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TNPSC

Previous Year Paper

Group 3 2015

General English



Sl. No. : 10142421

G2E/15

Register
Number

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2015

GENERAL ENGLISH WITH GENERAL STUDIES

Time Allowed : 3 Hours]

[Maximum Marks : 300

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

IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

1. This Booklet has a cover (this page) which should not be opened till the invigilator gives signal to open it at the commencement of the examination. As soon as the signal is received you should tear the right side of the booklet cover carefully to open the booklet. Then proceed to answer the questions.
2. This Question Booklet contains 200 questions. Prior to attempting to answer the candidates are requested to check whether all the questions are there in series without any omission and ensure there are no blank pages in the question booklet. In case any defect in the Question Paper is noticed it shall be reported to the Invigilator within first 10 minutes.
3. Answer all questions. All questions carry equal marks.
4. You must write your Register Number in the space provided on the top right side of this page. Do not write anything else on the Question Booklet.
5. An Answer Sheet will be supplied to you separately by the Invigilator to mark the answers.
6. You will also encode your Register Number, Subject Code, Question Booklet Sl. No. etc. with Blue or Black Ball point pen in the space provided on the side 2 of the Answer Sheet. If you do not encode properly or fail to encode the above information, action will be taken as per commission's notification.
7. Each question comprises *four* responses (A), (B), (C) and (D). You are to select ONLY ONE correct response and mark in your Answer Sheet. In case, you feel that there are more than one correct response, mark the response which you consider the best. In any case, choose ONLY ONE response for each question. Your total marks will depend on the number of correct responses marked by you in the Answer Sheet.
8. In the Answer Sheet there are *four* circles (A), (B), (C) and (D) against each question. To answer the questions you are to mark with Blue or Black ink Ball point pen ONLY ONE circle of your choice for each question. Select one response for each question in the Question Booklet and mark in the Answer Sheet. If you mark more than one answer for one question, the answer will be treated as wrong. e.g. If for any item, (B) is the correct answer, you have to mark as follows :

(A) (C) (D)

9. You should not remove or tear off any sheet from this Question Booklet. You are not allowed to take this Question Booklet and the Answer Sheet out of the Examination Hall during the examination. After the examination is concluded, you must hand over your Answer Sheet to the Invigilator. You are allowed to take the Question Booklet with you only after the Examination is over.
10. The sheet before the last page of the Question Booklet can be used for Rough Work.
11. Failure to comply with any of the above instructions will render you liable to such action or penalty as the Commission may decide at their discretion.
12. For Question No. 101 to 200 in all matters and in cases of doubt, the English Version is final.
13. Do not tick-mark or mark the answers in the Question booklet.

TAMIL VERSION OF INSTRUCTIONS IS PROVIDED ON THE BACK COVER OF THIS BOOKLET

[Turn over

1. Match the words in column A with the suffixes in Column B

Column A	Column B
(a) astonish	1. - ful
(b) potential	2. - ment
(c) ferocious	3. - ness
(d) success	4. - ity

(a) (b) (c) (d)

(A) 1 4 3 2
(B) 3 4 2 1
 (C) 2 4 3 1
(D) 2 4 1 3

2. Pick out the sentence with the wrong usage of articles :

(A) The cow is a useful animal
(B) The rose is the sweetest of all flowers
(C) Let's go to the park
 (D) The banyan is a kind of a fig tree

3. Fill in the blanks with suitable prepositions :

The most popular therapy _____ getting rid _____ hiccups is to have someone to scare you when you least expect it.

(A) to, away (B) on, to
(C) off, for (D) for, of

4. Fill in the blank with a suitable question tag :

Let's go for a walk, _____?

(A) should we? (B) shall we?
(C) can we? (D) could we?

5. Choose the correct form of the verb to fill in the blank :

They _____ the bridge for several months.

(A) have been building (B) are building
(C) will be building (D) had been building

6. Pick out the correct words from the options given below :

He gave me ————— notes.

7. Which one of the following word is incorrect?

Passage :

Even researchers are finding that introverts make better leaders than extroverts for the simple reason that they are more likely to listen and pay attention to what other people are saying. By taking a backseat, introverted leaders encourage others to suggest ideas, contribute actively and take initiative, thus increasing morale and motivation.

8. Introverts make better leaders because they are _____

9. Which one of the following sentence is incorrect?

(A) The flowers smell sweet.

(B) Of Mumbai and Chennai, the former is the wealthiest.

(C) Six miles is a long distance.

(D) As a novelist, Jane Austen is superior to Mrs. Henry Wood.

10. Identify the sentence which is in the positive degree

(A) His age is a matter of minor importance.
(B) This is the most perfect specimen I have seen.
(C) The last time I saw him, he was in high spirits.
(D) The longest lane has a turning.

11. Identify the sentence which is in the positive degree :

(A) This is a major issue.
(B) The latter chapters are lacking in interest.
(C) Rama's intelligence is superior to Hari's.
(D) He is junior to all his colleagues.

12. Which one of the following words is an example of a compound word consisting of an adverb + participle?

(A) pale blue (B) well defined
(C) seafood (D) outsourcing

13. Which figure of speech does the expression, "the hissing noise of the snake" contain?

(A) logopoeia (B) anaphora
(C) diaspora (D) onomatoeplia

14. "The ship is anchor'd safe and sound, its voyage closed and done" –

The figure of speech used by Walt Whitman in these lines is _____.

(A) Oxymoron (B) Personification
(C) Simile (D) Metaphor

15. "Imagine if your precious nose were sandwiched in between your tees"

What does the word "Sandwiched" mean here?

(A) Become like a food item (B) Trapped
(C) Replaced (D) Pressed between two things

16. H.W. Longfellow's poem "The Psalm of Life" is a piece of

(A) Prayer (B) Encomium
(C) Appeal (D) Advice

17. Who do you think is these lines addressed to :
You cannot rob us of the rights we cherish,
Nor turn our thoughts away
From the bright picture of a 'women's mission'
Our hearts portray

(A) An individual reader
(B) The poet's companion
(C) Society at large
(D) A particular misogynist group

18. Which of the following lines belong to H.W. Longfellow's "A Psalm of Life"?

(A) And you O my soul where you stand
(B) All human roads are dark and dry
(C) Your minstrel has no wreath to weave for you
(D) Art is long and time is fleeting

19. Who told the following statement?

"Tolerance is the highest result of education".

- (A) Dr. Abdul Kalam
- (B) Mahatma Gandhi
- (C) Helen Keller
- (D) Subash Chandra Bose

20. "To call woman the weaker sex is a libel ; It is man's injustice to woman".

Who said these words about Women?

- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (B) Swami Vivekananda
- (C) Rabindranath Tagore
- (D) Mahatma Gandhi

21. Rani of Jhansi was associated with _____.

- (A) Battle of Plassey
- (B) Sepoy Mutiny
- (C) British Government
- (D) Indian National Congress

22. "The story of My Experiments with Truth" is an autobiographical work written by

- (A) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (B) Mahatma Gandhi
- (C) Abraham Lincoln
- (D) Subash Chandra Bose

23. In Oscar Wilde's 'The Selfish Giant' the spring season did not come to the giant's garden because

(A) he built a huge wall around his garden.
(B) he was very unkind to the spring season.
 (C) he did not allow the children inside the garden
(D) he liked winter season

24. In Oscar Wilde's "The Model Millionaire" Hughie is humane and handsome but

(A) ineffable (B) a man of no means
(C) heartless (D) a paranoid

25. In Oscar Wilde's 'The Selfish Giant', the giant's heart melted when he saw

(A) the spring season (B) the children playing in the garden
(C) the children singing and dancing (D) a little child unable to climb a tree

26. In Oscar Wilde's 'The Model Millionaire' what did Hughie do in Alan Trevor's absence?

(A) Hughie spoke to the beggar (B) Hughie gave the beggar some money
(C) Hughie enjoyed a smoke (D) Hughie was dreaming

27. In Oscar Wilde's 'The Selfish Giant' only one little boy did not run away on seeing the giant because

(A) he was blind (B) he was lame
(C) he was afraid (D) he did not see the giant coming

28. "The habit of co-operation once required will continue with you all your life"

Which among the options best conveys the meaning of the above passage?

- (A) The author insists on hard work
- (B) The author states the importance of team work
- (C) The author insists on friendship
- (D) The author reiterates the importance of good behaviour

29. "No matter what happened, I always insisted on their being **themselves**".

What does the writer mean by this statement? Choose the right option from the following.

- (A) the writer wants human beings to be day dreamers
- (B) the writer wants human beings to be in their own world
- (C) the writer wants human beings to be calm.
- (D) the writer wants human beings to be individuals and not to imitate others

30. What is a refrain?

- (A) The first line of a poem that is repeated in all stanzas
- (B) The repetition of a line or lines within a poem, at given intervals
- (C) The first line and the last line are one and the same in the last stanza
- (D) The last two lines of the first stanza and the last two lines of the last stanza are one and the same

31. What is the height of Shiva linga in the sanctum sanctorum of the Brihadeeswarar Temple?

(A) 8.7 metres

(B) 8.5 metres

(C) 8.8 metres

(D) 8.9 metres

32. The author who wrote the lesson 'Yaanai Malai' suffered from the disease?

(A) Chronic Glaucoma

(B) Retinitis Pigmentosa

(C) Astigmatism

(D) Myopic Vision

33. Where is Yaanai Malai located?

(A) In the South Eastern outskirts of Madurai

(B) In the North Eastern outskirts of Madurai

(C) In the North Western outskirts of Madurai

(D) In the South Western outskirts of Madurai

34. Identify the pair of British English and American English expressions with incorrect spelling :

	British	American
(A)	plough	— plow
(B)	cheque	— check
(C)	theatre	— theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	skilful	— skilfull

35. Match the British English words with their American equivalents :

	British English	American English
(a)	Jam	1. Fall
(b)	nappy	2. Antenna
(c)	Aerial	3. Jelly
(d)	Autumn	4. Diaper
	(a) (b) (c) (d)	
(A)	3 2 4 1	
(B)	2 4 3 1	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	3 4 2 1	
(D)	1 2 4 3	

36. _____ warns Caesar about the "Ides of March".

(A) A Soothsayer

(B) Calpurnia

(C) Pompey

(D) Mark Antony

37. Match Column A with Column B. Select the correct code given below.

Column A	Column B
(a) The Ant and the Grasshopper	1. Oscar Wilde
(b) The Cop and the Anthem	2. Somerset Maugham
(c) The Happy Prince	3. Bonnie Chamberlain
(d) The Face of Judas Iscariot	4. O'Henry

(a) (b) (c) (d)

(A) 2 4 1 3
(B) 1 2 3 4
(C) 1 3 4 2
(D) 1 4 2 3

38. Match Column A with Column B. Select the correct code given below :

Column A	Column B
(a) My country my life	1. Sachin
(b) My story	2. Nehru
(c) Play It My Way	3. Kamala Das
(d) Toward Freedom	4. L.K. Advani

(a) (b) (c) (d)

(A) 2 4 3 1
(B) 3 2 1 4
(C) 4 3 1 2
(D) 2 3 1 4

39. Which one of the following statement is correct?

(A) V.K. Gokak is a Telugu poet and novelist
~~(B)~~ V.K. Gokak is a Kannada poet and novelist
(C) V.K. Gokak is a Marathi poet and novelist
(D) V.K. Gokak is a Gujarathi poet and novelist

40. Saruli figures in

(A) Farmer (B) The Sun Beam
~~(C)~~ After the Storm (D) Kari, the Elephant

45. "Envy is ignorance and imitation is suicide".

These are the words of

(A) Robert Frost

(B) Khalil Gibran

(C) F. Joanna

(D) Ralph Waldo Emerson

46. Annie Louisa Walker is a well-known ——— poet.

(A) Canadian – born

(B) American – born

(C) British – born

(D) Australian – born

47. ——— is not a Nobel Prize winner.

(A) Rudyard Kipling

(B) William Golding

(C) Oscar Wilde

(D) Pearl S. Buck

48. Match the poems under Column 'A' with the poets under Column 'B' and select the correct code :

Column A

(a) The Apology

Column B

1. Jack Prelutsky

(b) Be Glad your nose is on your face

2. Emerson

(c) Where the mind is without fear

3. David Roth

(d) Nine Gold Medals

4. Tagore

(a) (b) (c) (d)

(A) 2 1 3 4

(B) 1 4 3 2

(C) 2 1 4 3

(D) 1 2 3 4

49. The ozone gas that acts like a canopy, protecting you from the harmful ultra violet rays of the Sun is depleting.

Identify the option closest in meaning to the underlined word :

(A) a preventive medicine

(B) a damage-control system

(C) an overhanging shelter

(D) a storehouse of gases

50. Match the following idiomatic expressions under column A with their core meaning under Column B

Choose the right code :

Column A	Column B
(a) I can ride a motor cycle	1. Asking for permission
(b) No one can be right all the time	2. Theoretical possibility
(c) Can I use your mobile phone, please?	3. Ability
(d) Anyone can make mistakes	4. Possibility

Responses :

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A) 3	4	1	2
(B) 1	3	2	4
(C) 4	3	1	2
(D) 2	1	4	3

51. If you can force your heart and nerve and sinew

Find out the synonym for the underlined word from the options given

(A) muscle	(B) blood
(C) strength	(D) weakness

52. Choose the correct synonym for the underlined word from the options given :

He made himself indispensable to his institution.

(A) major	(B) short
(C) essential	(D) negligible

53. Some people argue that computerisation will aggravate the unemployment problem.
Find out the antonym for the underlined word.

(A) wipe out	(B) consolidate
(C) alleviate	(D) remove

54. Choose the appropriate stem-word with which the prefix 'mal' can combine.

(A) directional	(B) theism
(C) colon	(D) nourished

55. Complete the following sentence with suitable articles :

On _____ day of _____ tea party, Apsara took her mother to Mrs. Rose's room.

(A) the, the

(B) an, the

(C) a, an

(D) the, a

56. Complete the following sentence using a suitable form of the passive voice :

In primitive times, stone implements _____ to kill animals.

(A) was employed

(B) were employed

(C) will be employed

(D) had been employed

57. Fill out the blank with the most appropriate option given below :

Alexander's hope _____ the whole of India was not materialised due to his ill health.

(A) to conquer

(B) of conquer

(C) of conquering

(D) conquered

58. Fill in the blanks with the correct word from the options :

We will have to find _____ sources of energy in the future.

(A) alternate

(B) altered

(C) alternative

(D) adulterated

59. Identify the odd word among the options

- (A) delicious
- (B) expensive
- (C) industrious
- (D) jubilantly

60. Find out the odd word among the following

- (A) sojourn
- (B) countenance
- (C) species
- (D) recreate

61. They failed to add an appendix to the book. Which of the following is the right plural form for the underlined word?

- (A) appendices
- (B) indices
- (C) appendixes
- (D) annexures

62. Choose the simple sentence out of the sentences given below :

- (A) He finished his exercise and put away the books.
- (B) The man endured all the horrors of the campaign without any one of them making complaint.
- (C) We must eat, or we cannot live.
- (D) Not only did his father give him money, but his mother too.

63. Which among the following is an example for onomatopoeic words?

(A) clip - clopped (B) tongue - twister
(C) ambitious (D) entertainment

64. An implied simile is a —

(A) metathesis (B) metaphor
(C) metonymy (D) metamorphosis

65. In the poem "Going for Water", why did the children have to go to the brook?

(A) To relish the sylvan atmosphere in the dense woods
 (B) Because the well was dry beside the door
(C) To enjoy the natural beauty of the brook
(D) To find whether there is water in the brook

66. "Laugh till the game is played" — What is the game referred to here?

(A) Hockey (B) Exam
(C) Dice (D) Life

67. Only bloodshot eyes betray
Deep pride, then reverence,
Lo! God in man's image.

Who is referred to as "God in man's image" in the above lines?

(A) Goldsmith (B) Divine Artist
 (C) Sculptor (D) Blacksmith

68. Behold her, single in the field,
Yon solitary Highland Lass!

The underlined word in the above lines of "The Solitary Reaper" refers to

(A) England (B) America
 (C) Scotland (D) Ireland

69. Find out the meaning of the underlined word in the following lines from Sonnet No. 116 :
"Let me not to the marriage of true minds Admit Impediments

(A) Obstacles (B) Victory
(C) Success (D) Happiness

70. Choose the option containing the author of the following lines
"No Nightingale did ever chant
More welcome notes to weary bands".

(A) Hopkins in 'Laugh and be Merry'
(B) Khalil Gibran in 'Earth'
 (C) Wordsworth in "The Solitary Reaper"
(D) Kamala Das in "Punishment in the Kindergarten"

71. "The music in my heart I bore
Long after it was heard no more"

These lines appear in _____

(A) Be the best (B) Tables turned
(C) A Psalm of Life (D) The Solitary Reaper

72. "She left India as a student, but she would see the nation of her birth, all of it, from
hundreds of miles above' –

George W. Bush spoke these lines about whom?

(A) Kalpana Chawla (B) Sunita Williams
(C) Meena Alexander (D) Chitra Diwakaruni

73. Who among the following is not a character in Shakespeare's 'Merchant of Venice'?

(A) Calpurnia (B) Bassanio
(C) Portia (D) Nerissa

74. Who speaks the following lines in Shakespeare's "The Merchant of Venice".

"The quality of mercy is not strained

It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven

Upon the place beneath".

(A) Antonio (B) Shylock
 (C) Portia (D) Duke

75. The following line is from the play Julius Caesar.

"O judg'ment! Thou art fled to brutish beasts"

The figure of speech employed in the above line is

(A) Antithesis (B) Personification
(C) Metaphor (D) Oxymoron

76. In Julius Caesar, Antony says,

"For Brutus is an honourable man".

— Here the tone of Antony is one of

(A) Admiration (B) Irony
(C) Friendship (D) Hero – worship

77. Who was the first senator to stab Caesar?

(A) Caius (B) Lepidus
 (C) Casca (D) Brutus

78. Paulnack was the director of the music division at _____

- (A) The Boston Conservatory
- (B) The Philharmonic Royal
- (C) The France School of Arts
- (D) The Manhattan Academy

79. Which one of the following statements is not related to the lesson "Music – The Hope Raiser"?

- (A) Music is a basic need of human survival
- (B) Music is one of the ways we make sense of our lives.
- (C) Music is a luxury and lavish thing
- (D) Music is not an extravaganza or a hobby

80. _____ composed the German Requiem.

- (A) Messiaen
- (B) Johannes Brahms
- (C) Charles Tindley
- (D) Karl Paulnack

81. Who wrote the following motivational poem, "You can't be that, No, You can't be that"?

- (A) Hope Spencer
- (B) Dale Carnegi
- (C) Brian Patten
- (D) Rupert Brooke

82. "Good luck is round the corner" : What does this line suggest in the poem "Keep your spirits High"?

- (A) Do anticipate luck
- (B) Do think that luck would favour you
- (C) Be positive and optimistic in all your attitudes
- (D) Do have the frame of mind that you are fortune's minion

83. What is the name of the porter who accompanied Ahtushi Deshpande?

- (A) Laxmi
- (B) Kundu
- (C) Bamon
- (D) Raman Singh

84. "A dominant landmark of the north-eastern outskirts of Madurai is Yaanai Malai" Choose the inappropriate statement from the following

- (A) Yaanai malai is a solid rocky hill
- (B) Yaanai malai is in the north-east direction of Madurai
- (C) Madurai is the landmark of Yaanai malai
- (D) Yaanai malai is otherwise called elephant hill

85. Match the following British/American expressions in Column A with Column B and select the correct answer from the options given below

Column A		Column B	
(a)	trash	1.	faucet
(b)	cookie	2.	candy
(c)	sweets	3.	rubbish
(d)	tap	4.	biscuit
		(a)	(b)
		(c)	(d)
(A)	3	4	2
(B)	4	2	3
(C)	3	2	4
(D)	1	3	2

86. 'Car park' in British English is _____ in American English.

(A) Parking space
(B) Parking fees
(C) Parking plot
(D) Parking lot

87. Find out the British English equivalent of "fall"

(A) Winter
(B) Summer
(C) Spring
(D) Autumn

88. "The present seems all dreary
The future very grim.

The underlined words mean _____ and _____ respectively.

(A) confusing and dark (B) dear and lovely
 (C) boring and sad (D) damp and weak

89. Match the poems under Column 'A' with the authors under Column 'B' and select the correct code.

Column A	Column B
(a) A Psalm of Life	1. Lewis Carroll
(b) Is Life But a Dream	2. H.W. Longfellow
(c) Going for water	3. Kamala Das
(d) Punishment in Kindergarten	4. Robert Frost

(a) (b) (c) (d)
(A) 2 3 1 4
(B) 2 3 4 1
(C) 4 2 3 1
 (D) 2 1 4 3

90. Which of the following is not a poem?

(A) Shilpi
(B) Be the Best
(C) Off to Outerspace Tomorrow Morning
 (D) Flying with the moon on their wings

91. Which of the following is a short story?

(A) Be the Best
(C) The Flying Wonder
 (B) The Tears of the Desert
(D) The Man He Killed

92. Pangolin figures in

(A) The Anteater and the Dassie
(B) The Neem Tree
(C) Reflowering
(D) The Necklace Holiday

93. Who uttered the line "I craved the law" in "The Merchant of Venice"?

(A) Portia
(B) Shylock
(C) Antonio
(D) Bassanio

94. Match the following :

(a) Randall Jarell	1. The Neem Tree
(b) Indira Anandakrishnan	2. Nobel Prize
(c) Tagore	3. Bombay
(d) Rudyard Kipling	4. Bat

(A) 4	1	2	3
(B) 1	4	2	3
(C) 4	1	3	2
(D) 1	3	4	2

95. Mohiniyattam is a classical dance form from

(A) Kerala
(B) Bihar
(C) Kashmir
(D) Tamilnadu

96. Which of the following works is not a poem?
(A) Be the Best
(C) Swept Away
(B) Manliness
(D) The Man He Killed

97. Choose the correct answer from the options given below :
"There was never mystery
But 'tis figured in the flowers;
Was never secret history
But birds tell it in the bowers".
These lines are taken from the poem
(A) My Native Land
(C) The Apology
(B) To India
(D) Laugh and be Merry

98. Mr. Pneumonia figures in _____.
(A) The Last Leaf
(C) The Lottery Ticket
(B) The Selfish Giant
(D) The Open Window

99. What is the title of H.W. Longfellow's volume of poems which included "A Psalm of Life"?
(A) Hiawatha
(C) Evangeline
(B) Tales of a Wayside-Inn
(D) Voices of the Night

100. Match the following :

Quote/Line	Author/Character
(a) "I was born a farmer"	1. Kamala Surayya
(b) "Nations are built by the imagination and untiring enthusiastic efforts of generations"	2. Kesavan Nair
(c) You cannot believe darling, can you that I lived in such a house	3. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
(d) "Into that heaven of freedom, My Father let my country awake"	4. Rabindranath Tagore

(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
(A) 2	1	4	3
(D)	2	3	1
(C) 2	4	1	3
(D) 2	3	4	1