8th All India RPS OLYMPIAD

Online & Offline Mega Event

ENGLISH LEAGUE (PHASE – I)

CLASS - X

RPS ENGLISH LEAGUE

Q1-Q7: Choose the option that fills in the blanks correctly.

Q1. Scarcely _____ the final bell _____ when the students, who _____ restlessly for an hour, stormed out of the hall.

(A) has; rung; had been waiting

(B) had; rang; had been waiting

(C) had; rung; had been waiting

(D) had; rung; have been waiting

Q2. The manuscript, which the scholar _____ for years, _____ to be a forgery when the laboratory report arrived.

(A) had been seeking; proved

(B) has been seeking; had proved

(C) was seeking; proves

(D) had sought; has proved

Q3. It is imperative that the treasurer _____ every receipt before the audit begins, lest the discrepancies _____ unnoticed.

(A) submits; went

(B) submit; go

(C) submit; goes

(D) submitted; go

Q4. The treaty _____ when the news arrived that the envoy _____ at the frontier two days earlier.

(A) has not yet been signed; had been detained

(B) had not yet been signed; has been detained

(C) had not yet signed; had been detained

(D) had not yet been signed; had been detained

Q5. By the time the scientist _____ his thesis next June, he _____ on the project for a decade.

(A) will submit; will have worked (B) submitted; had worked

(C) submits; will have been working (D) will have submitted; will work

Q6. If only the architect _____ the load-bearing wall, the ceiling _____ .

(A) had not removed; would not have collapsed

(B) did not remove; would not have collapsed

(C) has not removed; would not collapse

(D) would not remove; had not collapsed

Q7. Little _____ the conspirators realise that the very guard they had bribed _____ already informed the king.

(A) do; has (B) did; has (C) have; had (D) did; had

Q8-Q12: Choose the correct modal verb.

Q8. The tyre marks run straight to the cliff's edge; the driver _____ have braked in time.

(A) mustn’t (B) needn't (C) shouldn't (D) can

Q9. I _____ rather die than beg.

(A) must (B) can (C) would (D) may

Q10. He _____ to have apologised, but he walked away in silence.

(A) must (B) should (C) would (D) ought

Q11. Had the signal been sent earlier, the rescuers _____ reached the stranded climbers before nightfall.

(A) would have (B) will have (C) can have (D) must have

Q12. The ticket was free, so you _____ have queued up for it so early; you wasted two hours.

(A) mustn't (B) needn't (C) won't (D) can't

Q13-Q17: Choose the correct determiner or article.

Q13. The detective questioned all five suspects, but _____ of them could produce an alibi.

(A) either (B) none (C) neither (D) both

Q14. She has two daughters: one is a surgeon, and _____ is an architect.

(A) other (B) others (C) the other (D) the others

Q15. I have read both biographies, and I found _____ of them wholly reliable, as both are full of errors.

(A) neither (B) either (C) each (D) all

Q16. _____ number of the complaints were serious enough to merit an inquiry.

(A) A (B) The (C) Each (D) Every

Q17. It was _____ hour's journey to the village, but _____ one-eyed guide made it a pleasure.

(A) an; an (B) a; a (C) an; a (D) a; an

Q18-Q20: Choose the grammatically correct sentence.

Q18.

(A) The secretary, along with the directors, have approved the merger.

(B) Each of the proposals submitted by the contractors were rejected.

(C) Neither the contractor nor his assistants was present at the site.

(D) A large number of the manuscripts, though damaged, have been restored.

Q19.

(A) Every man, woman and child in the village was vaccinated.

(B) The cost of the repairs, including the new fittings, are estimated at ten lakh rupees.

(C) The news of the victories were received with great jubilation.

(D) There is many defects in the design.

Q20.

(A) The scissors is lying on the table.

(B) Two-fifths of the estate was bequeathed to the orphanage.

(C) The number of absentees were very high today.

(D) Many a student have failed to appreciate the poem.

Q21-Q23: Choose the verbs that agree with their subjects.

Q21. Not only the manager but also his deputies _____ responsible, and each of the clerks _____ to be questioned.

(A) is; has (B) are; has (C) are; have (D) is; have

Q22. The ancient ruins, which _____ discovered only recently, _____ now a major attraction.

(A) were; is (B) was; are (C) were; are (D) was; is

Q23. Mathematics, which _____ among the oldest of disciplines, _____ many branches whose applications _____ yet to be discovered.

(A) is; has; are (B) are; have; is (C) is; have; are (D) are; has; are

Q24-Q30: Choose the one word or phrase for the given meaning.

Q24. A person who wields power or influence behind the scenes, without holding any official position:

(A) bête noire (B) agent provocateur

(C) éminence grise (D) persona non grata

Q25. The study of ancient inscriptions:

(A) epigraphy (B) cartography (C) numismatics (D) iconography

Q26. A disease regularly found among a particular people or in a certain region:

(A) epidemic (B) pandemic (C) sporadic (D) endemic

Q27. One who attacks cherished beliefs and established institutions:

(A) sycophant (B) dilettante (C) iconoclast (D) misanthrope

Q28. Showing an excessive or submissive fondness for one's wife:

(A) uxorious (B) misogynous (C) celibate (D) amorous

Q29. A mild or indirect word used in place of one considered harsh or unpleasant:

(A) epithet (B) euphemism (C) eponym (D) epigram

Q30. A person who eats greedily and in large quantities:

(A) gourmet (B) epicure (C) connoisseur (D) gourmand

Q31-Q39: Choose the correct option.

Q31. The wind whispered through the hollow, hushed corridors, and the old clock clicked, coughed and died.

Which device is NOT used in the line?

(A) alliteration (B) personification (C) onomatopoeia (D) simile

Q32. The exhausted road wound past the miners as they trudged home from the pit.

The phrase “exhausted road” is an example of

(A) simile (B) transferred epithet

(C) onomatopoeia (D) alliteration

Q33. Which of the following sentences contains a metaphor?

(A) The moon, like a pale coin, hung above the hill.

(B) The bees buzzed and the leaves rustled in the garden.

(C) I have told you a million times to close the door.

(D) The classroom was a beehive of activity by noon.

Q34. The soldier's loud silence after the battle taught him that to win is to lose.

The two devices used, in order, are

(A) oxymoron; paradox (B) paradox; oxymoron

(C) oxymoron; hyperbole (D) simile; paradox

Q35. Told that the flood had swept away his house, his crops and his cattle, the farmer remarked that it was "a minor setback."

The device used in the farmer's remark is

(A) hyperbole (B) understatement

(C) metaphor (D) alliteration

Q36. In a poem, the line "And the lamp burns on" closes every stanza, while in the first stanza alone the word "night" occurs four times. These two features are, respectively,

(A) repetition; refrain (B) enjambment; repetition

(C) refrain; alliteration (D) refrain; repetition

Q37. Which sentence contains an apostrophe?

(A) He spoke of the hills as though they were old friends.

(B) The wind carried the letter to the hills like a hired courier.

(C) O hills, keep the secret I have whispered to you!

(D) The hills, the valleys and the rivers all heard his cry.

Q38. I walked until the road gave out and then / the field began, and then the field gave way / to water, silver, wide, and very still.

The continuous movement across the first two lines and the picture in the third are due to, respectively,

(A) enjambment; imagery (B) rhyme; alliteration

(C) refrain; simile (D) enjambment; onomatopoeia

Q39. Which sentence uses both a simile and hyperbole?

(A) Her laughter was like a bell, clear and bright.

(B) He was so hungry that he could have eaten the whole kitchen, like a famished wolf.

(C) The classroom was a zoo by noon.

(D) The wind howled through the empty street.

Q40-Q44: Choose the correctly spelt word.

Q40.

(A) Occasionally (B) Occassionally (C) Occasionaly (D) Ocasionally

Q41.

(A) Supercede (B) Supersede (C) Superseed (D) Suppersede

Q42.

(A) Surruptitious (B) Surreptitous (C) Surreptitious (D) Sureptitious

Q43.

(A) Idiosyncracy (B) Pnuemonia (C) Haemorrhage (D) Mnemonick

Q44.

(A) Liason (B) Liaison (C) Liaision (D) Liasion

Q45-Q53: Find the error in each sentence and choose the option that corrects it. Choose (A) if the sentence is already correct.

Q45. Each of the students were invited to the ceremony.

(A) No improvement (B) was invited

(C) have been invited (D) were inviting

Q46. Scarcely had the meeting begun when the power failed.

(A) No improvement (B) while (C) then (D) so

Q47. The furniture in the rooms were old and shabby.

(A) No improvement (B) are (C) was (D) have been

Q48. He has been living in this city since ten years.

(A) No improvement (B) for ten years

(C) from ten years (D) since the ten years

Q49. Having completed the survey, the report was submitted by the team to the ministry.

(A) No improvement

(B) Having completed the survey, the submission of the report was done by the team

(C) The survey having completed, the team had submitted the report

(D) Having completed the survey, the team submitted the report

Q50. The man which lives next door is a retired judge.

(A) No improvement (B) who lives

(C) whom lives (D) whose lives

Q51. He prefers tea than coffee.

(A) No improvement (B) tea to coffee

(C) tea from coffee (D) tea against coffee

Q52. I am looking forward to meet you next week.

(A) No improvement (B) to meeting you

(C) to have meet you (D) for meeting you

Q53. If he would have told me the truth, I would have helped him.

(A) No improvement

(B) If he had told me the truth, I would have helped him.

(C) If he would tell me the truth, I would have helped him.

(D) If he has told me the truth, I would have helped him.

Q54-Q60: Choose the meaning of the underlined phrase.

Q54. The announcement of his resignation came like <u>a bolt from the blue</u>.

(A) a long-awaited event

(B) a sudden and wholly unexpected event

(C) a gradual and predictable change

(D) a carefully planned decision

Q55. The columnist's praise of the new law was not neutral; he clearly had <u>an axe to grind.</u>

(A) a private, selfish motive to promote (B) a wish to remain neutral

(C) a talent for sharp criticism (D) a reason to remain silent

Q56. Though talented, she was content <u>to play second fiddle</u> to her elder sister.

(A) to criticise secretly (B) to compete fiercely

(C) to imitate someone (D) to accept a subordinate role

Q57. The two partners have been <u>at loggerheads</u> over the budget for months.

(A) in bitter disagreement (B) in close cooperation

(C) in secret agreement (D) in financial trouble

Q58. His small salary barely <u>kept the wolf from the door</u>.

(A) protected the house from intruders (B) allowed him to live luxuriously

(C) made him wealthy (D) saved him from poverty and hunger

Q59. The row over the seating arrangement was merely <u>a storm in a teacup</u>.

(A) a serious crisis (B) a great fuss over a trivial matter

(C) a hidden danger (D) a passing change of weather

Q60. After resigning from his job and selling his house to fund the venture, he had burned his boats.

(A) destroyed all evidence

(B) taken a cautious precaution

(C) committed himself irrevocably, cutting off any retreat

(D) wasted his resources