) extent

(3) size

(4) shapes

37. (i) conditions

(1) demands

(2) position

(3) state

(4) Will

38. (j) yes

(1) agreed

(2) supporting

(3) chose

(4) ordered

G. Directions: Rearrange the given six sentences/group of sentences A, B, C, D, E and F in a proper sequence so as to form a meaningful paragraph and then answer the given questions.

- A. Anansi was just about to eat them when he noticed smoke in the distance. He learnt from the cassava that the smoke was from the town of rice.
- B. "Rice is much better than cassava!" Saying this Anansi promptly journeyed to the town of rice. When he reached there he noticed smoke in the distance. So he left the rice village and headed for the smoke, greedily thinking that he'd get something better.
- C. Alas, when he reached there he found it was his own village and he had no food for the villagers or himself. Greed had got him nowhere.
- D. He left his village to find food for his people and himself. After walking miles and miles he saw smoke from a distant village.
- E. Anansi, the spider was very unhappy. There was a drought and all his people were starving.
- F. When he reached, the only food he found was cassava. The cassava asked Anansi, "Would you like us roasted, fried or boiled?" Anansi told them that he did not have a particular choice and so they roasted themselves.

39. Which of the following should be the SIXTH (LAST) sentence after the rearrangement?

- (1) A
(2) B
(3) C
(4) E
(5) F

40. Which of the following should be the FIFTH sentence after the rearrangement?

- (1) A
- (2) B
- (3) C
- (4) E
- (5) F

41. Which of the following should be the SECOND sentence after the rearrangement?

- (1) A
- (2) C
- (3) D
- (4) E
- (5) F

- (1) Which of the following should be the THIRD sentence after the rearrangement?

- (1) A
- (2) C
- (3) D
- (4) E
- (5) F

H. Directions: Read each of the following sentences to find out whether there is any grammatical error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. Select the part with the error as your answer. If there is no error, select 'No error' as your answer. (Ignore the errors of punctuation, if any)

- (2) It seems like that I(1)/ am the most(2)/ beautiful girl on(3)/ this planet.(4) No error(5)

42. Shyam realised(1)/ his mistake and (2)/ recognised the importance(3)/ of practicality in life.(4) No error(5)

43. Two little boys were(1)/ playing together,(2)/ when one them saw/(3) a nut on the ground.(4) No error(5)
44. Nick's father was(1)/ a hardworking man(2)/ and hardly spend any time(3)/ with his son.(4) No error(5)

I. Directions: In each of these questions, sentence with four bold words is given. One from four words given in the bold may be either wrongly spelt or inappropriate in the context of the sentence. Find out the word which is wrongly spelt or inappropriate. If any, that word will be your answer. If all the words given in the bold are correctly spelt and also appropriate in the context of the sentence, then All correct' is your answer.

45. Soon farmers will be able(1)/ to sell their produce to whoever they want to instead(2)/ of only to wholesale(3)/ tradars.(4)/ All correct(5)
46. 'La Nina' is a weather phenomenon which(1)/ is asociated(2)/ with abundant(3)/ rainfall in India say experts.(4)/ All correct(5)
47. With the aim(1)/ of achieving xero(2)/ accidents,(3)/ the Indian Railways has sought funds to upgrade(4)/ tracks and signalling systems. All correct(5)
48. It is better(1)/ to go slow(2)/ on labour reforms and hold(3)/ discussions with all parties(4)/ concerned with the matter. All correct(5)
49. Payments bank can collectt(1)/ deposits and offer(2)/ different payment solutions to customers but are not allowed(3)/ to lend.(4)/ All correct(5)

J. Directions: Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases have been given in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

Long time ago, in a forest, there lived a young antelope. He was fond of the fruits of a particular tree. In a village bordering the forest, there lived a hunter who captured and killed antelopes for various reasons. He used to set traps for animals under fruit-bearing trees. When the animal came to eat the fruit, it would be caught in the trap. He would then take it away and kill it for its meat. One day,

while visiting the forest in search of game, the hunter happened to see the antelope under its favourite tree, eating fruit. He was delighted. 'What a big, plump antelope!' he thought. 'I must catch him. I will get a lot of money from selling his meat.' Thereafter, for many days, the hunter kept track of the antelope's movements. He realised that the antelope was remarkably vigilant and fleet footed animal that it would be virtually impossible for him to track him down. However, he had a weakness for that particular tree. The crafty concluded that he could use this weakness to capture him.

Early one morning, the hunter entered the forest with some logs of wood. He climbed the tree and put up a machan (platform used by hunters) on one of its branches by tying the logs together. Having set his trap at the foot of the tree, he then took up position on the machan and waited for the antelope. He strewed a lot of dry leaves and branches on the ground beneath the tree to conceal the trap and lure the antelope. Soon, the antelope came strolling along. He was very hungry and was eagerly looking forward to his usual breakfast of delicious ripe fruits. On the tree-top, the hunter, having sighted him, sat with bated breath, willing him to come closer and step into his trap. However, the antelope was no fool. As he neared the tree he stopped short. The number of fruits lying under the tree seemed considerably more than usual. Surely, something was amiss, decided the antelope. He paused just out of reach of the tree and carefully began examining the ground. Now, he saw what distinctly looked like a human footprint. Without going closer, he looked suspiciously at the tree. The hunter was well hidden in its thick foliage, nevertheless the antelope, on close scrutiny, was now sure that his suspicions had not been unfounded. He could see a corner of the machan peeping out of the leaves. Meanwhile the hunter was getting desperate. Suddenly, he had a brainwave. Let me try throwing some fruit at him,' he thought. So the hunter plucked some choice fruits and hurled them in the direction of the antelope. Alas, instead of luring him closer, it only confirmed his

fears! Raising his voice, he spoke in the direction of the tree—"Listen, my dear tree, until now you have always dropped your fruits on the earth. Today, you have started throwing them at me! This is the most unlikely action of yours and I'm not sure I like the change! Since you have changed your habits, I too will change mine. I will get my fruits from a different tree from now on-one that still acts like a tree!' The hunter realised that the antelope had outsmarted him with his cleverness. Parting the leaves to reveal himself, he I grabbed his javelin and flung it wildly at the antelope. But the clever antelope was well prepared for any such action on his part. Giving a saucy chuckle, he leapt nimbly out of the harm's way. As mentioned in the story, which of the following can be said about the hunter ?

- (1) He was a very good cook.
- (2) He was not as smart as the antelope.
- (3) He was growing old.
- (4) He had never missed any of his prey.
- (5) He was humane.

50. Which of the following is most nearly the same in meaning as the word 'AMISS' as used in the story ?

- (1) Perfect
- (2) Forgotten
- (3) Obvious
- (4) Assumed
- (5) Fishy

51. Which of the following statements is true in the context of the story ?

- (1) The hunter captured antelopes only for their skin.
- (2) The hunter came to know about the antelope through his friends.
- (3) The hunter learnt his lesson eventually and never killed any antelope.
- (4) The hunter and the antelope lived in the same village.
- (5) None of the given statements is true.

52. Which of the following is most nearly the opposite in meaning as the word 'VIGILANT' as used in the story ?

- (1) High
- (2) Loyal
- (3) Rigid
- (4) Inattentive
- (5) Alert

53. As mentioned in the story, the antelope told the tree that he would not have its fruits anymore as _____

- A. he had sensed danger as everything around the tree appeared different than usual.
- B. he felt insulted by the tree.
- C. he started liking fruits from the adjacent tree as they were more juicy.

- (1) Only A
- (2) Both A and B
- (3) Only B
- (4) Both A and C
- (5) Only C

54. As mentioned in the story, the hunter prepared a machan on the tree to _____

- A. live peacefully
- B. keep a watch on the entire forest.
- C. catch his prey.

- (1) Only A
- (2) Only C
- (3) Only B
- (4) Both A and C
- (5) None of the given options

55. Which of the following could be a suitable title to the story ?

- (1) The Hunter Who Loved Fruits
- (2) The Lazy Hunter
- (3) The Clever Antelope
- (4) The Hunter and His Love for Wild Animals
- (5) Antelopes-An Endangered Species

56. Which of the following is most nearly the opposite in meaning as the word 'PLUMP' as used in the story ?

- (1) Hefty
- (2) Chirpy
- (3) Long
- (4) Boring
- (5) Lean

57. Which of the following correctly explains the meaning of the phrase, 'bated breath' as used in the story ?

- (1) Turned blue
- (2) Without breathing at all
- (3) Waited anxiously
- (4) Bad breath
- (5) Unconscious

58. Which of the following is most nearly the same in meaning as the word 'LURE' as used in the story ?

- (1) Lie
- (2) Beat ,
- (3) Fight
- (4) Attract
- (5) Hit

K. Directions: In the following passage, some of the words have been left out. Read the passage carefully and choose the correct answer to each question out of the five alternatives and fill in the blanks.

There lived an old tiger in a forest. It was becoming ..(1)... for him to catch a prey. The Tiger thought, "I no longer have the strength and speed of a youth. ...(2)... I find some trick, I will starve to death." On thinking hard, the tiger came upon a plan. He began shouting loudly, 'I am very old. I have turned into a vegetarian. I have become a saint and will not eat animals anymore.'

These words spread like ...(3)... in the jungle. Innocent animals came to pay respect to the tiger thinking that the tiger had changed into a saint. In turn, the tiger pounced on the animals when they came to his cave.

One day, a witty fox heard the words of the tiger. The fox began to wonder, "Can a tiger become a saint?" So stealthily, the fox approached the tiger's cave. He carefully examined the footprints of animals. He found that all the footprints were going towards the cave but none were ...(29)... from the cave. He quickly alerted all animals in the forest. "The Tiger is a cheat. Don't go to the cave." No animal ever ...(4)... the cave again and the tiger died of starvation.

59. simple

1. toughly
2. thin
3. difficult
4. stricter

60. Unless

1. If
2. Although
3. Before
4. Till

61. fast

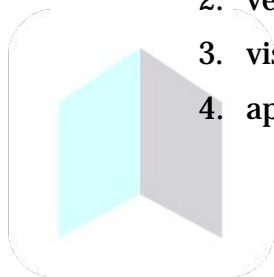
1. wildfire
2. plane
3. epidemic
4. that

62. entering

1. returning
2. left
3. escaped
4. seen

63. bothered

1. dealt
2. ventured
3. visited
4. approach



testbook

SBI Clerk Study Plan 2018

SBI Clerk Reasoning Previous Year Questions

SBI Clerk Quant Previous Year Questions

SBI Clerk Syllabus – Prelims 2018