

Markhor Junior Contest 2023

ASPIRANT LEVEL (Class IX, X & O/A Level's) ENGLISH LANGUAGE

There are 25 questions, each question carries 2 marks.

Time allowed: 60 minutes

Maximum Marks: 50

1. **What is the part of speech of the word "yet" in the following sentence?**
He hasn't arrived, yet the meeting has started.
 - a) Adverb
 - b) Conjunction**
 - c) Preposition
 - d) Interjection
2. **Which of the following is both exclamatory and interrogative?**
 - a) What a surprise this is!
 - b) How could you do this to me?!**
 - c) Where is the nearest hospital?
 - d) I can't believe it happened!
3. **Which of the following sentences uses a pronoun incorrectly?**
 - a) He gave the book to her and I.**
 - b) This is the best solution we could find.
 - c) Each of the students has completed their homework.
 - d) None of these is incorrect.

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4. **Identify the modal verb in the following sentence:**
You must complete the assignment by tomorrow.
- a) **Must**
 - b) Complete
 - c) Assignment
 - d) By
5. **What tense is used in this sentence, and what is its purpose? He is always interrupting me when I'm trying to concentrate.**
- a) Present simple, to express general truth.
 - b) **Present continuous, to express irritation about a recurring action.**
 - c) Past continuous, to describe an ongoing past action.
 - d) Future continuous, to predict a future event.
6. **Which of the following sentences demonstrates a logical deduction in the present using "must"?**
- a) **She must be the new manager; she looks confident.**
 - b) She must have been the new manager.
 - c) She must to be the new manager.
 - d) She must being the new manager.
7. **Choose the correct passive voice form for this sentence: "He had written the report before the meeting started."**
- a) **The report had been written by him before the meeting started.**
 - b) The report had written by him before the meeting started.

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- c) The report was written by him before the meeting started.
 - d) The report has been written by him before the meeting started.
- 8. Which of the following sentences is correct?**
- a) **The book and the pen are on the table.**
 - b) The book and the pen is on the table.
 - c) The book and the pen are on the table is.
 - d) The book and the pen was on the table.
- 9. In which sentence is the adjective modifying the adverb incorrectly?**
- a) **He ran quick to the finish line.**
 - b) She is a beautiful dancer.
 - c) The students are extremely tired after the exam.
 - d) He is a very quick runner.
- 10. Which part of the following sentence is a gerund phrase? "Swimming in the ocean is my favorite activity during summer."**
- a) **Swimming in the ocean**
 - b) My favorite activity
 - c) During summer
 - d) Is my favorite activity
- 11. Which sentence demonstrates incorrect usage of a preposition?**
- a) "She is good at mathematics."
 - b) **"He is afraid from spiders."**
 - c) "They were sitting around the campfire."
 - d) "I need a solution to this problem."

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- 12. Which of the following is an antonym of "magnanimous"?**
- a) Generous
 - b) Selfish**
 - c) Noble
 - d) Kind
- 13. What is the meaning of the phrasal verb "give in"?**
- a) To surrender or yield**
 - b) To distribute something
 - c) To refuse firmly
 - d) To include someone
- 14. Which of these words is formed by adding the prefix "sub-"?**
- a) Submarine**
 - b) Substance
 - c) Subjective
 - d) Submit
- 15. Convert this to indirect speech: Direct: He said, "I may travel to Paris next summer."**
- a) He said that he might travel to Paris next summer.**
 - b) He said that he may travel to Paris the following summer.
 - c) He said that he might be travel to Paris the following summer.

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- d) He said that he may travel to Paris the next summer.
- 16. Choose the correct second conditional for the sentence below: "If you _____ (win) the lottery, what _____ (you do)?"**
- a) win; will you do
 - b) won; would you do**
 - c) won; did you do
 - d) had won; would you have done
- 17. Previewing a text before reading helps to:**
- a) Memorize details faster
 - b) Understand the structure and main ideas**
 - c) Skip unnecessary information
 - d) Save time by not reading the text
- 18. When critically analyzing a passage, identifying fallacies helps to:**
- a) Focus on supporting details
 - b) Detect errors or weaknesses in reasoning**
 - c) Summarize the main idea
 - d) Understand the structure of the passage
- 19. Which type of context clue is used in this sentence?**
"Canines, such as dogs and wolves, are known for their sharp teeth and hunting skills."
- a) Antonym clue
 - b) Example clue**
 - c) Definition clue
 - d) Restatement clue

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20. Which sentence contains an incorrect use of a preposition?

- a) **He is married with a doctor.**
- b) She is interested in learning new languages.
- c) The decision depends on various factors.
- d) I apologize for any inconvenience caused.

21. Identify the grammatically incorrect sentence:

- a) Neither of the candidates is qualified for the position.
- b) **I wish I was as talented as him.**
- c) If I had known about the meeting, I would have attended.
- d) The jury has delivered its verdict.

Read the passage and answer the given MCQs (22, 23, 24, 25) below.

The concept of free will has long been a subject of intense philosophical debate, intersecting with neuroscience, physics, and even artificial intelligence. Classical determinism, rooted in Newtonian mechanics, suggests that every action is the inevitable consequence of prior states, reducing human decision-making to a mere chain of causality. However, quantum mechanics introduces an element of randomness at the subatomic level, leading some to argue that fundamental unpredictability could

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allow for genuine free will. Yet randomness alone does not equate to meaningful agency—if actions are dictated by chance rather than choice, do we truly exercise control over our decisions? Neuroscientific research further complicates the discussion. Experiments, such as those conducted by Benjamin Libet, suggest that neural activity precedes conscious awareness of decision-making, implying that what we perceive as conscious choice may simply be a post hoc rationalization of unconscious processes. This challenges traditional notions of personal autonomy and raises profound ethical implications for concepts like moral responsibility and legal accountability. If all decisions are either predetermined by physical laws or the result of unconscious impulses, can individuals truly be held accountable for their actions? Some modern theories, such as compatibilism, attempt to reconcile determinism with free will by redefining choice as a cognitive process shaped by desires and reasoning rather than randomness. Meanwhile, advances in artificial intelligence raise an even more perplexing question: if a sufficiently advanced AI could mimic human decision-making, would it possess free will, or would it remain bound by deterministic programming? As science continues to explore the neural and physical mechanisms underlying decision-making, the age-old question remains unresolved: is free will an illusion, or is there a yet-undiscovered principle that grants true autonomy to human thought?

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22. What major challenge does quantum mechanics pose to classical determinism?

a) It introduces uncertainty, suggesting that not all events are predetermined.

b) It proves that the brain operates on purely mechanical principles.

c) It confirms that human choices are completely random.

d) It eliminates the possibility of free will altogether.

23. What is the key implication of Benjamin Libet's neuroscientific experiments on decision-making?

a) Free will is entirely an illusion, as all decisions are made unconsciously.

b) Neural activity precedes conscious awareness, suggesting decisions may be predetermined before conscious choice.

c) The brain does not play any role in human decision-making.

d) Conscious thought occurs before any neural activity, proving free will exists.

24. What fundamental problem arises if free will is merely the result of quantum randomness?

a) It would mean that all decisions are perfectly predictable.

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b) Randomness does not equate to meaningful agency or deliberate choice.

c) It would make artificial intelligence inherently more conscious than humans.

d) It would confirm that free will is purely a product of cultural conditioning.

25. How does compatibilism attempt to resolve the free will vs. determinism debate?

a) It argues that all actions are the result of chance, making free will possible.

b) It proposes that free will can exist within a deterministic framework if choices arise from rational deliberation and internal desires.

c) It denies the possibility of free will entirely.

d) It suggests that only artificial intelligence can achieve true autonomy.