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**ISRO Junior
Personal Assistant
Previous Year Paper
Paper-I 2008**



**INDIAN SPACE RESEARCH ORGANISATION
[HEADQUARTERS]**

**WRITTEN TEST FOR RECRUITMENT TO THE POST OF ASSISTANT/
JR.PERSONAL ASSISTANT**

Test Booklet :

E

Paper –I : General English and General Studies

Date : 20th July 2008

Time : 1000 hrs. to 1200 hrs.

Part- A : General English (Objective type)

No. of questions

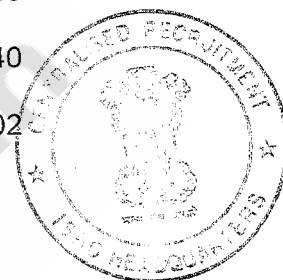
40

Part- B : General Studies (Objective type)

40

Part-C : General English (Descriptive type)

02



INSTRUCTIONS

1. The question paper is in the form of test booklet.
2. A separate OMR answer sheet is provided to all candidates for answering Part-A and Part-B (objective type)
3. A separate answer booklet is provided to all candidates for answering Part-C (Descriptive type). **Answer to be written by pen only.**
4. Each objective question is provided with a text and figures wherever applicable with multiple answers (a), (b), (c) and (d) which includes one correct answer.
5. Refer answer sheet instructions and use **HB pencil** for answering all the objective type questions.
6. All objective questions carry 1 mark each and descriptive type questions 10 marks each.
7. Multiple answers for a question will be regarded as wrong answer.
8. Although the test stresses on accuracy more than speed, it is important for you to use your time as effectively as possible.
9. Do not waste time on questions which are too difficult for you. Go on to other questions and come back to the difficult ones later.
10. Question booklets have been marked with **A or B or C or D or E or F** on the right hand top corner, which shall be written on the answer sheet in the box and bubble appropriately.
11. Enter your name and roll number correctly on the OMR answer sheet.
12. Enter all information as per the instructions given in the answer sheet.
13. Space available in the Question booklet could be used for rough work, if required and no separate sheet will be provided.
14. At the end of the test (1) Written test Call Letter with photograph (2) OMR Answer Sheet, (3) Descriptive type answer sheet and (4) Test Booklet shall be returned to the Invigilator.

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WRITTEN TEST FOR THE POST OF ASSISTANT/JR. PERSONAL ASSISTANT

PART-A [GENERAL ENGLISH]

Direction: In the following three questions, out of the four alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given words/sentences.

1. Life history of a person written by another:
(a) autobiography (b) biography
(c) bibliography (d) Memoir
2. One who forcibly takes control of a bus or an aircraft:
(a) Pirate (b) swindler
(c) hijacker (d) pilferer
3. The place where public, government or historical records are kept:
(a) coffer (b) pantry
(c) scullery (d) archives

Direction:- In the following three questions, out of the given alternatives, choose the one which can best replace the **italicized** word in the sentence without changing the meaning of the sentence.

4. He was drawn to the **vortex** of politics at a very early age.
(a) whirlpool (b) field
(c) arena (d) hell
5. The cyclone had blown some of the cars to **funny** places.
(a) humorous (b) cranky (c) irregular (d) odd
6. Her today's story was merely an **exaggeration** of what happened before my eyes.
(a) overstatement (b) reproduction
(c) falsehood (d) understatement

Direction: In the following three questions, choose the word which best expresses meaning of the word given in capital.

7. **BROWSE**
(a) Heal. (b) Deceive. (c) Examine (d) Strike.
8. **RECKLESS**
(a) Courageous (b) Rash (c) Bold (d) Daring
9. **ABSURD**
(a) Foolish (b) Simple (c) Courageous (d) Silly

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Direction:- In the following three questions, find out the pair of words which makes the sentence meaningful and complete.

10. If you kindly bear _____ me for sometime, I shall _____ the whole issue.
- (a) out, understand (b) on, solve
(c) for, know (d) with, clarify
11. Problems of the country can only be alleviated by _____ and _____ citizens.
- (a) careful, unscrupulous (b) extraordinary, uncompromising
(c) dedicated, patriotic (d) selfish, irresponsible
12. Nine members have _____ about the decision, but the tenth one views it _____
- (a) solution, critically (b) consensus, similarly
(c) disagreement, collectively (d) agreement, differently

Direction:- In the following three questions, find the correctly spelt word :

13. (a) Osttentatious (b) Ostentetious
(c) Ostentatious (d) Ostenttacious
14. (a) Rennnaissance (b) Rennaisance
(c) Renaissance (d) Renaissance
15. (a) Schezizophrenia (b) Schizaphrenia
(c) Schizophrenia (d) Schizophrania

Direction : In the following five questions, choose the correct word to fill the blank:

16. It is a good chance. You must avail this opportunity.
- (a) of (b) yourself of
(c) for (d) from
17. Copper, Silver and Gold
- (a) each will do (b) either will do
(c) any one will do (d) each will do and either will do
18. These elections will be remembered as much for its anti-incumbency mood as for its _____ mandate.
- (a) invincible (b) rational
(c) unprecedented (d) deliberate

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19. We upset ourselves by responding in an _____ manner to someone else's actions.
- (a) unabashed (b) irrational
(c) arduous (d) arguable
20. All the people involved in that issue feel a great _____ to his suggestion.
- (a) contradiction (b) adherence
(c) indifference (d) repugnance

Direction: In the following three questions, three words having different meanings of a certain word are given. Select that word from the answer choices, given under each set of words :

21. practical, sensible, realistic
- (a) logical (b) materialistic
(c) reasonable (d) creative
22. deliberate, planned, purposeful
- (a) approximated (b) guessed
(c) created (d) calculated
23. produce, create, generate
- (a) gardening (b) construct
(c) destroy (d) drive

Direction: In the following three questions, sentences are given with blanks to be filled in with **prepositions**. Four alternative sets are given for each question. Choose the correct preposition or set of prepositions as demanded by the question :

24. _____ the corner of the street stood a policeman _____ an umbrella, shivering in the rain.
- (a) on, with (b) near, under
(c) by, in (d) at, under
25. _____ cover of darkness, the enemy crept _____ the hill.
- (a) in, over (b) in, along
(c) under the, up (d) through, upon
26. _____ two weeks, he did not venture _____ the safety of his house, even once.
- (a) within, for (b) for, beyond
(c) for, over (d) over, for

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Direction: In the following three questions, select the lettered pair that expresses a relationship similar to that expressed in the original pair :

27. Cool : Cold

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| (a) Length : Width | (b) Gold : Bourne |
| (c) Plant : Tree | (d) Pretty : Beautiful |

28. Editor : Newspaper

- | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------|
| (a) Lecturer : University | (b) Teacher : School |
| (c) Nurse : Hospital | (d) Architect : Design |

29. Jeweller : Ornament

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| (a) Doctor : Patients | (b) Mechanic : Repair |
| (c) Artism : Goldsmith | (d) Architect : Plans |

Direction: In the following three questions four groups of words are given. In each group one word is **misspelt**. Find the **misspelt** word :

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|
| 30. (a) measurement | (b) disagreement |
| (c) concerned | (d) controvarcial |
| 31. (a) irrelevant | (b) irreverent |
| (c) hackneyed | (d) imutable |
| 32. (a) lieage | (b) limber |
| (c) lineament | (d) likelihood |

Direction: In the following three questions, a part of the sentence is bold. Below are given alternatives to the bold part at (a), (b) and (c) which may improve the sentence. Choose the correct alternative. In case no improvement is needed, your answer is (d) :

33. One study that examined the claim directly in 1995 found that a group of people did **burned much calories from fat on days** when they exercised on an empty stomach than on days when they had a small breakfast first.
- (a) burn more calories from fat on days
(b) burn more calorie from fat on days
(c) burnt more calories from fat on days
(d) No improvement
34. Goa was full of non-Goa property hunters **rushing about busying up the place** like tomorrow was an expired lease.
- (a) rushing in busying up the place
(b) rushed about busying up the place
(c) rushing about to buy up the place
(d) No improvement

WRITTEN TEST FOR THE POST OF ASSISTANT/JR.PERSONAL ASSISTANT

35. Still, it's under-the-upper layers themselves who are aspiring for slivers of luxury

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| (a) layers themselves which | (b) layer itself who |
| (c) layers themself which | (d) No improvement |

Direction: In the following three questions, Proverbs/Idioms are given together with their meanings. Choose the correct meaning of the Proverb/Idiom :

36. "To turn the tables" means

- (a) to ruin someone
- (b) to turn the situation to one's own side.
- (c) to reverse the situation
- (d) to move from one point to another

37. Day and night, he 'yearns for' his beloved, means

- (a) He weeps for his beloved
- (b) He remembers his beloved
- (c) He admires his beloved
- (d) He keenly desires to meet his beloved

38. "This medicine is a panacea" means

- (a) this medicine is not good.
- (b) this medicine has wonderful curing power
- (c) this is medicine that can cure every disease
- (d) none of these

Direction:- In the following two questions, the sentences have been given in Active/Passive voice. From the given options, choose the one which best expresses the given sentence in Passive/Active voice :

39. Who gave you this letter ?

- (a) This letter was given to you by whom ?
- (b) This letter had given to you by whom ?
- (c) Was this letter given to you ?
- (d) By whom was this letter given to you ?

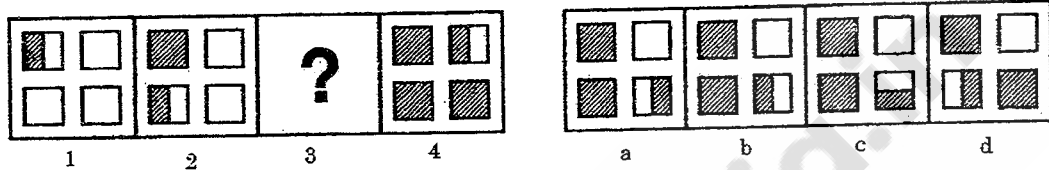
40. There is no time to waste.

- (a) There is no time to be wasted.
- (b) No time to be wasted there.
- (c) No time to be wasted by there.
- (d) No time is to be wasted.

WRITTEN TEST FOR THE POST OF ASSISTANT/JR. PERSONAL ASSISTANT
PART-B [GENERAL STUDIES]

Direction: In each of the following questions, there is a set of four figures labeled 1, 2, 3 and 4 called the Problem Set followed by a set of four other figures labeled a, b, c and d called the Answer Set. Fig.(3) contains a question-mark. Select a suitable figure from the Answer set which will substitute this question-mark so that a series is formed by the figures 1, 2, 3 and 4 taken in order. The alphabet of the selected figure is the answer.

41.

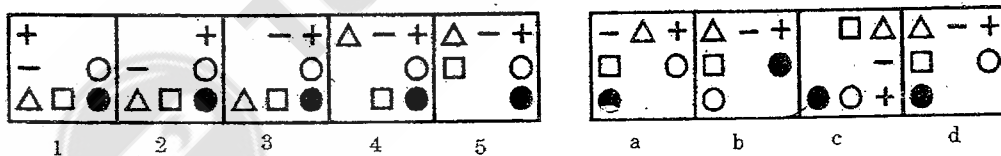


42.



Direction: The following question consists of five figures marked 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 called the Problem Figures followed by the other figures marked a, b, c and d called the Answer Figures. Select a figure from amongst the Answer Figures which will continue the same series as established by the five Problem Figures.

43.



44. The Chief Justice of India is ----- ?

- (a) Justice V. N. Khare (b) Justice K. G. Balakrishnan
(c) Justice B. D. Ahmad (d) None of these

45. The total sum of the goods and services produced within a country in a year minus depreciation is called the -----

- (a) Gross National Product (b) Net National Product
(c) Gross Domestic Product (d) Net Domestic Product

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46. A rise in "SENSEX" means -----
- (a) A rise in prices of shares of all companies registered with Bombay Stock Exchange.
 - (b) A rise in prices of shares of all companies registered with National Stock Exchange
 - (c) An overall rise in prices of shares of group of companies registered with Bombay Stock Exchange
 - (d) A rise in prices of shares of all companies belonging to a group of companies registered with Bombay Stock Exchange

47. The largest flightless bird which can run at a great speed is -----

- (a) Penguin
- (b) Kiwi
- (c) Ostrich
- (d) Emu

48. Who is the present UN Secretary General ?

- (a) Kofi Annan
- (b) Baan Ki-Moon
- (c) Koichiro Matsuura
- (d) Horst Koehler

Direction: In the following two questions, four pairs of words are given out of which the words in three pairs bear a certain common relationship. Choose the pair in which the words are differently related.

49. (a) Death : Disease (b) Milk : Butter
(c) Grape : Wine (d) Brick : House
50. (a) Captain : Team (b) Boss : Gang
(c) Prime Minister : Cabinet (d) Artist : Troupe

Direction: In the following questions, choose the correct answer:-

51. "Vision India 2020" is a book written by -----

- (a) A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
- (b) I.K. Gujral
- (c) Narendra Modi
- (d) Shushil Kumar Shinde

52. If ROSE is written as TQUG, how BISCUIT can be written in that code?

- (a) CJTDVJU
- (b) DKVEWKV
- (c) DKUEWKY
- (d) DKUEWKV

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53. If the positions of the first and sixth letters of the word 'BENEFICIAL' are interchanged, similarly the positions of the second and seventh letters are interchanged and so on, which letter will be third from the right after rearrangement.
- (a) C (b) E (c) F (d) N
54. If white is called blue, blue is called red, red is called yellow, yellow is called green, green is called black, black is called violet and violet is called orange, what would be the colour of human blood ?
- (a) Red (b) Green (c) Yellow (d) Violet
55. If cushion is called pillow, pillow is called mat, mat is called bedsheet and bedsheet is called cover, which will be spread on the floor ?
- (a) Cover (b) Bedsheet (c) Mat (d) Pillow
56. Looking at a portrait of a man, Harsh said, "His mother is the wife of my father's son. Brothers and sisters I have none." At whose portrait was Harsh looking ?
- (a) His son (b) His cousin
(c) His uncle (d) His nephew
57. Pointing out to a lady, a girl said, "She is the daughter-in-law of the grandmother of my father's only son." How is the lady related to the girl ?
- (a) Sister-in-law (b) Mother
(c) Aunt (d) Mother-in-law
58. Five children are sitting in a row. S is sitting next to P but not T. K is sitting next to R who is sitting on the extreme left and T is not sitting next to K. Who are sitting adjacent to S ?
- (a) K and P (b) R and P
(c) Only P (d) P and T
59. 'Ice' is related to 'Cold' in the same way as 'Earth' is related to:
- (a) weight (b) gravity
(c) Forest (d) Sea
60. Find the missing number/letters in the series.
A, G, L, P, S, ?
- (a) X (b) Y
(c) W (d) U

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Direction: In the following fifteen questions, choose the correct answer:-

61. Who was the main architect of the Russian Revolution?
(a) Karl Marx (b) Lenin
(c) Stalin (d) Tolstoy
62. The British Prime Minister at the time of India's Independence was:
(a) Winston Churchill (b) Clement Attlee
(c) Anthony Eden (d) Harold Macmillan
63. Who was the political guru of M.K.Gandhi?
(a) Dadabhai Naoroji (b) Gopal Krishna Gokhale
(c) Lala Lajpat Rai (d) Lokmanya Tilak
64. For the first time the department of Public Works was established by:
(a) Iltutmish (b) Balban
(c) Alauddin Khilji (d) Firoz Shah Tughlaq
65. Which of the following is not a financial institution?
(a) UTI (b) ECGC
(c) IDBI (d) FICCI
66. Which one of the following deals with Economic Offences?
(a) NASA (b) MISA
(c) COFEPOSA (d) TADA
67. Largest revenue in India is obtained from:
(a) Direct Tax (b) Excise Duties
(c) Railways (d) None of the above
68. The Chief Justice of a High Court in India is appointed by the:
(a) Governor of the State (b) Prime Minister of India
(c) Chief Justice of the Supreme Court (d) President of India
69. In Indian Republic the real executive authority rests with the:
(a) Prime Minister (b) President
(c) Bureaucrats (d) Council of Ministers

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- 70. The control of the preparation of electoral rolls for Parliament and Legislatures in India, vests with:**
- | | |
|---------------|-------------------------|
| (a) Cabinet | (b) Prime Minister |
| (c) President | (d) Election Commission |
- 71. Who amongst the following is associated with "Microsoft"?**
- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| (a) Andrew Grove | (b) Bill Gates |
| (c) Ted Turner | (d) Rupert Murdoch |
- 72. The concept of Five year Plans in India was introduced by:**
- | | |
|----------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) Lord Mountbatten | (b) Jawaharlal Nehru |
| (c) Indira Gandhi | (d) Lal Bahadur Shastri |
- 73. Who amongst the following is the author of the book "through the Corridors of Power" released recently?**
- | | |
|----------------|-------------------|
| (a) Kiran Bedi | (b) P.C Alexander |
| (c) J.N Dixit | (d) T.N Sheshan |
- 74. The first person to conduct heart transplantation in India is:**
- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| (a) Dr. P.K.K. Ayyankar | (b) Dr. R. Valiathan |
| (c) Dr. Venugopal | (d) Dr. R. Kesavan Nair |
- 75. Which of these is not included as a Fundamental Right in the Indian Constitution?**
- | |
|--|
| (a) Right to Freedom of Speech |
| (b) Right to Equality before the Law |
| (c) Right to Constitutional Remedies |
| (d) Right to Equal Wages for Equal Work. |
- 76. Which of the following District is one of the International border of India ?**
- | | |
|---------------|--------------|
| (a) Sirsa | (b) Anantnag |
| (c) Karimganj | (d) Purulia |

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77. As per Indian Constitution, in the event of any conflict between the union laws and state laws -----

- (a) The matter is referred to the Supreme Court
- (b) The state laws shall prevail
- (c) The union laws shall prevail
- (d) The matter is referred to the Parliamentary Committee specifically constituted to resolve the dispute.

78. How can the President of India utilize funds from the Contingency Fund ?

- (a) During National Emergency
- (b) After parliamentary sanction
- (c) He cannot spend it
- (d) Prior to parliamentary sanction

Direction: In the following two questions, three words in bold letters are given, which have something in common among themselves. Out of the four given alternatives, choose the **most appropriate description** about these three words.

79. Sandstone : Limestone : Coal

- (a) They are formed by metamorphic rocks.
- (b) They are chemical minerals.
- (c) They are found in river beds.
- (d) They are formed in sedimentary rocks.

80. Chlorine : Fluorine : Iodine

- (a) These are names of inert gases.
- (b) These are gases at room temperature.
- (c) These are transition elements.
- (d) These are halogens.

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PART-C [DESCRIPTIVE QUESTIONS]

1. Write an essay on any one of the following (about 400 words) :

(a) Contribution of Space Technology to Society.

(or)

(b) Empowerment of Women in the Society.

(or)

(c) The Right to Information Act-2005 – A right step towards better transparency in governance ?

(or)

(d) Indo-US Nuclear deal

2. Write a letter on any one of the following (about 300 words) :

(a) You are Ajith Kumar of 75/2 of Vasanth Vihar on S.M. Road of the Ahmedabad City. Some road work was started on this road some six months back but not completed yet. Despite plea to many local authorities, no action was taken to complete the repair work. You and a few residents of your Society have also witnessed a couple of accidents on this road after the repair work commenced. Write a strong letter to the Editor, Times of India, Ahmedabad Edition on the plight of the above road and negligence of the local authorities concerned.

(or)

(b) Write a letter to the Chairman, Water Supply Board about the poor and irregular water supply in your area and seeking improvements in the supply of water.
