

**SENTENCE IMPROVEMENT**

**Directions for the following 20 items :** Look at the underlined part of each sentence. Below each sentence are given three possible substitutions for the underlined part. If one of them (a), (b) or (c) is better than the underlined part, indicate your response on the Answer Sheet against the corresponding letter (a), (b) or (c). If none of the substitutions improve the sentence, indicate (d) as your response on the Answer Sheet. Thus a 'No improvement' response will be signified by the letter (d).

21. There is no rain in our village for the last six months.

- (a) has been
- (b) was
- (c) had been
- (d) No improvement

22. The police investigated into the matter.

- (a) with the matter
- (b) at the matter
- (c) the matter
- (d) No improvement

23. Ramachandra Murthy and his family have been in Guyana from 1985.

- (a) since
- (b) about
- (c) on
- (d) No improvement

24. I am living in this town since 1980.

- (a) was living
- (b) shall live
- (c) have been living
- (d) No improvement

25. If I was you I should tell him the truth.

- (a) am you
- (b) were you
- (c) had been you
- (d) No improvement

26. He is better than any boy in the class.

- (a) any boys
- (b) all the boys
- (c) any other boy
- (d) No improvement

27. Anil ought not to tell me your secret, but he did.

- (a) to be telling
- (b) tell
- (c) to have told
- (d) No improvement

31. Fewer rainfall means less traffic accidents, according to the experts' report on highway safety.

- (a) Less rainfall means fewer traffic accidents
- (b) Less rainfall means less traffic accidents
- (c) Fewer rainfall means fewer traffic accidents
- (d) No improvement

32. I never saw you at the party yesterday.

- (a) have not seen
- (b) did not see
- (c) had never seen
- (d) No improvement

33. Ajeet is a bigger scholar than his brother.

- (a) better
- (b) smaller
- (c) superior
- (d) No improvement

34. I did not wait for him because he went out before I arrived.

- (a) has gone out
- (b) had gone out
- (c) had been out
- (d) No improvement

35. Whenever I saw him, he has been reading the same novel.

- (a) had been reading

- (d) No improvement
26. He is better than any boy in the class.  
(a) any boys  
(b) all the boys  
(c) any other boy  
(d) No improvement
27. Anil ought not to tell me your secret, but he did.  
(a) to be telling  
(b) tell  
(c) to have told  
(d) No improvement
28. If I were him I would have not accepted the offer.  
(a) If I was him  
(b) If I were he  
(c) If I had he  
(d) No improvement
29. What the nation needs is people of character.  
(a) are the people of character  
(b) are people of character  
(c) is a people of character  
(d) No improvement
30. We now come to the important question of where this great swarm of galaxies have come from.  
(a) have come  
(b) has come from  
(c) are coming from  
(d) No improvement

- (b) smaller  
(c) superior  
(d) No improvement
34. I did not wait for him because he went out before I arrived.  
(a) has gone out  
(b) had gone out  
(c) had been out  
(d) No improvement
35. Whenever I saw him, he has been reading the same novel. *had*  
(a) had been reading  
(b) read  
(c) was reading  
(d) No improvement
36. Since the beginning of the term, we are spending a lot of time on poetry.  
(a) spent  
(b) will spend  
(c) have spent  
(d) No improvement
37. Your sister cooks well, isn't she ?  
(a) isn't it ?  
(b) doesn't she ?  
(c) doesn't it ?  
(d) No improvement
38. Dickens' novels, like many writers, are largely autobiographical.  
(a) like those of many other writers  
(b) like so many others  
(c) like many other novelists  
(d) No improvement

39. She was as pretty as, if not prettier than, any other girl at the party.

- (a) She was very pretty
- (b) She was pretty
- (c) She was the prettiest
- (d) No improvement

40. Never I have seen such breathtaking scenery !

- (a) Never have I
- (b) Ever I have
- (c) I cannot ever
- (d) No improvement

### SYNONYMS

**Directions for the following 10 items :** In this section, you find a number of sentences, parts of which are underlined. For each underlined part, four words/phrases are listed below. Choose the word/phrase nearest in meaning to the underlined part and blacken the corresponding space on the Answer Sheet.

41. She is a woman of sterling qualities.

- (a) interesting
- (b) genuine
- (c) irritating
- (d) exciting

42. Although the boys in his class were naughty, he never resorted to corporal punishment.

- (a) harsh
- (b) physical
- (c) unjust
- (d) general

43. He wanted to mitigate his burdens.

- (a) lessen
- (b) increase
- (c) postpone
- (d) leave

46. The decision to drop the atom bomb on Hiroshima was a grave one.

- (a) serious
- (b) momentous
- (c) instinctive
- (d) impulsive

47. A scientist generally carries out his investigations empirically.

- (a) intuitively
- (b) verbally
- (c) through written communication
- (d) by observation and experiment

48. He is employed in an ordnance factory.

- (a) orthodox
- (b) arms and ammunition
- (c) electrical and electronic
- (d) ordinary and common

44. She adjusted quite well with her husband's

49. He is a schemer who tries to win over

- (d) leave
44. She adjusted quite well with her husband's idiosyncrasies.  
✓ (a) peculiar habits  
(b) bad habits  
(c) weaknesses  
(d) stupid manners
45. The Deputy Inspector General made a perfunctory inspection of the police station.  
(a) thorough and complete  
✓ (b) superficial  
(c) done as a routine but without interest  
✓ (d) intensive
- (d) ordinary and common
49. He is a sycophant who tries to win over politicians.  
(a) a psychologist  
(b) an opportunist  
(c) an unscrupulous man  
✓ (d) a flatterer
50. I cannot believe in the veracity of his statement.  
(a) truth  
(b) usefulness  
✓ (c) sincerity  
(d) falsity

### ANTONYMS

**Directions for the following 10 items :** In this section, each item consists of a word or a phrase which is underlined in the sentence given. It is followed by four words or phrases. Select the word or phrase which is closest to the opposite in meaning of the underlined word or phrase.

51. Kapil's bowling yesterday proved very costly.  
✓ (a) economical  
(b) frugal  
(c) thrifty  
(d) expensive
52. I cannot see much likeness between the two boys.  
✗ (a) enmity  
✗ (b) hatred  
✓ (c) difference  
(d) dislike

53. I am still dubious about that plan.

- (a) certain
- (b) doubtful
- (c) docile
- (d) faithful

54. The wise say that life is meant not merely to accumulate wealth but for self-realization.

- (a) amass
- (b) produce
- (c) scatter
- (d) gather

55. He will never turn down your request.

- (a) turn up
- (b) turn over
- (c) reject
- (d) accept

56. Real happiness does not lie in material possessions alone.

- (a) physical
- (b) essential
- (c) spiritual
- (d) manual

57. I was upset by his hostile attitude.

- (a) friendly
- (b) positive
- (c) negative
- (d) inimical

58. Ashoka was a magnanimous king.

- (a) small
- (b) petty
- (c) kind
- (d) majestic

59. Mala is always defiant in her behaviour.

- (a) obedient
- (b) rebellious
- (c) meek
- (d) friendly

60. I find his views repugnant.

- (a) amiable
- (b) repulsive
- (c) amoral
- (d) apolitical

## COMPREHENSION

Directions for the following 15 (fifteen) items : Read the following passages and answer the items that follow.

### PASSAGE—I

Those responsible for teaching young people have resorted to a variety of means to make their pupils learn. The earliest of these was the threat of punishment. This meant that the pupil who was slow, careless or inattentive risked either physical chastisement or the loss of some expected privilege. Learning was thus associated with fear. At a later period, pupils were encouraged to learn in the hope of some kind of reward. This often took the form of marks awarded for work done and sometimes of prizes given at the end of the year to the best scholar. Such a system appealed to the competitive spirit, but was just as depressing as the older system for the slow pupil.

10  
★

(Contd.)

In the nineteenth century sprang up a new type of teacher, convinced that learning was worthwhile for its own sake and that the young pupil's principal stimulus should neither be anxiety to avoid a penalty nor ambition to win a reward, but sheer desire to learn. Interest, direct or indirect, became the keyword of instruction.

91. The educational system which caused fear in the pupil's mind was based on :
- (a) rewards
  - (b) labour
  - (c) punishment
  - (d) competition
92. The system based on rewards satisfied all except :
- (a) the slow pupil
  - (b) the very intelligent pupil
  - (c) the laborious pupil
  - (d) the casual pupil
93. The system which appealed to the competitive spirit in the pupils was largely based on :
- (a) punishment
  - (b) marks
  - (c) chastisement
  - (d) cash prizes

(d) the casual pupil

### PASSAGE—II

On a surface which is free from obstacles, such as a clear road or a path, only two or three species of snakes can hope to catch up with a human being, even if they are foolish to try. A snake seems to move very fast but its movements are deceptive. In spite of the swift, wave-like motions of its body, the snake crawls along the ground at no more than the speed of man's walk. It may, however, have an advantage inside a jungle, where the progress of a man is obstructed by thorny bushes. But in such places, the footsteps of a man are usually more than enough to warn snakes to keep away. Although they have no ears of the usual kind, they can feel slight vibrations of the ground through their bodies, and thus get an early warning of danger.

94. The snake has an advantage over men inside a jungle, because there :
- (a) it can crawl faster.
  - (b) it gets advance warning.
  - (c) man's movement is obstructed.
  - (d) it is dark inside a jungle.
95. What helps the snakes to receive advance warning is their sensitivity to :
- (a) obstacles in the path.
  - (b) smell of other beings.
  - (c) sounds made by other beings.
  - (d) movements of other beings.

### PASSAGE—III

This rule of always trying to do things as well as one can do them has an important bearing upon the problem of ambition. No man or woman should be without ambition, which is the inspiration of activity. But if one allows ambition to drive one to attempt things which are beyond one's own personal capacity, then unhappiness will result. If one imagines that one can do everything better than other people, then envy and jealousy, those twin monsters, will come to sadden one's days. But if one concentrates one's attention upon developing one's own special capacities, the things one is best at, then one does not worry over much if other people are more successful.

96. Which one of the following alternatives brings out the meaning of 'to have a bearing upon' clearly ?
- (a) to have an effect on
  - (b) to carry the weight on oneself
  - (c) to put up with
  - (d) to decrease friction
97. Which one of the following statements is correct ?
- (a) There is a close relationship between ambition and activity.
  - (b) Ambition and activity belong to two different areas.
  - (c) Ambition is useless.
  - (d) Activity is responsible for ambition.

(Contd.)

✓ 98. The statement 'if one allows ambition to drive one to attempt things which are beyond one's own personal capacity, then unhappiness will result,' means that :

- ✓ (a) One must always try to do less than one's capacity.
- ✗ (b) One must always try to do more than one's capacity.
- ✗ (c) Ambition must be consistent with one's capacity.
- ✗ (d) There should be no ambition at all.

99. Which one of the following statements best reflects the underlying tone of the passage ?

- ✓ (a) One must do everything as well as one can.
- ✗ (b) One must try to be better than others.
- ✗ (c) One must continuously worry about others.
- ✗ (d) One must try beyond one's capacity to get results.

100. Which one of the following statements can be assumed to be true ?

- ✗ (a) It is good to imagine oneself better than others.
- ✓ (b) One should not imagine oneself always to be better than others.
- ✗ (c) All persons have equal capacity.
- ✗ (d) One should have more ambition than others.



109. All religions are to advance the cause of peace . in a holy partnership justice and freedom  
P Q R  
bound together  
S

The proper sequence should be :

- (a) PRQS
- (b) PQRS
- (c) SQPR
- (d) SPQR

110. Seventy-two people reports PTI were affected by food poisoning  
P Q  
including several women and children of the central part of the city  
R S

The proper sequence should be :

- (a) SPQR
- (b) PQRS
- (c) RSPQ
- (d) RSQP

111. The Prime Minister declared that those states will get all help and aid  
P Q  
where family planning is effected very efficiently  
R S

The proper sequence should be :

- (a) PRSQ
- (b) PQRS
- (c) RSPQ
- (d) QPSR

112. He had a long talk with the ...

(d) QPSR

112. Hardly had my brother descended from the plane when the people waved and cheered  
P Q

who had come to receive him from the lounge  
R S

The proper sequence should be :

- (a) PRQS
- (b) PQRS
- (c) SPQR
- (d) PRSQ

113. My friend when he was going to his office met with an accident on his scooter  
P Q R

due to rash driving  
S

The proper sequence should be :

- (a) PQRS
- (b) PRQS
- (c) SRQP
- (d) QSRP

114. The boy said I am not going to the school with my friends in the class room

P

Q

where my teacher scolds me

when I want to play

R

S

The proper sequence should be :

- (a) PQRS
- (b) PSQR
- (c) SQPR
- (d) PRSQ

115. Mohan, the son of my friend, gave me a set of pens which is very precious

P

Q

while working in Japan

who died in an accident

R

S

The proper sequence should be :

- (a) PQRS
- (b) SRPQ
- (c) RSPQ
- (d) SPQR

116. The clerk on the desk left the money in the safe which he should have locked up

P

Q

R

S

The proper sequence should be :

- (a) PQRS
- (b) RSPQ
- (c) QPRS
- (d) QPSR