

AFCAT 2024 - 2 MBT English, Shift - 1, 11 Aug 2024

Q1 Read the following passage and answer the questions.

On a cold wintry Christmas day in 1998, the ice and snow were beating down upon the windows of the vehicles as we travelled to an obscure orphanage in Bosnia-Herzegovina. We battled unstable hills blanketed with two feet of snow. The narrow road forced us to drive perilously close to the edge. This would be my first Christmas away from home and family. I could imagine my wife and my two little daughters opening their gifts on Christmas day. Today, I was going to learn for the first time how it would be to spend Christmas day with other children.

Enemy activity had devastated the villages. I had heard stories and seen pictures of this particular village where we were headed. What I did not know was that it would be a camp full of destitute families and children. As we entered the village, the children lined the roads on both sides and cheered. They ran to us in excitement as we climbed out of our vehicles. Within moments I saw my soldiers passing out sweets and chocolates and talking with the children. The adults who were not sure if we could be trusted kept their distance. But soon, they too were won over by my men. The soldiers unloaded 87 boxes of toys, clothes, shoes, school supplies and candy. We were soon surrounded by the people of the village who shook our hands and smiled shyly in thanks for our gifts and our presence. After the two-hour visit, as we rose to leave, the camp leader said to us, "Please come again, even if you have nothing to give. We enjoyed having you here." We had loved every moment we had been there. This year we truly learnt the Christmas spirit of loving and giving!

Which of these statements is NOT true?

- (A) The village had been reduced to a camp for the destitute families.
- (B) The villagers wanted only gifts from the soldiers.
- (C) Children were excited to meet the soldiers.
- (D) It was the narrator's first Christmas away from home.

Q2 Read the following passage and answer the questions.

On a cold wintry Christmas day in 1998, the ice and snow were beating down upon the windows of the vehicles as we travelled to an obscure orphanage in Bosnia-Herzegovina. We battled unstable hills blanketed with two feet of snow. The narrow road forced us to drive perilously close to the edge. This would be my first Christmas away from home and family. I could imagine my wife and my two little daughters opening their gifts on Christmas day. Today, I was going to learn for the first time how it would be to spend Christmas day with other children.

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were soon surrounded by the people of the village who shook our hands and smiled shyly in thanks for our gifts and our presence. After the two-hour visit, as we rose to leave, the camp leader said to us, " Please come again, even if you have nothing to give. We enjoyed having you here." We had loved every moment we had been there. This year we truly learnt the Christmas spirit of loving and giving!

Initially, the adults were not as friendly as the children because:

- (A) they were not interested in gifts.
- (B) they were missing their families.
- (C) they did not trust the soldiers.
- (D) they did not want to celebrate Christmas.

Q3 Read the following passage and answer the questions.

On a cold wintry Christmas day in 1998, the ice and snow were beating down upon the windows of the vehicles as we travelled to an obscure orphanage in Bosnia-Herzegovina. We battled unstable hills blanketed with two feet of snow. The narrow road forced us to drive perilously close to the edge. This would be my first Christmas away from home and family. I could imagine my wife and my two little daughters opening their gifts on Christmas day. Today, I was going to learn for the first time how it would be to spend Christmas day with other children.

Enemy activity had devastated the villages. I had heard stories and seen pictures of this particular village where we were headed. What I did not know was that it would be a camp full of destitute families and children. As we entered the village, the children lined the roads on both sides and cheered. They ran to us in excitement as we climbed out of our vehicles. Within moments I saw my soldiers passing out sweets and chocolates and talking with the children. The adults who were not sure if we could be trusted kept their distance. But soon, they too were won over by my men.

The soldiers unloaded 87 boxes of toys, clothes, shoes, school supplies and candy. We were soon surrounded by the people of the village who shook our hands and smiled shyly in thanks for our gifts and our presence. After the two-hour visit, as we rose to leave, the camp leader said to us, " Please come again, even if you have nothing to give. We enjoyed having you here." We had loved every moment we had been there. This year we truly learnt the Christmas spirit of loving and giving!

Which of these statements does NOT indicate that the drive to the village was dangerous?

- (A) There was heavy snowfall on the hills.
- (B) The orphanage village was not well-known.
- (C) The road was too narrow.
- (D) The snow was beating against the vehicles.

Q4 Each item in this section has a sentence with three parts (a), (b) and (c). Read each sentence to find out whether there is any error in any underlined part and indicate your response in the Answer Sheet against the corresponding letter, i.e., (a) or (b) or (c). If you find no error, your response should be indicated as (d).

Three hundred thousand tons (a)/ of cereals is needed (b)/ to replenish stocks. (c)/ No error (d)

- (A) a (B) b
- (C) c (D) d

Q5 Each item in this section has a sentence with three parts labelled as (a), (b) and (c). Read each sentence to find out whether there is any error in any underlined part and indicate your response on the answer sheet against the corresponding letter, i.e., (a) or (b) or (c). If you find no error, your response should be indicated as (d).

- (A) Although he was bad with calligraphy,
- (B) but he tried his best to write
- (C) a letter to her on her birthday.



(D) No error

- Q6 Each item in this section has a sentence with three parts labelled as (a), (b) and (c). Read each sentence to find out whether there is any error in any underlined part and indicate your response on the answer sheet against the corresponding letter, i.e., (a) or (b) or (c). If you find no error, your response should be indicated as (d).**

(A) I'm far of done with this
(B) project, and I still have
(C) a lot of work to do.
(D) No error

- Q7 Each item in this section has a sentence with three parts labelled as (a), (b) and (c). Read each sentence to find out whether there is any error in any underlined part and indicate your response on the answer sheet against the corresponding letter, i.e., (a) or (b) or (c). If you find no error, your response should be indicated as (d).**

(A) His introduction to League football
(B) would have been gentler
(C) if he had started at a smaller club.
(D) No error

- Q8 The following sentences in this section has a blank space and four words are given after the sentence. Select whichever word you consider most appropriate for the blank space and indicate your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.**

Creative people are often ____ with their own uniqueness.

(A) obsessed (B) deranged
(C) unbalanced (D) dissatisfied

- Q9 Each of the following sentences in this section has a blank space and four words or group of words given after the sentence. Select the word or group of words you consider most appropriate for the blank**

space and indicate your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

Scarcely ____ the teacher entered the class when he heard the noise.

(A) did (B) has
(C) had (D) will have

- Q10 Each of the following sentences in this section has a blank space and four words or group of words are given after the sentence. Select the most appropriate word or group of words for the blank space and indicate your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.**

On his way to the capital, the minister _____ the eminent social worker at his residence.

(A) called on (B) called
(C) calling for (D) call off

- Q11 In this section, each of the following sentences has a blank space and each sentence is followed by four options. Select the most appropriate option to fill the blank space.**

He was assassinated by a _____ of aides within his own regime.

(A) butcher (B) cabal
(C) bombast (D) cadaver

- Q12 Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word.**

Perplex

(A) Surprise (B) Bewilder
(C) Complex (D) Deceive

- Q13 In the following question, out of the given alternatives, choose the best one that expresses the synonym of the given word.**

Intrepid

(A) Cowardly (B) Fearful
(C) Timid (D) Doughty

- Q14 In the following question, out of the given alternatives, choose the best one that**



expresses the synonym of the given word.

Relic

- (A) Artifact (B) Modern
(C) Contemporary (D) Future

Q15 In the following question, out of the given alternatives, choose the best one that expresses the antonym of the given word.

Recount

- (A) Narrate (B) Retell
(C) Summarize (D) Conceal

Q16 In the following question, out of the given alternatives, choose the best one that expresses the antonym of the given word.

Epilogue

- (A) Prologue (B) Conclusion
(C) Afterword (D) Postscript

Q17 In the following question, out of the given alternatives, choose the best one that expresses the antonym of the given word.

Naive

- (A) Innocent
(B) Gullible
(C) Clever
(D) Unsophisticated

Direction (18 - 20) Read the following passage and answer the given questions. Select the most appropriate word from the options.

North American walnut sphinx moth caterpillars (*Amorpha juglandis*) look like easy meals for birds, but they have a trick up their sleeves — they produce whistles that sound like bird alarm calls, ____X____ potential predators away. At first, scientists suspected birds were simply ____Y____ by the loud noise. But a new study suggests a more ____Z____ mechanism: the caterpillar's whistle appears to mimic a bird alarm call, sending avian predators scrambling for cover. When pecked by a bird, the caterpillars whistle by compressing their bodies like an accordion

and forcing air out through specialized holes in their sides.

Q18 Select the most appropriate word from the options against X .

- (A) reassuring (B) scaring
(C) heartening (D) animating

Q19 Select the most appropriate word from the options against Y .

- (A) jaded (B) unimpressed
(C) disinterested (D) startled

Q20 Select the most appropriate word from the options against Z .

- (A) backward (B) crude
(C) sophisticated (D) ingenuous

Q21 Directions:- In the following question, out of the four alternatives, choose the one which is nearest to the meaning of the given idiom or phrase.

Fifth Column

- (A) A secret group of subversive agents
(B) The fifth section in a building
(C) The fortunate event
(D) A group of five leaders

Q22 Directions:- In the following question, out of the four alternatives, choose the one which is nearest to the meaning of the given idiom or phrase.

Wrap your head around something

- (A) To ignore something
(B) To understand something complicated
(C) To avoid thinking about something
(D) To physically wrap something around your head

Q23 Select the most appropriate idiom for the given blank.

The much-anticipated event turned out to be _____, disappointing everyone who attended.

- (A) a damp squib
(B) a roaring success



- (C) a walk on air
(D) a blessing in disguise

Q24 Each question consists of two words which have a certain relationship to each other followed by four pairs of related words, Select the pair which has the same relationship.

Dog: Dalmatian :: Finch: _____

- (A) Squirrel (B) Canary
(C) Cat (D) Parrot

Q25 Each question consists of two words which have a certain relationship to each other followed by four pairs of related words, Select the pair which has the same relationship.

Loathe : admire ::

- (A) Benevolent : magnanimous
(B) Cheerful : joyous
(C) Lackadaisical : energetic
(D) Shiny : bright

Q26 The following question, consists of an incomplete sentence or a sentence which is split into four parts. All four parts are jumbled up and are named as P, Q, R and S. These four parts are not given in their proper order. Arrange the jumbled parts of the sentence and find out which of the four combinations from the given options will correctly complete the sentence.

Recently I spent several hours

_____ the bestselling book,

Getting to Yes.

P: anthropologist William Ury, a Harvard University

Q: sitting under a tree in my garden with the social

R: of negotiation and wrote

S: professor who specializes in the art

- (A) QRSP (B) SRQP

- (C) QPSR (D) RSPQ

Q27 The following question, consists of an incomplete sentence or a sentence which is split into four parts. All four parts are jumbled up and are named as P, Q, R and S. These four parts are not given in their proper order. Arrange the jumbled parts of the sentence and find out which of the four combinations from the given options will correctly complete the sentence.

The pursuit of knowledge is a lifelong journey,

_____.

P. exploring new fields and ideas

Q. extending beyond the confines of formal education

R. requiring curiosity and a thirst for understanding

S. and continuously challenging one's intellectual boundaries

- (A) QPSR (B) RQPS
(C) PRSQ (D) SRQP

Q28 Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.

The study of fruit

- (A) Oology (B) Pomology
(C) Horticulture (D) Dendrology

Q29 Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words.

A large crowd or group

- (A) Colony (B) Flock
(C) Throng (D) Swarm

Q30 Select the word which means the same as the group of words given.

An inscription on a tombstone written in memory of the deceased

- (A) Pillar (B) Epitaph
(C) Slab (D) Basilica



Answer Key

Q1 B
Q2 C
Q3 B
Q4 B
Q5 B
Q6 A
Q7 D
Q8 D
Q9 C
Q10 A
Q11 B
Q12 B
Q13 D
Q14 A
Q15 D

Q16 A
Q17 C
Q18 B
Q19 D
Q20 C
Q21 A
Q22 B
Q23 A
Q24 B
Q25 C
Q26 C
Q27 B
Q28 B
Q29 C
Q30 B



Hints & Solutions

Note: scan the QR code to watch video solution

Q1 Text Solution:

It is evident in the passage that 'The village had been reduced to a camp for the destitute families', 'Children were excited to meet the soldiers' and 'It was the narrator's first Christmas away from home' all the statements are true as they are given in the passage.

Hence, the false statement is: **"The villagers wanted only gifts from the soldiers"** which is not given in the passage and hence it is incorrect.

Reference lines from the passage:

- After the two-hour visit, as we rose to leave, the camp leader said to us, "Please come again, even if you have nothing to give. We enjoyed having you here."

Q2 Text Solution:

It is evident in the passage that Initially the adults were not as friendly as the children because they had a doubt in their mind about their trust.

Reference lines from the passage:

- *The adults who were not sure if we could be trusted kept their distance. But soon, they too were won over by my men.*

Q3 Text Solution:

It is evident in the passage that 'There was heavy snowfall on the hills', 'The road was too narrow', and 'The snow was beating against the vehicles'. All the statements are true as they indicate that the drive to the village was dangerous

Hence, the false statement is: **"The orphanage village was not well-known"** as it doesn't indicate the drive to the village was dangerous.

Q4 Text Solution:

Replace 'is' with 'are'.

'Three hundred thousand tons' is a quantity that is plural so a plural verb should be used. Correct sentence- **Three hundred thousand tons of cereals are needed to replenish stocks.**

Q5 Text Solution:

The correct answer is **Option B.**

There is an error in part B of the sentence- **but he tried his best to write**

The conjunction **'Although...yet'** is used to express two contrary qualities or actions of the subject.

'Although/though' is always followed by **'yet'**.

'But' cannot be used in place of **'yet'**.

Correct sentence- **Although he was bad with calligraphy, yet he tried his best to write a letter to her on her birthday.**

Q6 Text Solution:

Replace 'I'm far of done with this' with 'I'm far from done with this'

Far from done - This phrase is used to express that a task or an activity is not finished yet.

Correct sentence- **I'm far from done with this project, and I still have a lot of work to do.**

Q7 Text Solution:

The given sentence contains no error.

Hence the correct answer is **Option D.**

Q8 Text Solution:

Key Concept:- Verb

Explanation:-

Obsess - having a preoccupied mind.

Derange - Mad .

Unbalance - not balanced.



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Dissatisfied - Not satisfied with or pleased

In the above context "**dissatisfied**" is most accurate to use.

Hence, the correct answer is **option d.**

The sentence is '**Creative people are often dissatisfied with their own uniqueness**'.

Q9 Text Solution:

Key Concept: Tense

Explanation:

The correct answer is "had", as it is the past perfect form of the verb "have".

The past perfect tense is used to describe an action that was completed before another past action or event. In this case, the teacher entering the class is the first action and hearing the noise is the second action.

Option A:"Did" is the simple past tense of "do".

Option B:"Has" is the present perfect tense of "have".

Option D:"Will have" is the future perfect tense of "have".

Hence, the correct answer is

Option C, i.e., Had.

Q10 Text Solution:

Key Concept: Phrasal Verb

Explanation:

As per the given context,

'call on' refers to asking one to do something or paying a visit to someone.

'call' refers to saying something to gain one's attention.

'Call for' refers to summoning or requesting someone or something.

'Call off' refers to cancelling something from not happening.

Here, the minister called on the eminent social worker to pay him a visit at his residence.

Hence, the correct option is '**A**', i.e., **called on**.

Q11 Text Solution:

The best option to fill the blank space is:

B. cabal

- **Butcher** refers to someone who slaughters animals or kills people in a brutal way.
- **Cabal** refers to a small, secretive group of people who are united in a plot, often for political purposes. This directly describes a group of aides who might conspire to assassinate someone. (**aides** -an assistant to an important person, especially a political leader.)
- **Bombast** is loud, boastful, or pretentious language.
- **Cadaver** refers to a dead body.

Therefore, "cabal" is the most appropriate choice as it describes a secretive group within the regime who plotted the assassination.

Q12 Text Solution:

Perplex: To confuse or puzzle someone; to make someone uncertain or unable to understand something.

- E.g.: The intricate puzzle perplexed the participants, leaving them unsure of how to proceed.

Let us first understand the given options:

- **Surprise:** To cause someone to feel sudden astonishment or amazement; to catch someone off guard.
- **Bewilder:** To cause someone to become confused or disoriented; to perplex or puzzle.



- E.g.: The complicated instructions bewildered the students, making it difficult for them to complete the task.

- **Complex:** Complicated or intricate in structure, design, or nature; not simple or easy to understand.
- **Deceive:** To mislead or trick someone into believing something that is not true; to deceive or cheat.

Hence, "**Bewilder**" is the most appropriate synonym for the word "**Perplex**".

Q13 Text Solution:

The word "**intrepid**" means fearless, adventurous, or brave.

The synonym "**doughty**" also means brave and resolute, making it the correct answer. "Cowardly", "fearful" and "timid" are antonyms of "intrepid," while "fearless" is a synonym but not as close in meaning as "doughty."

Q14 Text Solution:

Answer: a) Artifact

Solution: A "relic" refers to something from the past, often with historical or sentimental value.

"Artifact" is a synonym, as it also refers to an object made by humans that is of cultural or historical interest.

"Modern," "contemporary," and "future" are unrelated to the concept of a relic.

Q15 Text Solution:

Answer: d) Conceal

Solution: "Recount" means to tell a story or narrate an event.

The antonym "conceal" means to hide or withhold information, making it the correct opposite.

"Narrate," "retell," and "summarize" are all related to telling or recounting something.

Q16 Text Solution:

Answer: a) Prologue

Solution: An "epilogue" is the section at the end of a book or play that serves as a conclusion. Its antonym is "prologue," which is the introduction or preface of a literary work. "Conclusion," "afterword," and "postscript" are all similar to an epilogue, making them incorrect choices.

Q17 Text Solution:

Answer: c) Clever

Solution: The word "naive" describes someone who is simple, innocent, or lacking in experience. The antonym "clever" refers to someone who is quick-witted, sharp, or intelligent, making it the correct opposite. "Innocent," "gullible," and "unsophisticated" are similar to being naive, so they are not correct.

Q18. Text Solution:

The correct answer is option B.

- **Reassuring** and **heartening** have positive connotations, which wouldn't make sense in the context of scaring away predators.
- **Animating** suggests making something lively, which doesn't directly relate to the desired effect on the predators.
- **Scaring** accurately reflects the caterpillar's goal of frightening off potential threats.

Q19. Text Solution:

The correct answer is **option D**.

- **Jaded**, **unimpressed**, and **disinterested** imply a lack of reaction, which isn't the case with the alarm call.
- **Startled** conveys the surprise and potential fear experienced by the birds upon hearing the whistle.

Q20. Text Solution:

The correct answer is option C.



- **Backward** and **crude** suggest something simple or underdeveloped.
- **Ingenuous** implies innocent or naive, which doesn't fit the complex nature of mimicking bird calls.
- **Sophisticated** highlights the advanced strategy of the caterpillar's whistling defense mechanism.

Q21 Text Solution:

Answer: a) A secret group of subversive agents

Solution: The idiom "fifth column" refers to a group of people within a country who secretly support and work to assist its enemies.

Q22 Text Solution:

Answer: b) To understand something complicated

Solution: The idiom "wrap your head around something" means to comprehend or understand a difficult or complex idea. It suggests the mental effort required to grasp challenging concepts. The other options do not match the meaning of this idiom.

Q23 Text Solution:

Answer: a) a damp squib

Solution: The idiom "a damp squib" refers to something that fails to meet expectations or turns out to be disappointing. In this context, the event did not live up to the hype, making "a damp squib" the correct choice.

Q24 Text Solution:

Answer: b) Canary

Solution: The analogy "Dog: Dalmatian :: Finch: Canary" represents a relationship between a general category and a specific breed or type. Just as a Dalmatian is a specific breed of dog, a canary is a specific type of finch.

Q25 Text Solution:

Explanation:

Loathe meaning "hate" is an **antonym** of **admire** meaning "praise".

Similarly, **lackadaisical** which means lazy is antonym of **energetic**.

Q26 Text Solution:

The correct answer is **Option C - QPSR**

Complete sentence: Recently I spent several hours sitting under a tree in my garden with the social anthropologist William Ury, a Harvard University professor who specializes in the art of negotiation and wrote the bestselling book, Getting to Yes.

Q27 Text Solution:

The correct sequence is: RQPS

The correct sentence would be: The pursuit of knowledge is a lifelong journey, requiring curiosity and a thirst for understanding, extending beyond the confines of formal education, exploring new fields and ideas, and continuously challenging one's intellectual boundaries.

Q28 Text Solution:

Answer: b) Pomology

Solution: "Pomology" is the scientific study of fruit and its cultivation.

"Oology" is the study of eggs, particularly birds' eggs, "horticulture" is the study of garden cultivation, and "dendrology" is the study of trees. Therefore, "pomology" is the correct term for the study of fruit.

Q29 Text Solution:

Answer: c) Throng

Solution: The word "**throng**" refers to a large, densely packed crowd of people. "Colony" means a group of bees. "Flock" and "swarm" are typically used for groups of animals or insects, making "throng" the most appropriate choice for a large crowd of people.

Q30 Text Solution:



Let us understand the given words:

- **Pillar** (स्तंभ) - A tall vertical structure used for support or decoration.
- **Epitaph** (समाधिलेख) - A phrase or statement written in memory of a person who has died, especially as an inscription on a tombstone.

- **Slab** (पटिया) - A large, flat piece of stone, concrete, or wood.
- **Basilica** (बेसिलिका) - A large and important church building.

Hence, the correct answer is Option **B - Epitaph**.



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