

# ENGLISH LANGUAGE



# READING COMPREHENSION



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## English Language Reading Comprehension

**Directions (1-10):** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain parts are given in bold to answer some of the questions based on the passage.

Most of the competitive examinations conducted for admission for higher education or job recruitments are objective in nature. They have several advantages over the subjective ones, for both the examining authorities and the examinees. The multiple choice questions (MCQs) are the predominant type of objective questions. For each question a number of alternative answers, usually four, coded as (a), (b), and so on are given, one of which would be the correct or the 'most fitting' answer and the rest distractors. The examinee chooses and indicates the 'correct' answer. The evaluation is done electronically with utmost precision. The subjective type involves elaborate answering and its evaluation involves human elements, and therefore, sometimes, subject to vagaries. Thus the objective type of examining has the advantages of almost error-free evaluation, efficient answering by examinees who may have good subjective knowledge but no language proficiency and considerable saving in time for evaluation.

However, the question paper preparation of objective type requires more care and talent. First, the standard of the questions must suit the level of the candidates tested. Next, while some of the questions could be straight forward, from basic concepts learnt from textbooks or classes, some should be application oriented and based on a little extensions of those basic concepts. Such questions will help identify better talent in a group, which is an important aim of competitive examinations. All the answer codes must have almost equal probability of being the correct answer and the correct answer must be randomly distributed. (Some say that the choice (c) is often the correct answer code.) The concept of negative marking for wrong answers is not acceptable to some of us. They feel that wise guessing could be allowed and should not be discouraged with penalty if it goes wrong. It should be noted that wise guessing is already allowed, as it is one of the methods of narrowing down to the correct answer after eliminating the wrong answers. If by this you are not narrowing down to the correct answer, then your guess is not wise but wild, which should be discouraged.

The implication of wild guesses can be brought out with an example of a candidate A taking an objective test. Suppose A does not even open the question booklet, but goes on marking one particular answer code, say (b), for all the 100 questions of the test, which may take less than five minutes. If there are four multiple choices, (b) would be the correct answer choice for about 25 questions, in all probability, getting him 25 marks out of the total marks of 100. Say now, B, a serious student who would have sincerely attempted might have got much less; how to tackle this situation? A should get only zero which he deserves. His 25 marks will be reduced to 0 only if  $(1/3)$  mark is deducted for every one of the 75 wrong answers. Generalising, the factor should be  $1 / (k - 1)$  when the number of alternative answers for every question is k. The purpose of examinations, particularly competitive ones, is to correctly assess the relative merits of candidates, which is made possible by the negative marking system. Awarding of any concessions to anyone is a matter that can be taken up at a later stage.



**1. Why electronic evaluation is preferred over the one which is done subjectively?**

- A. Electronic evaluation is almost error-free
- B. Technology used builds precision in marking
- C. The subjective types are bound to have human error
- D. Both A and C
- E. Both A and B

Answer: D

Explanation:

Both A and B mentioned in the starting paragraph. no explicit mention of option 2

**2. What does the author mean by quoting the consequence of “What if a doctor makes a wrong diagnosis instead of referring it to a higher centre?”**

- A. Wrong diagnosis can cost a patient’s life
- B. Guessing an answer shows lack of merit
- C. Those who get selected by luck, don’t make good doctors
- D. Just like a wrong diagnosis, a wild guess in exams can cost dearly
- E. None of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

Option D is suitable

**3. What of the following is the nearest in meaning to “IMPLICATIONS”?**

- A. suggestion
- B. innuendo
- C. indication
- D. Both A and B
- E. All of them

Answer: E.

Explanation:

Implication – the conclusion that can be drawn from something although it is not explicitly stated.

**4. Which of the following statements is incorrect according to the passage?**

- A. Preparing objective type questions requires more skills
- B. In several tests, scheme of negative marking is being adopted
- C. Answering “most fitting” answer is in itself is arbitrary
- D. Purpose of examinations is to assess the relative merits of candidates



E. Objective questions help identifying better talent in a group

Answer: C.

Explanation:

No such mention in the passage

**5. What according to author is important in the process of making options?**

- A. They should be randomly distributed
- B. All options must have almost equal probability of being the correct answer
- C. Some options should use diversionary tactic
- D. Both A and B
- E. None of the above

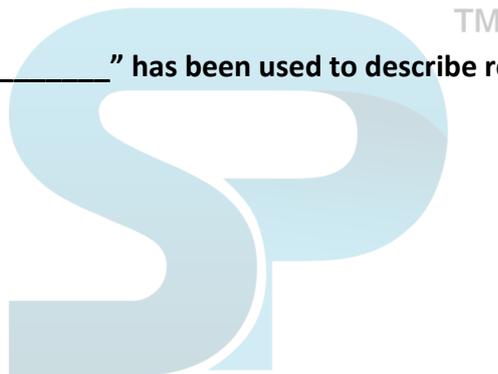
Answer: D.

Explanation:

Option D is suitable

**6. Other than the right option, “\_\_\_\_\_” has been used to describe rest of the options. Identify that word from the passage**

- A. attention-grabber
- B. diversion
- C. distractors
- D. gimmick
- E. disturbance



Answer: C.

Explanation:

Option C is suitable

**7. The thing which is kept in mind while making a question is...**

- A. Some question should be based application oriented as well
- B. More than four options complicates a question
- C. Most of the question should be practical knowledge-based
- D. That which tests a candidate's theoretical knowledge is are better
- E. None of the above

Answer: A.

Explanation:

Option A is suitable



**8. What do you infer from the word “VAGARIES” mentioned in the passage?**

- A. Evaluation being error-ridden
- B. That which cannot be controlled and can influence a situation
- C. mistakes in evaluating a specific paper
- D. Both A and B
- E. Both B and C

Answer: B.

Explanation:

Option B is suitable

**9. How does the author differentiate between a ‘wise’ guess and ‘wild’ guess?**

- A. Guessing answers should not be penalised
- B. Narrowing down answers by elimination is wise guess only
- C. Implication of wild guessing can be huge
- D. Objective format papers make for easy guessing of answers
- E. Negative marking defeats the purpose of guessing

Answer: B.

Explanation:

Option B is suitable

**10. Which among the following inferences can be best attributed to the concluding paragraph of the passage?**

- A. Purpose of examinations
- B. Advantages of electronic evaluation
- C. Positives of the negatives
- D. Subjective over objective
- E. **Lacunas in marking schemes**

Answer: C.

Explanation:

Option C is the most apt answer



**Directions (11-20):** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain parts are given in bold to answer some of the questions based on the passage.

The task which Gandhiji undertook was not only the achievement of political freedom but also the establishment of a social order based on truth and non violence, unity and peace, equality and universal brotherhood, and maximum freedom for all. This unfinished part of his experiment was perhaps more difficult to achieve than the achievement of political freedom. Political struggle involved fight against a foreign power and all one do was either join it or wish its success. In establishing social order of this pattern, there was lively possibility of a conflict arising between groups and classes, of our own people. Experience shows that man values his possessions even more than his life because in the former he sees the means for perpetuation and survival of his descendants even after his body is reduced to ashes. A new order cannot be established without radically changing the mind and attitude of men towards property and at some stage or the other, the 'haves' have to yield place to 'have-nots'. We have seen, in our time, attempts to achieve a kind of egalitarian society and a picture of it after it was achieved. But this was done, by and large, through the use of physical force.

In the ultimate analysis, it is difficult, if not impossible to say that the instinct to possess has been rooted out or that it will not reappear in an even worse form under a different guise. It may even be that, like a has kept confined within containers under great pressure, or water held by a big fan, once a barrier breaks the reaction will one day sweep back with a violence equal in extent and intensity to what was used to establish and maintain the outward egalitarian form. This enforced egalitarianism consists, in its own bosom, the seed of its own destruction. The root cause of class conflict is possessiveness or the acquisitive instance. So long as the ideal that is to be achieved is one of securing the maximum material satisfaction, possessiveness can neither be suppressed nor eliminated but will grow on what it feeds. Nor will it will cease to be such – it is possessiveness, still, whether it is confined to only a few it is shared by many. If egalitarianism bis to be ensured, it has to be based on not on the possession of the maximum material goods by a few or by all but on voluntary, enlightened renunciation of those goods which cannot be shared by others or can be enjoyed only at the expense of theirs. This calls for substitution of spiritual values that is sometimes equated with progress these days, neither spells peace nor progress. Mahatma Gandhi has shown us how the acquisitive instinct inherent in man could be transmuted by the adoption of the ideal of trusteeship by which the wealthy people would be the trustees of trusts that looked after the welfare of the people in general.

**11. Select the most appropriate option to complete the given sentence. Gandhi aimed at.....**

- A. achieving political freedom
- B. establishing a nonviolent society
- C. universal brotherhood
- D. Both A and B
- E. A, B and C

Answer: D.

Explanation:



Option D is suitable

**12. Egalitarianism means**

- A. suppression
- B. social and political equality
- C. violence
- D. inequality
- E. elitism

Answer: B.

Explanation:

Egalitarianism – a doctrine that all are people and deserve equal rights and opportunities

**13. In the context of the passage, which of the following statements is false ?**

- A. the instinct of possession causes conflicts
- B. the instinct of possession cannot be rooted out completely
- C. satisfaction of material needs cannot earn peace and progress
- D. Conflicts between groups and classes are bound to arise.
- E. voluntary renunciation is the key

Answer: D.

Explanation:

Option D is suitable

**14. Which one of the following is the most similar in meaning to the word “GUISE”?**

- A. illusion
- B. disappear
- C. appearance
- D. reprove
- E. trick

Answer: C.

Explanation:

Guise – an external form, appearance typically concealing the true nature of something.

**15. According to the passage, people ultimately overturn the form a social order which**

- A. is based on coercion and oppression
- B. does satisfy their basic needs
- C. is based on conciliation and rapprochement
- D. is not congenial to the spiritual values of the people



E. is brought about by foreign powers

Answer: A

Explanation:

Option A is suitable

**16. According to the passage which of the following statements is not true?**

- A. a social order based on truth and non violence can help the achievement of maximum freedom for all
- B. in establishing the social order of Gandhiji's pattern, the possibility of a conflict between different classes hardly exists
- C. it is difficult to change the mind of people towards property
- D. In an egalitarian society, material satisfaction can be enjoyed only at the expense of others.
- E. the root cause of class conflict is possessiveness

Answer: D.

Explanation:

Option D is suitable

**17. In the context of the passage, what is meant by the adoption of ideal of trusteeship?**

- A. to equate peace and progress with material satisfaction
- B. ideal for the benefit of the society
- C. the privileged class voluntarily renounces the possessive instincts
- D. substitution of spiritual values by material values by those who live in the paradise of material satisfaction
- E. Welfare of people looked after by the wealthy class.

Answer: E.

Explanation:

Option E is suitable

**18. Option D is suitable what can you infer from the phrase "root out"?**

- A. to destroy something
- B. instill something
- C. find and remove something/ someone
- D. to flatten something
- E. Both B and C

Answer: C.

Explanation:



Root out – to find and remove something/ someone

**19. What is the broad meaning of- ‘haves’ have to yield place to to the ‘have-nots’?**

- A. principles of Mahatma Gandhi needs to replace existing ones
- B. foreign powers influencing decisions inside needs to be defeated
- C. wealthy class have to renounce all their wealth
- D. wealthy people have to contribute for progress of society

Answer: D.

Explanation:

Option D is suitable

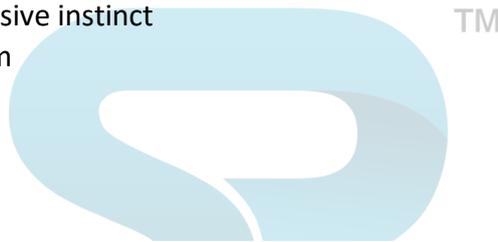
**20. Choose the most appropriate title for the passage**

- A. Material values v/s Spiritual values
- B. Class conflicts in an egalitarian society
- C. The Gandhiji’s vision of social order
- D. the renunciation of possessive instinct
- E. Political and social freedom

Answer: C.

Explanation:

Option C is suitable



**Directions (21-30): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain parts are given in bold to answer some of the questions based on the passage.**

While adopting a technology, Indians have made changes to their attitudes and societal norms but often also made the technology work around their instincts. One area where the law of the jungle seems to prevail is the road, especially in cities. As a rule, typically, two-wheelers and cars don’t consider lanes important. We don’t want to wait our turn but keep jumping lanes and **wading** around obstacles. We seem to be possessed by a primal urge to get ahead of others even if it means the driver of the car or the two-wheeler rider on the other lane has to jam hard on his brakes.

Over the next 15 years, however, Indian driving is likely to be disrupted by electric vehicles that the Indian government seems keen on introducing, without transitioning to hybrids. Far less polluting and carbon-emitting, the electric car, however, poses a challenge to Indian driving practices. The motor is much quieter than the engine and the transmission system has fewer parts too. “All one hears is wind, tyre and road noise, which is minimal in city driving,” says Mahesh Babu, CEO of Mahindra Electric.



Imagine thousands of cars moving around, quietly, on our roads. Electric motors are among the **perkiest** prime movers. After starting, they can very quickly ramp up to full speed, unlike the internal combustion engine that needs to idle and takes time to increase speed. “Instant torque and quick acceleration,” sums up Mr. Babu. Maximum torque is available for a range of speeds too.

Another crucial, efficiency-boosting attribute of the electric car will be regenerative braking. T’s a cute application of an old physics law where the electric motor powering the car can reverse its role, becoming a generator and charging the battery. The generator load is the resistance that provides braking torque and it can be varied if you want to just bring down the speed, not stop the car altogether. Electric cars present a unique opportunity for Indian drivers. Instead of **tamping down** the technology, we can instead change our habits — be mindful of lanes, wait our turn, be polite and respectful of others and their needs, and make our driving smoother, as well as make best use of regenerative braking.

### 21. How do Indians adopt new technologies?

- A. with full consciousness
- B. use it with utmost care and using it productively
- C. refrain from sharing it
- D. mould it according to our habits
- E. do not care about its judicious use

Answer: D

#### Explanation:

Option D is suitable

### 22. What is the reason for imminent disruption in Indian style of driving?

- A. hybrid and electric cars will pollute lesser than conventional ones
- B. driving will be safer
- C. electric cars will be difficult to maintain
- D. driving electric vehicles will be easy
- E. getting accustomed to electric vehicles would be difficult

Answer: D

#### Explanation:

Option D is suitable

### 23. Which one of the following is most similar in meaning to “WADING”?



- A. sideling
- B. trudge
- C. cascading
- D. amplify
- E. rush

Answer: B

Explanation:

Option B is suitable

**24. Electric vehicles pose a challenge to Indian style of driving because**

- A. cost of running them is high
- B. electric vehicle charging infrastructure is weak
- C. existing roads not compatible with hybrid vehicles
- D. electric vehicles can lead to more accidents
- E. lack of awareness among the road users

Answer: D

Explanation:

Option D is suitable

**24. According to the passage, which of the following statements is not true ?**

- A. vehicles are far less polluting and carbon emitting
- B. hybrid adopting electric vehicles would be a huge challenge
- C. electric cars accelerate very quickly
- D. electric cars will be beneficial in the long run after initial costs
- E. electric cars will reduce noise pollution and hence better than existing cars

Answer: A

Explanation:

Option A is suitable

**25. According to the passage, which of the following statements is not true?**

- A. electric cars will reduce noise pollution and hence better than existing cars
- B. hybrid vehicles are far less polluting and carbon emitting
- C. adopting electric vehicles would be a huge challenge
- D. electric cars accelerate very quickly
- E. electric cars will be beneficial in the long run after initial costs

Answer: A



Explanation:

Option A is suitable

**26. Which one among the following statements represent the writer's opinion?**

- A. time is not right to implement hybrid vehicles
- B. electric cars can boost the economy
- C. indian driving practices is not suited to electric cars
- D. Both A and B
- E. Both A and C

Answer: C

Explanation:

Option C is suitable

**27. How regenerative braking is efficient?**

- A. braking can itself be done by the electric motor
- B. it helps in instant torque
- C. it can reduce acceleration in a short period of time
- D. handling it is much simpler
- E. Both A and B

Answer: A

Explanation:

Option 1 is suitable

**28. What can you infer from the phrase "TAMPING DOWN"?**

- A. to lead to an accident
- B. crush someone
- C. toning of rules
- D. reduce importance of something
- E. Both A and B

Answer: D

Explanation:

Tamping down – to reduce the importance/significance of anything

**29. What all habitual aspects needs to be corrected according to the passage?**

- A. be mindful of lanes
- B. respecting other needs



- C. waiting for our turn
- D. Both A and C
- E. A, B and C

**Answer: E**

**Explanation:**

Option 5 is suitable.

**30. Which one of the following is the most similar in meaning to the word “PERKIEST?”**

- A. beneficial
- B. bouncy
- C. productive
- D. lively
- E. smartest

**Answer: D**

**Explanation:**

Perkiest – cheerful and lively

**Directions (31-40):** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain parts are given in bold to answer some of the questions based on the passage.

One of the most important things to notice about the power of art is the way in which great works continue to exert their influence through the ages. Scientific discoveries which are of major importance at the time they are made are superseded. Thus, Newton’s theory of gravitation has been superseded by Einstein’s theory of relativity. Hence the work of great scientists has value in stages on the way to a goal which supersedes them. Broadly speaking, the achievements of generals, politicians, and statesmen have an importance only in their own time.

Hence these people and their acts, great as they may have been are like milestones which mankind passes on its way to something else. They may be juxtaposed in future but then, only to praise the contemporary work. But with work of art it is not so. The place which they occupy in the estimation of succeeding ages and the power which they exercise over men’s spirit are as great as they were in the age which produced them; indeed, their power tends to increase with time, as they came to be better understood.

**31. The power of art can be judged through?**

- A. Its influence on a few individuals
- B. its influence on the people over the years
- C. the greatness of great artists
- D. the opinion of great thinkers



E. Both A and B

Answer: B

Explanation:

Option B is suitable

**32. The statement; “Newton’s theory of gravitation has been superseded by Einstein’s theory of relativity” suggests that**

- A. the theory of relativity has nothing to do with the theory of gravitation
- B. the theory of relativity is new in comparison to the theory of gravitation
- C. the theory of relativity is an improvement over the theory of gravitation
- D. the theory of relativity has suppressed the theory of gravitation
- E. Both B and C

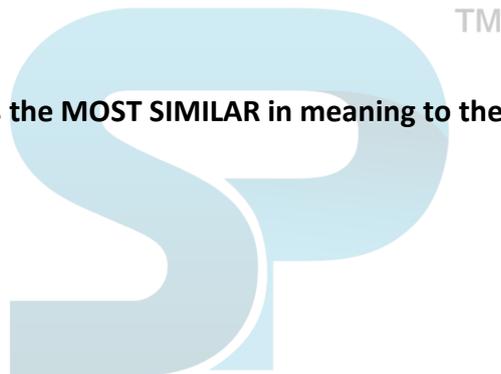
Answer: D

Explanation:

Option D is suitable

**33. Which among the following is the MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word ‘SUPERSEDE’?**

- A. excel
- B. absurd
- C. diverge
- D. replace
- E. embed



Answer: D

Explanation:

Supersede – take the place of, replace

**34. The achievements of generals, politicians and statesmen have been compared to milestones because**

- A. they are inscribed on the milestones
- B. they have contemporary relevance
- C. they have topical and historical importance
- D. people tend to forget those achievements with time
- E. they are strong and lasting stones

Answer: B

Explanation:



**35. Option B is suitable According to the author what is correct among the following statements in the context of the passage given?**

- A. a work of art has a greater influence on mankind than the scientific ones
- B. Newton's discoveries were inferior than that of Einstein's
- C. achievements by esteemed men are destined to be forgotten
- D. Both a and b
- E. A ,B and C

Answer: D

Explanation:

Statements A and B goes with the context of the passage

**36. What does the 'milestones' refer to in context of the passage?**

- A. work of art
- B. scientific discoveries by Newton and Einstein
- C. Both A and B
- D. Achievements of generals, politicians, statesmen etc.
- E. A, B and D

Answer: E

Explanation:

Statements A, B and D are in context of the passage

**37. Why people tend to forget over the ages the great work?**

- A. Because it is not in their interests
- B. Since they are not relevant in the present time
- C. people remember only the influential works
- D. any work howsoever great loses its importance with time
- E. None of these

Answer: D

Explanation:

Option D only is suitable

**38. How is a work of art different from the work of a scientist?**

- A. a work of art is as permanent as the work of a scientist
- B. The influence of a work of art increases from age to age unlike the work of a scientist
- C. a work of art has no material value like the work of a scientist
- D. a work of art is an expression of creative power while the work of a scientist is not



E. Both B and C

Answer: B

Explanation:

Option B is suitable

**39. What is meant by “CONTEMPORARY?”**

- A. preposterous
- B. outmoded
- C. defunct
- D. modern
- E. archaic

Answer: D

Explanation:

Contemporary – present time, current, modern

**40. Whose power tends to increase with time?**

- A. Generals, politicians, statesmen
- B. men with profound knowledge
- C. artistic works
- D. Both A and B
- E. scientific discoveries

Answer: C

Explanation:

Option C is suitable

**Directions (41-50):** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain parts are given in bold to answer some of the questions based on the passage.

These mismatched graduates face poorer prospects and lower earnings than their peers who embark on careers that are a better fit for the knowledge and skills they have acquired through three or four years of study. It suggests that traditional careers advice isn't working. The problem isn't necessarily that too many students are taking the wrong course. There is little evidence that graduates are studying the “wrong” subjects, according to the UUK research, since most are on courses that offer subject knowledge and employability skills that are very much in demand.

Politicians complain of a, but graduates face an “experience gap” – with many employers preferring to recruit young people who have spent a couple of years in the workplace rather than raw recruitments from the university.



To help graduates find the right jobs for them, lots of universities are experimenting with new ways to make their careers advice more accessible and meaningful. At the University of Kent, students can use an online Careers Explorer service to match their skills to career options, and a work-study scheme that provides bursaries for work experience. Students at the University of Dundee can take employability modules in parallel with their academic work, including online and personal career planning sessions.

**41. What can be taken in parallel with academic work by students of University of Dundee?**

- A. matching career skills
- B. work study scheme
- C. employability modules
- D. work experience
- E. all the above

**Answer: C**

**Explanation:**

Option C is suitable

**42. What are graduates facing?**

- A. planning sessions
- B. raw recruitments
- C. A and B
- D. employability skills
- E. experience gap



**Answer: E**

**Explanation:**

Option E is suitable

**43. What is meant by 'bursaries?'**

- A. a grant especially one awarded to someone to enable them to study at university or college.
- B. a place to live as given by authorities
- C. an award to highlight achievements of a person
- D. a privilege by the Government in order to prosper in field of academics and research work.
- E. B and C

**Answer: A**

**Explanation:**

Option A is suitable

**44. According to passage what is not working?**



- A. poorer prospects
- B. traditional careers advice
- C. wrong course
- D. wrong subject
- E. C and D

Answer: B

Explanation:

**45. What re universities doing in order to help graduates find the right jobs for them?**

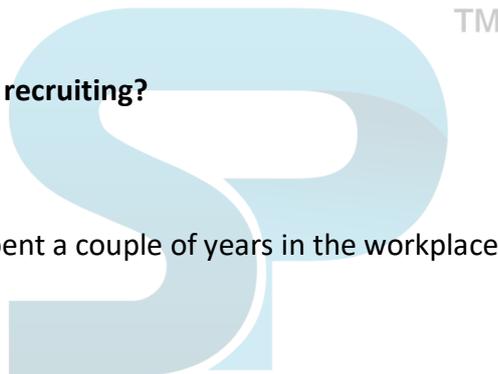
- A. preferring to recruit young people
- B. experimenting with new ways to make their careers advice more accessible
- C. experimenting with new ways to make their careers advice more and meaningful
- D. B and C
- E. none of the above

Answer: D

Explanation:

**46. What employers prefer while recruiting?**

- A. raw recruitment
- B. studied right subject
- C. young people who have spent a couple of years in the workplace
- D. A and B
- E. have employability skills



Answer: C

Explanation:

Option C is suitable

**47. Which among the following is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word 'Skill' ?**

- A. tact
- B. inability
- C. cunning
- D. artistry
- E. gumption

Answer: B

Explanation:

Skill – the ability to do something well



**48. Which among the following is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word ‘Prospect’?**

- A. expertise
- B. astuteness
- C. bent
- D. knack
- E. anticipation

Answer: E

Explanation:

Prospect – the possibility or likelihood of some future event occurring

**49. Which among the following is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning to the word ‘Meaningful’?**

- A. insignificant
- B. dexterity
- C. shrewdness
- D. flair
- E. ineptness

Answer: A

Explanation:

Meaningful – having meaning

**50. Which among the following is MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the word ‘Embark’?**

- A. acuteness
- B. savvy
- C. knack
- D. commence
- E. sagacity

Answer: D

Explanation:

Embark – begin

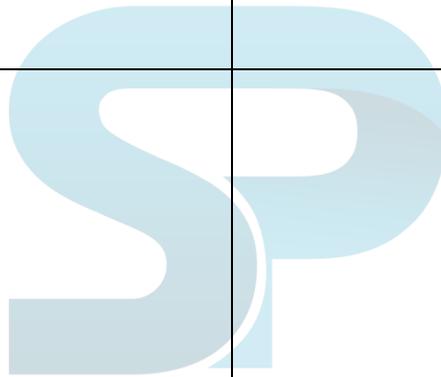




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