

Cloze Test

Cloze test is a complex type of sentence completion test. Here you will be given a passage with a few blanks. It will be followed by multiple alternatives for each blank space. This is a complex type question because it evaluates the candidate's vocabulary power and his ability to judge the overall meaning of the given passage.

HOW TO CRACK THE NUT

Go through the whole passage once so as to get a rough idea about the content and spirit of the passage. Most of the passage will have logically related sentences. They will give you an idea about the appropriate word for the blank space: if you can spot the answer, immediately make it. Otherwise, eliminate the improbable options one by one and come to the right answer.

Constant practice will help you to answer cloze test quickly and accurately. Regular reading and interaction with English always helps students score full marks here. Practice the following exercises. Try to do them at maximum speed. As you go on doing one passage after another, make sure that you take less time but score more marks.

In the following passages there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each five words are suggested, one of which fills the blank appropriately in the context of the whole passage. Find the appropriate words.

Passage 1

My mother waved me goodbye and the bus (1). The man sitting (2) to me was a doctor (3) to Kannur, (4) participate in a conference.

1. (1) going (2) started (3) arrived
(4) stopped (5) travelling
2. (1) next (2) besides (3) near
(4) side (5) neighbour
3. (1) coming (2) arriving (3) going
(4) visiting (5) flying
4. (1) to (2) for (3) so
(4) and (5) then

Passage 2

Essentially I am interested in (5) world, in this (6), not in some other (7) or a future life.

5. (1) this (2) that (3) real
(4) imaginary (5) our

6. (1) life (2) reality (3) existence
(4) truth (5) faith
7. (1) reality (2) world (3) life
(4) plan (5) universe

Passage 3

Whether there is such a (8) as a soul, or whether there is survival after (9) or not, I do not know; and important as these (10) are, they do not trouble men in (11).

8. (1) fact (2) thing (3) reality
(4) idea (5) organ
9. (1) life (2) existence (3) death
(4) reality (5) birth
10. (1) problems (2) situations (3) questions
(4) queries (5) facts
11. (1) the least (2) the most (3) not at all
(4) actually the best (5) least

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Passage 4

Operation Flood was (12) with the primary objective of (13) rural milk producers with urban milk consumers, by (14) viable producer co-operatives in the milk sheds, and thus (15) the rural milk producers to earn higher income from milk.

12. (1) launched (2) devised (3) started
(4) begun (5) visualised
13. (1) making (2) joining (3) linking
(4) connecting (5) planning
14. (1) creating (2) exposing (3) generating
(4) providing (5) giving
15. (1) making (2) hoping (3) enabling
(4) giving (5) offering

Passage 5

In all kinds of writings (16) is the most (17) virtue. You should write in a simple and (18) manner. The words chosen should be (19) in meaning. Try not to use (20) words merely because they are (21).

16. (1) simplicity (2) complexity (3) vagueness
(4) toughness (5) difficulty
17. (1) natural (2) romantic (3) admired
(4) hidden (5) noticeable
18. (1) tough (2) natural (3) straightforward
(4) showy (5) powerful
19. (1) correct (2) clear (3) apt
(4) suitable (5) powerful
20. (1) difficult (2) fine (3) lengthy
(4) small (5) beautiful
21. (1) easy (2) familiar (3) good
(4) literary (5) showy

Passage 6

Smile, they say, and soon there will be miles and miles of smiles. If we keep (22) ourselves and do not mix with others, we shall soon be left alone to ponder (23) the misfortunes of life. Nobody likes to come across a (24) and self-centred person. People (25) gregarious and outgoing souls who are prepared to share their

joys and sorrows (26) if they have the capacity to laugh (27) their problems and miseries. Laughter brings people (28) whereas keeping to oneself distances people. It has (29) been rightly said that laughter is the shortest distance between two persons. Once two persons (30) together, the circle of acquaintance and consequently friendship (31), thus making the world a happy place to live in.

22. (1) by (2) to (3) with
(4) into (5) across
23. (1) over (2) on (3) at
(4) upon (5) above
24. (1) sad (2) serious (3) glum
(4) selfish (5) resent
25. (1) like (2) love (3) hate
(4) dislike (5) resent
26. (1) disappear (2) vanish (3) increase
(4) fade out (5) develop
27. (1) at (2) over (3) away
(4) on (5) above
28. (1) close (2) near (3) together
(4) apart (5) different
29. (1) hence (2) so (3) however
(4) therefore (5) thus
30. (1) get (2) come (3) sit
(4) are (5) go
31. (1) widens (2) broadens (3) increases
(4) grows (5) narrows

Passage 7

One of the (32) we have to face is that of unemployment. It is a big problem, a human problem, which we cannot (33). Yet in looking (34) it, it has to be remembered that merely giving some kind of occupation to a large number of people does not ultimately increase employment or lessen unemployment. Employment comes by newer and more effective means of wealth production. The whole experience and history of the past 200 years shows that it comes (35) the growth of technological methods. Do not imagine that we can

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effectively deal (36) the problem of unemployment without (37). We cannot. Every country which boasts of (38) employment is a country which is technologically advanced. Every country which is not technologically advanced has unemployment or under-employment. Therefore, if India is to advance, she must advance in science and technology. The fact is that our poverty is (39) our backwardness in science and technology. If we (40) that backwardness we create not only wealth (41) employment.

32. (1) major problem (2) major problems
(3) main problem (4) serious problem
(5) only problem
33. (1) ignore (2) avoid (3) overlook
(4) neglect (5) shun
34. (1) into (2) after (3) at
(4) on (5) above
35. (1) by (2) through (3) for
(4) from (5) beyond
36. (1) in (2) off (3) about
(4) with (5) over
37. (1) technological progress (2) technical progress
(3) technological temper (4) technical temper
(5) technical bend
38. (1) complete (2) total (3) full
(4) ultimate (5) final
39. (1) due to (2) owing to (3) because of
(4) on account of (5) in relation to
40. (1) treat (2) remedy (3) remove
(4) eradicate (5) estimate
41. (1) but (2) but also (3) but even
(4) and also (5) in spite of

Passage 8

When she appeared on the screen without (42) cosmetic sales declined. When she played a nun, convent enrolments (43). Letters were delivered to her addressed simply "Ingrid Bergman". Industrialist Howard Hughes once (44) every available air ticket from New York to Los Angeles to be sure she would

accept a seat in his private plane. An (45) walked a sheep all the way from Sweden to Rome as a gift for her.

One of the most (46) women of her time, (47) was never anything but her supremely simple self. At the peak of her (48), Ingrid insisted on taking screen tests and refused leads in favour of lesser but more (49) roles. When the director told his prospective star that they would have to change her name, cap her (50) and pluck her eyebrows, Ingrid threatened to return to Sweden. And so the famous (51) look was born.

42. (1) shoes (2) hat (3) jacket
(4) gloves (5) make-up
43. (1) increased (2) decreased (3) lessened
(4) remained steady (5) indifferent
44. (1) brought (2) bought (3) sold
(4) boarded (5) borrowed
45. (1) accountant (2) administrator
(3) accomplice (4) acrobat (5) admirer
46. (1) non-descript (2) average (3) self-effacing
(4) glamorous (5) unknown
47. (1) Elizabeth Taylor (2) Sophia Loren
(3) Marlyn Monroe (4) Ava Gardner
(5) Ingrid Bergman
48. (1) freedom (2) kingdom (3) famous
(4) stardom (5) dukedom
49. (1) monotonous (2) humdrum (3) boring
(4) challenging (5) similar
50. (1) nose (2) cheeks (3) ears
(4) teeth (5) elbows
51. (1) unnatural (2) artificial (3) natural
(4) make-up (5) dramatic

Passage 9

There are quite a few people in the world who are fat and are (52). These people are (53) to several kinds of illness. Medical advice to these people is to (54) their weight. But it is found difficult to follow this (55) in its totality.

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(56) who want to reduce before (57) must drink about a glass full of water, of maximum bearable warmth. The gulping should be done (58). Very soon these people will find their weight coming down by four or five kilograms.

Warm water (59) all the glands and secretions in the stomach, and they in turn let the food eaten be digested well. The person gets the (60) out of the nourishment. It also reduces the intake (61) because it eliminates incomplete assimilation of food.

52. (1) underweight (2) overweight (3) physically fit
(4) thin (5) emaciated
53. (1) susceptible (2) unsusceptible
(3) safe (4) unsafe (5) cured
54. (1) increase (2) reduce (3) keep constant
(4) ignore (5) decrease
55. (1) command (2) order (3) advice
(4) vice (5) command and order
56. (1) Dogs (2) Cats (3) Pigs
(4) People (5) Women
57. (1) working (2) dancing (3) singing
(4) writing (5) eating
58. (1) slowly (2) gradually (3) rarely
(4) quickly (5) lazily
59. (1) endangers (2) activates (3) revitalises
(4) discourages (5) disgusts
60. (1) least (2) nothing (3) nominal
(4) most (5) something
61. (1) oxygen (2) bear (3) whisky
(4) food (5) gin

Passage 10

The joint family gave way to the (62) family. Despite the (63) that it offers, children feel (64), lonely and frustrated leading to psychiatrist problems, pressures and (65). A cross-section of children were interviewed, and they matter-of-factly (66) problems, at the same time (67) showing the way to (68) solutions. Tell your children about your work. Young as they are, they (69) where you have been all day. Explain to them

“Mummy has a teaching job.” She teaches little children to read and write or Daddy works in a factory. The factory makes scooters. At least now the child (70) a mental picture of how you spend the day. There develops a certain (71) in that knowledge.

62. (1) lonely (2) individual (3) nuclear
(4) selfcentred (5) separate
63. (1) seclusion (2) privacy (3) isolation
(4) separation (5) loneliness
64. (1) neglected (2) avoided (3) disregarded
(4) segregated (5) isolated
65. (1) burdens (2) complexities (3) complications
(4) controversies (5) disadvantages
66. (1) marked (2) declared (3) pin-pointed
(4) designated (5) stressed
67. (1) inadvertently (2) unknowingly
(3) obviously (4) pains takingly
(5) clearly
68. (1) reasonable (2) plausible (3) remarkable
(4) referred (5) preferred
69. (1) wonder (2) amaze (3) feel
(4) estimate (5) calculate
70. (1) constructs (2) inculcates (3) develops
(4) establishes (5) makes
71. (1) security (2) assurance (3) solace
(4) restfulness (5) confidence

Answer to Cloze Tests

1. (2) 2. (1) 3. (3) 4. (1) 5. (1) 6. (1)
7. (2) 8. (2) 9. (3) 10. (3) 11. (1) 12.
(1) 13. (3) 14. (1) 15. (3) 16. (1) 17. (3) 18.
(3) 19. (2) 20. (1) 21. (4) 22. (2) 23. (1) 24.
(3) 25. (2) 26. (2) 27. (3) 28. (3) 29. (4) 30.
(2) 31. (4) 32. (2) 33. (1) 34. (3) 35. (2) 36.
(4) 37. (1) 38. (3) 39. (1) 40. (2) 41. (2) 42.
(5) 43. (1) 44. (2) 45. (5) 46. (4) 47. (5) 48.
(4) 49. (4) 50. (4) 51. (3) 52. (2) 53. (1) 54.
(2) 55. (3) 56. (4) 57. (5) 58. (4) 59. (2) 60.
(4) 61. (4) 62. (3) 63. (2) 64. (1) 65. (2) 66.
(3) 67. (1) 68. (2) 69. (1) 70. (3) 71. (1).