

**QCA : 28**  
**QUALIFYING ENGLISH**

**Time : 2 hours**

**Maximum Marks : 150**

SECTION—A

1. Fill in the blanks with the correct form of words given in brackets : [1×5=5]
- (a) The river Cauvery \_\_\_\_\_ down the mountains and make the land fertile. (meander)
  - (b) Indian athletes have not performed well in the individual events. It is because they lack the \_\_\_\_\_ instinct. (kill)
  - (c) The striking transport operators have decided to \_\_\_\_\_ their agitation. (continue)
  - (d) I could not attend the \_\_\_\_\_ program yesterday. (engage)
  - (e) \_\_\_\_\_ care of oneself is an important part of good living. (Take)
2. Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the pair of words given in brackets : [1×5=5]
- (a) Nowadays the trend in fashion is that the colour of the dress should \_\_\_\_\_ the colour of the hair. (complement, compliment)
  - (b) The grandmother was overwhelmed with joy at the \_\_\_\_\_ of her grandson, after many years. (site, sight)
  - (c) The \_\_\_\_\_ looked vast and lonely. (desert, dessert)
  - (d) The common refrain of teachers is that laziness will \_\_\_\_\_ the results. (effect, affect)
  - (e) At the end of the lecture the teacher said, "If you have any \_\_\_\_\_ questions you can ask me. (farther, further)
3. Fill in the blanks in the following questions selecting appropriate idiom from the list given below in bracket : [1×5=5]
- (feather in your cap, chicken feed, all ears, crocodile tears, black sheep of the family)
- (a) Reshma is the \_\_\_\_\_ when it comes to studying.
  - (b) David is always crying so his dad can buy him something or the other. But his mom knows, they are nothing but \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (c) Rajaram loves his job even though they pay him \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (d) When Elizabeth won the medal, her teacher said, "Congratulations! It is a \_\_\_\_\_."
  - (e) Every time the talk comes up about washing machine, Rekha is \_\_\_\_\_
4. Fill in the blank in the following question selecting the correct collective noun from the bracket : [1×5=5]
- ( Anthology, Deck, Board, Bouquet, Fleet )
- (a) \_\_\_\_\_ of ships
  - (b) \_\_\_\_\_ of flowers
  - (c) \_\_\_\_\_ of directors
  - (d) \_\_\_\_\_ of poetry
  - (e) \_\_\_\_\_ of Cards

5. Match the movement of body (part) with the appropriate emotion/attitude : [1×5=5]

Table—A

- (a) Sit on the fence  
 (b) Throw dust into one's eye  
 (c) Be all ears  
 (d) Be on the tip of one's tongue  
 (e) Open Pandora's box

Table—B

- (1) Cheat  
 (2) Be attentive  
 (3) Much adored  
 (4) Invite problems  
 (5) Be neutral

6. Write the opposite of the following words using the appropriate prefixes given in brackets : [1×5=5]

( un-, ir-, im-, mis-, anti- )

- (a) glare \_\_\_\_\_  
 (b) adventure \_\_\_\_\_  
 (c) rational \_\_\_\_\_  
 (d) mortal \_\_\_\_\_  
 (e) foreseen \_\_\_\_\_

7. Substitute the bold and underlined phrases selecting a single word from the list given below in bracket : [1×5=5]

( flamboyant, egoists, drudgery, catalogue, bourgeois )

- (a) The **list of books** is available with the librarian or can be checked online.  
 (b) The **people of the middle class** were not satisfied with the policies of the government.  
 (c) It is unfortunate that there are many **people who always think only about themselves** in the society which is undesirable.  
 (d) Labourers are subjected to a lot of **hardships and misery**, that kills their happiness.  
 (e) The **highflying and swash buckling** businessman bought a private jet costing a fortune.

8. Complete the proverbs by matching List—A with List—B : [1×5=5]

List—A

- (a) A chain is only  
 (b) Where there is a will  
 (c) The paths of glory  
 (d) Slow and steady  
 (e) A bird in the hand

List—B

- (1) worth two in the bush  
 (2) wins the race  
 (3) lead but to the grave  
 (4) there is a way  
 (5) as strong as its weakest link

SECTION—B

9. Rewrite the following sentences as directed : [1×5=5]

- (a) Shashank was tall enough to reach the highest shelf in the bookstore.  
(Frame a 'wh-' question to get the underlined word as the answer)
- (b) She is only eleven years old but very intelligent.  
(Rewrite the sentence using 'barely')
- (c) He has written a great story, \_\_\_\_\_?  
(Add a question tag)
- (d) Rohans mother came to the cinema with us.  
(Insert an apostrophe in the correct place)
- (e) He is so weak that he cannot even sit up straight.  
(Rewrite using too and to)

10. Match each of the following sentences with the respective functions : [1×5=5]

**Sentences**

**Functions**

- |   |                           |
|---|---------------------------|
| (a) Save the Tiger.   | 1) Joining a conversation |
| (b) Elephants move slowly because of their weight.              | 2) Expressing agreement   |
| (c) I hope you don't mind my asking, but haven't we met before? | 3) Slogan                 |
| (d) What a beautiful sweater!                                   | 4) Complimenting          |
| (e) That's quite right.   | 5) Reason                 |

11. Correct the following sentences and rewrite them in the given space : [1×10=10]

- (a) When you are going on leave?  
(b) The furnitures in his office is very beautiful.  
(c) There was a hot argument among the two leaders.  
(d) Savita's husband is a MLA.  
(e) The officer is having a huge bungalow in Bangalore.  
(f) Our college starts at 9 a.m. in the morning.  
(g) One of my sister is in the USA.  
(h) She is the tallest than her sister.  
(i) Usually I see TV in the evening.  
(j) He didn't attended the function.

12. Write the correct form of the verbs given in brackets to complete the following sentences : [1×5=5]

- (a) The students \_\_\_\_\_ (have) decided to go on a strike.  
(b) Anita Desai has \_\_\_\_\_ (write) twelve novels.  
(c) Amit \_\_\_\_\_ (go) to college regularly.  
(d) We \_\_\_\_\_ (attend) her marriage next week.  
(e) Seema \_\_\_\_\_ (sing) very sweetly yesterday.

13. Fill in the blanks selecting the correct linkers given in the bracket below the paragraph :[1×5=5]

The expansion of the existing narrow national highways is a necessity today. \_\_\_\_\_ of growth of industry, trade and commerce, the per capita income has increased. \_\_\_\_\_ the number of vehicles too has expanded. \_\_\_\_\_ provide space for the smooth movement of these vehicles the broadening is an urgent requirement. \_\_\_\_\_ the NHA is willingly undertaking the expansion project. \_\_\_\_\_ it has entered into an agreement with the private sector for effective maintenance.

( moreover, therefore, in order to, consequently, as a result )

14. Match the type of communication in *List—A* with the correct example in *List—B* : [1×5=5]

<i>List—A</i>	<i>List—B</i>
(a) Oral	(1) Video-based lecture
(b) Audio visual	(2) E-mail
(c) Gestures	(3) Speeches
(d) Pictorial	(4) Traffic control
(e) Writings	(5) Illustration with pictures

### SECTION—C

15. Read the following passage and answer the questions set on it :

Ten weeks before he died, Mr. Mohun Biswas, a journalist of Sikkim Street, St. James, Port of Spain was sacked. He had been ill for some time. In less than a year he had spent more than nine weeks at the Colonial Hospital and convalesced at home for even longer. When the doctor advised him to take a complete rest, the *Trinidad Sentinel* had no choice. It gave Mr. Biswas three months' notice and continued up to the time of his death, to supply him every morning with a free copy of the paper.

Mr. Biswas was forty-six, and had four children. He had no money. His wife Shama had no money. On the house in Sikkim Street Mr. Biswas owed and had been owing for four years, three thousand dollars. The interest on this, at eight percent, came to twenty dollars a month; the ground rent was ten dollars. Two children were at school. The two older children, on whom Mr. Biswas might have depended, were both abroad on scholarships.

It gave Mr. Biswas some satisfaction that in the circumstances Shama did not run straight off to her mother to beg for help. Ten years before, that would have been her first thought. Now she tried to comfort Mr. Biswas and devised plans on her own.

“Potatoes”, she said. “We can start selling potatoes. The price around here is eight cents a pound. If we buy at five and sell at seven .....

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“Trust the Tulsi bad blood”, Mr. Biswas said. “I know that the pack of you Tulsis are financial geniuses. But have a good look around and count the number of people selling potatoes. Better to sell the old car.”

“No. Not the car. Don’t worry. We’ll manage.”

“Yes”, Mr. Biswas said irritably. “We’ll manage. ”

No more was heard of the potatoes and Mr. Biswas never threatened again to sell the car. He didn’t now care to do anything against his wife’s wishes. He had grown to accept her judgement and to respect her optimism. He trusted her. Since they had moved to the house Shama had learned a new loyalty to him and to their children; away from her mother and sisters, she was able to express this without shame, and to Mr. Biswas this was a triumph almost as big as the acquiring of his own house.

(a) Answer the following in a word, a sentence or a phrase as required :

[1×10=10]

- (i) What did Shama plan to sell?
- (ii) How long did Mr. Biswas survive after he was sacked?
- (iii) In which paper did Mr. Biswas work?
- (iv) What was the rate of interest on the money Mr. Biswas owed?
- (v) How many children did Shama have?
- (vi) Who wanted to sell the old car?
- (vii) Who were financial geniuses?
- (viii) Shama had no siblings. (State True/False)
- (ix) How many children of Mr. Biswas and Shama were abroad?
- (x) What was the profession of Mr. Biswas?

(b) Answer the following in 1 or 2 sentence(s) each :

[2×3=6]

- (i) Why did Mr. Biswas say that Tulsis are financial geniuses?
- (ii) When did Mr. Biswas get some satisfaction?
- (iii) What did Shama learn since they had moved to a new house?

(c) Write a paragraph on Mr. Biswas.

[4]

(d) Match the words in List—A with their meanings in List—B :

[1×5=5]

*List—A*

*List—B*

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| (i) Loyalty   | (1) Hopefulness  |
| (ii) Optimism | (2) Faithfulness |
| (iii) Triumph | (3) Scare        |
| (iv) Devise   | (4) Victory      |
| (v) Threaten  | (5) Scheme       |

16. Write an essay in 350 words on any *one* of the following topics :[25]

- (a) Communal harmony
- (b) Making India a clean and green country
- (c) Youth unrest
- (d) Role of students in nation building
- (e) The pleasure of reading

Write clearly the topic of the essay in the box given below :

Topic of the Essay	
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17. Suggest a suitable title and write a précis of the passage given below in your own words. Use the space provided :[25]

*Note :*

- (i) The Précis should not exceed 100 words.
- (ii) The number of words of your précis should be clearly mentioned.
- (iii) Suggest a suitable title and write it in the space given.

Without knowledge of grammar it is impossible for you to write correctly; and, it is by mere accident if you speak correctly. And, bear in mind that all well-informed persons judge a man's mind (until they have other means of judging) by his writing or speaking. The labour necessary to acquire this knowledge indeed is not trifling. Grammar is not like Arithmetic, a science consisting of several departments, some of which may be dispensed with. It is a whole, and the whole must be learned, or no part is learned. The subject is abstruse; it demands much reflection and much patience, but, when once the task is performed, it is performed for life, and in everyday of that life, it will be found to be a source of pleasure or of profit or both together. And, what is the labour? It consists of no bodily exertion, it exposes the student to no cold, no hunger, no suffering of any sort. The study need subtract from the hours of no business, nor, indeed, from the hours of necessary exercise. The hours usually spent in the tea and coffee shops and in the mere gossip which accompany them—these wasted hours, of only one year, employed in the study of English grammar would make you correct speaker and writer for the rest of your life.

I learned grammar when I was a private soldier on the pay of six pence a day. The edge of my berth was my seat to study in, my knapsack was my bookcase; a bit of board lying on my lap was my writing table; and the task did not demand anything like a year of my life. And if I, under such circumstances, and without parents or friends to advise or encourage me, accomplished this undertaking, what excuse can there be for any youth, however poor, however pressed with business, or however circumstanced as to room or other conveniences?