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# APSC ASCO

**Previous Year Paper**  
**(English) Paper-II**  
**07 Aug, 2022**



ASCO/II/22

DO NOT OPEN THIS TEST BOOKLET UNTIL YOU ARE ASKED TO DO SO

Test Booklet No. :

Series

00405

TEST BOOKLET  
GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 2 Hours

Full Marks : 100

Read the following instructions carefully before you begin to answer the questions :

1. The name of the Subject, Roll Number as mentioned in the Admission Certificate, Test Booklet No. and Series are to be written legibly and correctly in the space provided on the Answer-Sheet with Black/Blue ballpoint pen.
2. Answer-Sheet without marking Series as mentioned above in the space provided for in the Answer-Sheet shall not be evaluated.
3. All questions carry equal marks.

The Answer-Sheet should be submitted to the Invigilator.

Directions for giving the answers : Directions for answering questions have already been issued to the respective candidates in the 'Instructions for marking in the OMR Answer-Sheet' along with the Admit Card and Specimen Copy of the OMR Answer Sheet.

Example :

Suppose the following question is asked :

The capital of Bangladesh is

- (A) Chennai  
(B) London  
(C) Dhaka  
(D) Dhubri

You will have four alternatives in the Answer-Sheet for your response corresponding to each question of the Test Booklet as below :

(A) ● (C) (D)

In the above illustration, if your chosen response is alternative (C), i.e., Dhaka, then the same should be marked on the Answer-Sheet by blackening the relevant circle with a Black/Blue ballpoint pen only as below :

(A) (B) ● (D)

The example shown above is the only correct method of answering.

4. Use of eraser, blade, chemical whitener fluid to rectify any response is prohibited.
5. Please ensure that the Test Booklet has the required number of pages (16) immediately after opening the Booklet. In case any page(s) is/are missing, please report the same to the Invigilator.
6. No candidate shall be admitted to the Examination Hall/Room 20 minutes after the commencement of the examination.
7. No candidate shall leave the Examination Hall/Room without prior permission of the Supervisor/Invigilator. No candidate shall be permitted to hand over his/her Answer-Sheet and leave the Examination Hall/Room before expiry of the full time allotted for each paper.
8. No Mobile Phone, Electronic Communication Device, etc., are allowed to be carried inside the Examination Hall/Room by the candidates. Any Mobile Phone, Electronic Communication Device, etc., found in possession of the candidate inside the Examination Hall/Room, even if on off mode, shall be liable for confiscation.
9. No candidate shall have in his/her possession inside the Examination Hall/Room any book, notebook or loose paper, except his/her Admission Certificate and other connected papers permitted by the Commission.
10. Complete silence must be observed in the Examination Hall/Room. No candidate shall copy from the paper of any other candidate, or permit his/her own paper to be copied, or give, or attempt to give, or obtain, or attempt to obtain irregular assistance of any kind.
11. This Test Booklet can be carried with you after answering the questions in the prescribed Answer-Sheet.
12. Noncompliance with any of the above instructions will render a candidate liable to penalty as may be deemed fit.
13. No rough work is to be done on the OMR Answer-Sheet. You can do the rough work on the space provided in the Test Booklet.

N.B. : There will be negative marking @ 0.25 against each wrong answer.

/75-A

[ No. of Questions : 100 ]

SEAL



**Directions (For Q. Nos. 1 to 10)** Fill in the blanks using verbs, prepositions, articles, collective nouns, etc.

1. The Headmaster \_\_\_\_\_ to speak to you.  
(A) is wanting  
(B) wants  
(C) was wanting  
(D) want
2. Here are your shoes, I \_\_\_\_\_ them.  
(A) just clean  
(B) just cleaned  
(C) have just cleaned  
(D) clean
3. Has somebody \_\_\_\_\_ my purse?  
(A) hide  
(B) hidden  
(C) hiding  
(D) is hiding
4. The baby \_\_\_\_\_ all morning.  
(A) cries  
(B) is crying  
(C) has been crying  
(D) cried
5. I walked \_\_\_\_\_ the station.  
(A) to  
(B) for  
(C) at  
(D) since
6. I slept \_\_\_\_\_ noon.  
(A) on  
(B) in  
(C) at  
(D) to
7. The thief has been missing \_\_\_\_\_ Monday.  
(A) from  
(B) since  
(C) through  
(D) to
8. Don't loiter \_\_\_\_\_ the street.  
(A) on  
(B) in  
(C) about  
(D) at

9. Let us go for \_\_\_\_\_ walk.

- (A) the
- ☒ (B) a
- (C) an
- (D) No article needed

10. The boy is learning to play guitar at school.

- (A) a
- (B) an
- ☒ (C) the
- (D) No article needed

11. My favourite colour is \_\_\_\_\_ blue.

- (A) the
- (B) a
- (C) an
- ☒ (D) No article needed

12. \_\_\_\_\_ are grazing in the field.

- (A) Cattles
- (B) Cattle
- (C) Number of cattles
- ☒ (D) Cattles and cows

13. I bought three \_\_\_\_\_ of mangoes

- (A) type
- ☒ (B) dozen
- (C) dozens
- (D) types

14. The fisherman saw \_\_\_\_\_ in the deep sea.

- ☒ (A) a school of whales
- (B) a whale school
- (C) a whales school
- (D) a school with no whale

15. They ran after the singer like a \_\_\_\_\_ of wolves.

- ☒ (A) bunch
- (B) gang
- ☒ (C) pack
- (D) mob

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 16 to 20) : Choose the synonym of the following words out of the four alternatives given against each word :

16. Concealed

- (A) plain
- ☒ (B) hidden
- (C) dead
- (D) wide

17. Colossal

- (A) vigorous
- (B) energetic
- (C) famous
- (D) enormous

18. Occult

- (A) unnatural
- (B) supernatural
- (C) religious
- (D) comprehensible

19. Paradox

- (A) question
- (B) puzzle
- (C) paradise
- (D) challenge

20. Abrogate

- (A) destroy
- (B) delay
- (C) repeal
- (D) dismiss

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 21 to 25) : Choose the antonym of the following words out of the four alternatives given against each word :

21. Omit

- (A) include
- (B) undertake
- (C) exclude
- (D) odd

22. Reluctantly

- (A) willingly
- (B) satisfactorily
- (C) pleasingly
- (D) happily

23. Animosity

- (A) lust
- (B) luck
- (C) love
- (D) loss

24. Harmony

- (A) annoyance
- (B) cruelty
- (C) strife
- (D) cooperation

25. Vengeful

- ☒ (A) forgiving
- (B) reliable
- (C) blessed
- (D) boring

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 26 to 35) : Choose the correct meaning of the following phrases and idiomatic use of words given in quotes in the following sentences :

26. Why are you "blowing your own trumpet"?

- ☒ (A) Making too much noise
- (B) Playing on one's own trumpet to produce music
- (C) Praising one's own abilities and achievements
- (D) Putting air into a trumpet

27. It was "raining cats and dogs".

- ☒ (A) A light shower
- (B) A heavy shower
- (C) A crowd of cats and dogs
- (D) A kennel

28. The enquiry revealed many "skeletons in the cupboard".

- ☒ (A) Old secrets
- (B) Morgue
- (C) Burial grounds
- (D) A hidden cupboard

29. His life was "an open book".

- ☒ (A) One that held no secrets
- (B) An uncomplicated one
- (C) An example to all
- (D) An interesting book

30. There may be some "black sheep" amongst us.

- (A) A sheep that is black in colour
- ☒ (B) Someone who causes embarrassment by deviating norms
- (C) A nightmare
- (D) An unknown person

31. He invited me to dinner but I had "to foot the bill".

- ☒ (A) Pay for the dinner
- (B) Refuse to pay the bill
- (C) Decline to accept the invitation
- (D) Wished to make the payment later

32. The news "spread like wild fire".

- (A) Fire in a forest
- (B) Spreading of a fire wildly
- ✓(C) Spread rapidly
- (D) Burning forests

33. "The long and the short of it" is that I don't want to deal with the new firm.

- (A) The length of the new firm
- (B) The shortness of life of the new firm
- ✓(C) The whole matter in a few words
- (D) Both length and shortness of the new firm

34. His arguments "cut no ice with me".

- (A) Do not hurt me
- (B) Have no influence on me
- (C) Do not benefit me
- ✓(D) Do not have any meaning to me

35. He is accused of "sitting on the fence".

- (A) Resting on the fence
- ✓(B) Observing the scene
- (C) Hesitating which side to take
- (D) Sitting and enjoying the fun

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 36 to 40) : Fill in the blanks with correct tense forms of the verbs :

36. By the time she was fifteen, she \_\_\_\_\_ a beautiful singer.

- (A) shall become
- (B) become
- ✓(C) had become
- ✓(D) has become

37. Two-thirds of the ration supplied for the month \_\_\_\_\_ used up.

- ✓(A) has been
- (B) were being
- (C) have been
- (D) is been

38. The norm of social distancing \_\_\_\_\_.

- (A) are practised
- ✓(B) has to be practised
- (C) have to be practised
- (D) is practising

39. Rabindra Bhawan \_\_\_\_\_ famous auditorium of our city.

- (A) are
- (B) have been
- ✓(C) is
- (D) have

40. Ranjana : "What \_\_\_\_\_ in the evenings?"

Mary : "Usually I watch TV or read a book."

- (A) you doing
- (B) you do
- ✓(C) do you do
- (D) are you doing

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 41 to 45) : Choose the most appropriate form of the active/passive voice :

41. His honest reply satisfied me.

- (A) I was satisfied for his honest reply.
- ✓(B) I was satisfied by his honest reply.
- .(C) I was satisfied with his honest reply.
- (D) I was satisfied in his honest reply.

42. He will finish the work in a fortnight.

- (A) The work is been finished in a fortnight.
- (B) He needs a fortnight to finish the work.
- ✓(C) The work will be finished by him in a fortnight.
- (D) The work will finish in a fortnight.

43. Why did your brother write such a letter?

- (A) Did your brother write such a letter?
- ✓(B) Why was such a letter written by your brother?
- (C) Was such a letter written by your brother?
- (D) Why your brother wrote such a letter?

44. English is spoken all over the world.

- (A) All over the world English is spoken.
- ✓(B) People speak English all over the world.
- (C) People of all over the world speak English.
- (D) All over the world only English is spoken.

45. Let a doctor be sent for.

- ☒ (A) Please sent a doctor.
- (B) A doctor may be send.
- (C) Send for a doctor.
- (D) Send somebody to sent a doctor.

48. He said to me, "May you be happy."

- (A) He advised me to be happy.
- (B) He told me that I might be happy.
- (C) He reported that I may be happy.
- ☒ (D) He wished that I may be happy.

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 46 to 50) : Choose the most appropriate form of narration in the direct/indirect form :

46. He said to me, "What are you doing?"

- (A) He asked me what I am doing.
- (B) He asked me what I shall be doing.
- ☒ (C) He asked me what I was doing.
- (D) He asked me what I should do.

47. Rina said, "How clever I am!"

- (A) Rina said that she is clever.
- ☒ (B) Rina exclaimed that she was very clever.
- (C) Rina wished that she was very clever.
- (D) Rina was happy that she was clever.

49. He said that he would go as soon as possible.

- (A) He said, "I may go as soon as possible."
- (B) He said, "I went as soon as possible."
- ☒ (C) He said, "I shall go as soon as possible."
- (D) He said, "I should go as soon as possible."

50. He proposed that they should wait for the next train.

- ☒ (A) He said, "Let us wait for the next train."
- (B) He said, "We will wait for the next train."
- (C) He said, "We waited for the next train."
- (D) He said, "We are waiting for the next train."

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 51 to 60) : Error Recognition—A sentence is chunked as (A)/(B)/(C)/(D). Identify the part of the sentence that contains an error :

51. After making me wait (A)  
for two agonizing hours, (B)  
the great man called me in (C)  
and asked me what do I want. (D)
52. When it got dark (A)  
they decided to put (B)  
in a hotel (C) in the city. (D)
53. At this time (A) tomorrow (B)  
I'll be fly (C) to Delhi. (D)
54. I am knowing (A) all the history (B)  
but it is difficult (C) to remember. (D)

55. I've (A) been cutting (B) ✓  
my left thumb (C) this moment. (D) ✓
56. She goes (A) to work (B)  
with a bus (C) every day. (D)
57. John is working (A) very hardly (B) ✓  
as the exams (C)  
are fast approaching. (D)
58. Police say (A) ✓ a number of (B)  
forged banknotes (C) is in circulation. (D)
59. Pele was (A) in class (B) of his own (C)  
as a footballer. (D)
60. I am hope (A) ✓ this disagreement (B)  
won't cloud (C) our friendship. (D)

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 61 to 65) : Complete the following sentences using the correct structure.

61. Lots of trees \_\_\_\_\_ by the wind.

- ☒ (A) has blown down
- (B) did blown down
- (C) is blown down
- ☒ (D) were blown down

62. \_\_\_\_\_ he had only entered the contest for fun, he won the first prize.

- ☒ (A) Although
- (B) When
- (C) Because
- (D) While

63. No sooner had he arrived \_\_\_\_\_ he was asked to leave.

- ☒ (A) then
- (B) than
- (C) when
- (D) so

64. He not only read the book \_\_\_\_\_ wrote a review of it.

- (A) and also
- ☒ (B) but also
- (C) so also
- (D) but then

65. I had a bath \_\_\_\_\_ we played football.

- (A) so
- ☒ (B) after
- (C) when
- (D) during

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 66 to 70) : Complete the following sentences using the appropriate words :

66. He is not waiting for us, \_\_\_\_\_?

- (A) isn't he
- (B) does he
- ☒ (C) is he
- (D) won't he

67. I am going with you, \_\_\_\_\_?

- (A) am I
- (B) should I
- ☒ (C) aren't I
- (D) didn't I

68. John broke the glass, \_\_\_\_\_?

- (A) doesn't he
- (B) does he
- ☒ (C) didn't he
- (D) did he

69. You are a teacher, \_\_\_\_\_?

- (A) isn't it
- (B) doesn't it
- (C) are you
- ☒ (D) aren't you

70. You don't play chess, \_\_\_\_\_?

- (A) don't you
- ☒ (B) do you
- (C) did you
- (D) could you

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 71 to 75) : Choose the correct spelling from the options in each group :

71. (A) Adlation,  
(B) Adulation  
(C) Aduletion,  
☒ (D) Addulation

72. (A) Deference  
☒ (B) Defference  
(C) Defferance  
(D) Deffarence

73. (A) Passenger

- ☒ (B) Passenger
- (C) Pasanger
- (D) Pesanger

74. ☒ (A) Affcdevit

- (B) Afidevit
- (C) Affidevit
- (D) Affidavit

75. (A) Advertisy

- (B) Adverisity
- ☒ (C) Adversity
- (D) Adverity

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 76 to 80) : Choose one-word substitute of the following expressions :

76. A short poem or speech addressed to the spectators at the end of a play
- (A) Dialogue
  - ☒ (B) Epilogue
  - (C) Prologue
  - (D) Monologue

77. A person who does not believe in God
- (A) Theist
  - ✓(B) Atheist
  - (C) Agnostic
  - (D) Pantheist
78. Commencement of words in a line/sentence beginning with the same letter
- (A) Paradox
  - (B) Alliteration
  - (C) Oxymoron
  - (D) Rhyme
79. One who is indifferent to pleasure or pain
- (A) Stylist
  - (B) Cynic
  - (C) Stoic
  - ✓(D) Psychic
80. One who secretly listens to other people talking
- ✓(A) Detective
  - (B) Emissary
  - (C) Spy
  - (D) Eavesdropper

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 81 to 85) : Fill in the blanks with an appropriate form of verbal analogy out of the four alternatives suggested for each item :

81. Life is a roller coaster with lots of \_\_\_\_.
- (A) down and up
  - ✓(B) ups and downs
  - (C) ups and down
  - (D) up and down
82. America is a great \_\_\_\_.
- (A) golden pot
  - ✓(B) silver pot
  - (C) melting pot
  - (D) solid pot
83. He studied \_\_\_\_ to do well in the examination.
- ✓(A) day and night
  - (B) night and day
  - ✓(C) nights and days
  - (D) day and nights
84. I know the \_\_\_\_ of the whole affair.
- ✓(A) in and out
  - (B) ins and out
  - (C) ins and outs
  - (D) outs and in

85. Finding a good man is like finding a needle in a \_\_\_\_.

- (A) dustbin
- ☒ (B) rice bag
- (C) haystack
- (D) cup of tea

**Directions** (For Q. Nos. 86 to 100) : Read the passages given below and answer the questions that follow each passage :

Passage—1

The achievement of science in the twentieth century has been very great. Its influence can be felt in every sphere of life. From the small pins and needles to the huge iron sheets and joints, most of the things we require for our everyday use, come out of factories where scientific principles are utilized for practical ends. Science has enabled man to bring forces of nature under control and to use them for his own advantage. It has brought the distant parts of the world close together. Our knowledge of the universe has been much widened on account of the untiring efforts of the astronomers like Jeans and Eddington. Remarkable cures of human diseases have been possible owing to the discovery of some wonderful medicines.

86. The main idea of the passage is that

- (A) science is an anathema
- (B) nothing is beyond the purview of science
- ☒ (C) the impact of science can be felt in every sphere of life
- (D) science can work miracles

87. The mode of approach of the topic is

- (A) anatomical
- (B) descriptive
- (C) expository
- (D) logical

88. What has enabled man to harness the forces of nature to the advantages of humankind?

- (A) Oratory
- (B) Bravery
- (C) Arts
- ☒ (D) Science

89. Science has proved to be a great boon for

- (A) Artists
- (B) Explorers
- (C) Scientists
- ☒ (D) Mankind

90. The most appropriate title for the passage can be

- ☒ (A) Science, a great boon
- (B) Science is a curse
- (C) Science is illogical
- (D) Science has no effect on us

Passage—2

There are three main groups of oils—animal, vegetable and mineral. Great quantities of animal oil comes from whales, those enormous creatures of the sea, which are the largest of the animals remaining in the world. To protect the whales from the cold of Arctic seas, nature has provided them with a thick covering of fat, called 'blubber'. When the whale is killed, the blubber is stripped off and boiled down. It produces a great quantity of oil which can be made into food for human consumption. A few other creatures yield oil, but none so much as the whale. The livers of the cod and halibut, two kinds of fish, yield nourishing oil. Both cod liver oil and halibut liver oil are given to sick children and other invalids who need certain vitamins. Vegetable oil has been known from very old times. No household can get on without it, for it is used in cooking. Perfumes may be made from the oils of certain flowers. Soaps are made from vegetable and animal products and the oils of certain flowers.

91. The main source of animal oil is

- ☒ (A) whale
- (B) seaweeds
- (C) fish
- (D) all animals

92. Vegetable oil is mainly used for

- ☒ (A) cooking
- (B) frying
- (C) eating
- (D) lubricating

93. The \_\_\_\_\_ of fish yield(s) nourishing oil.

- (A) stomach
- (B) eyes
- ☒ (C) liver
- (D) head

94. The thick protective covering of fat on a whale is called

- (A) cells
- ☒ (B) blubber
- (C) skin
- (D) fins

95. \_\_\_\_\_ are made from vegetable, animal products and the oils of certain flowers.

- (A) Cosmetics
- (B) Cooking medium
- ☒ (C) Soaps
- (D) Perfumes

Passage—3

An interview may be conducted by letter, by telephone, by e-mail as well as in person. Letter, telephone, e-mail interviews are less satisfactory. Direct contact with an individual and face-to-face relationship often provide a stimulating situation for both the interviewer and the interviewee. Personal reaction and interaction aid not only in establishing rapport but also in obtaining nuances and additional information by the reactions which are more

fully observed in a face-to-face relationship. Adequate preparation for the interview is a 'must'. Careful planning saves not only time but also energy of both parties concerned. The interview is used to obtain facts or subjective data such as individual opinions, attitudes, and preferences. Interviews are used to check on questionnaires which may have been used to obtain data, or when a problem being investigated is complex, or when the information needed to solve it cannot be secured easily in any other way. People will often give information orally but will not put it in writing.

96. The main purpose of the writer of the passage is to

- (A) instruct people on the best means of conducting interviews
- (B) tell people how to make friends with interviewers
- (C) warn the readers against conducting interviews
- (D) advise people on the use of letters and telephones for interviews

97. According to the author, the best way to conduct interview is

- (A) to write letters to the interviewees
- (B) to observe the interviewees from a distance
- (C) to talk to the interviewees over telephone
- ☒ (D) to have a direct conversation with the interviewees

98. If somebody wants to interview someone,

- ☒ (A) he ought to plan and prepare for the interview well in advance
- (B) he has to ring up the person and ask him/her all the questions he wants to ask
- (C) all he needs to do is to just drop in and have a talk with the person
- (D) establishing good rapport with the person will be enough

99. Face-to-face interaction with the interviewees enables the interviewer to

- (A) observe the physical stature of the interviewee
- ☒ (B) listen to the voice of the interviewee directly
- (C) understand shades of meaning not readily available in written responses
- (D) compel the interviewees to express their opinions in writing

100. The author has used terms like 'individual opinions', 'attitudes' and 'preferences' as examples of

- (A) abstract philosophical concepts irrelevant to the interview process
- ☒ (B) psychological properties particular to a given interviewee
- (C) objective data about the interviewees
- (D) likes and dislikes common to interviewers and interviewees