



Functional English

Assessment of Fundamental Competencies
Model Paper

100 marks – 3 hours

Part – A (each question is of one mark)

Select the most appropriate antonym of the word in bold letters in the following sentences:

1. The sea is not **deep** near the coastline: it is _____.
(i) small (ii) shallow (iii) wide (iv) narrow
2. In spite of his substantial wealth he is extremely **miserable**. If I were in his shoes, I would be _____.
(i) grand (ii) glad (iii) generous (iv) durable
3. The lawyer advised the client to **reveal** the actual reasons for filing the case against the tenant. He asked the client, “How can I plead your case if you _____ facts which may be of critical importance for pursuing the case?”
(i) disclose (ii) retain (iii) hide (iv) manipulate
4. Salim was **clever** enough to be able to obtain admission in the prestigious college. Not being able to secure the ‘A’ grade has made him feel highly _____.
(i) insecure (ii) stupid (iii) guilty (iv) determined
5. The directions on the road map were very **precise**. However, we could not reach the destination in time because the new driver had _____ idea of the roads in the city.
(i) vague (ii) less (iii) limited (iv) restricted
6. It is **rude** for young children to fight amongst themselves on petty issues. They must learn to be _____.
(i) helpful (ii) polite (iii) honest (iv) good

Select the most appropriate synonym of the word in bold letters as used in the given sentences:

7. It was **obvious** that our team would win the third match.
(i) clear (ii) apparent (iii) tie (iv) outcome
8. Jogging in the fast moving traffic is a **bizarre** form of exercise.
(i) awful (ii) loathsome (iii) unsafe (iv) weird
9. It was very **considerate** of you to care for your elderly neighbour when she was confined to her home due to dengue fever.
(i) wise (ii) generous (iii) nice (iv) thoughtful
10. The **rigid** attitude of the new employee was a source of conflict in the organisation.
(i) bad (ii) aggressive (iii) inflexible (iv) intolerant
11. The delicious chicken dish was prepared by the **well known** chef from France.
(i) talented (ii) experienced (iii) famous (iv) knowledgeable
12. The prospects of constructing a 100 storey building in one year are **slim**.
(i) weak (ii) slender (iii) uncertain (iv) doubtful

13. The farmers have incurred huge losses due to the effect of the **toxic** fumes which have adversely affected the citrus orchards.
 (i) corrosive (ii) lethal (iii) poisonous (iv) dangerous

Select the most appropriate word to complete each of the sentences given below:

14. I am _____ because of your non-serious attitude towards your studies.
 (i) amused (ii) agonised (iii) annoyed (iv) incited
15. Houses in the _____ are usually more spacious than those in the large cities.
 (i) towns (ii) countries (iii) countryside (iv) villages
16. The keenly contested football match ended in a _____ draw in the final moments of the game.
 (i) late (ii) dramatic (iii) challenging (iv) quick
17. Development in medical science has played a _____ role in eradication of polio in most of the developing countries.
 (i) nominal (ii) considerable (iii) vital (iv) maximum
18. Your child has made no _____ progress in his performance at school.
 (i) positive (ii) noticeable (iii) big (iv) serious
19. Do not consider that he is your friend; assess his performance _____.
 (i) openly (ii) correctly (iii) deeply (iv) objectively
20. The new chandelier in the art gallery was _____ on the opening day of the painting exhibition.
 (i) illuminating (ii) glittering (iii) glazing (iv) glossing

Replace the underlined word(s) with the correct choice:

21. If less than thirty participants are registered, the workshop will be cancelled.
 (i) lesser than (ii) fewer than (iii) few than (iv) no change
22. Who are you trying to fool?
 (i) why (ii) which one (iii) whom (iv) whose
23. In the farewell party, your enthusiasm and participation was much appreciated.
 (i) should be (ii) were (iii) have been (iv) no change
24. It is estimated that one in four adults have reading difficulty.
 (i) has (ii) has had (iii) had (iv) have had
25. Generally, Asians prefer tea than coffee.
 (i) better (ii) from (iii) to (iv) over
26. I do not care if you stay or leave my company.
 (i) should (ii) whether (iii) would (iv) could

Select the idiom which is most relevant in the given sentence:

27. Munawar _____ when he saw the ferocious tiger approach the vehicle during the safari in Africa.
 (i) hit the ceiling (ii) had his heart in his mouth
 (iii) was left high and dry (iv) left no stone unturned

28. I do use strong language sometimes, but I know when to _____ and refrain from using offensive words.
 (i) beat around the bush (ii) get behind the scenes
 (iii) come to an end (iv) draw the line
29. We just cannot _____ and migrate to Australia.
 (i) fall foul of our family (ii) go through the mill
 (iii) strike while the iron is hot (iv) burn our boats
30. I have the courage to _____, in spite of the strong opposition from all the members of the committee.
 (i) take a leap in the dark (ii) bring my wits into play
 (iii) face the music (iv) call a spade a spade
31. Take it from me, Samad will be your dependable friend _____.
 (i) and be able to read between the lines (ii) and send you packing
 (iii) and put his best foot forward (iv) through thick and thin
32. The new police superintendent ordered that all criminal activities should be _____.
 (i) nipped in the bud (ii) declared null and void
 (iii) handled rank and file (iv) won hands down

Fill in the blank with the appropriate word:

33. By my fiftieth birthday, I _____ in my current profession for over twenty years.
 (i) will be (ii) will have been (iii) would be (iv) would have been
34. Until last year, it was the largest ship that _____.
 (i) was ever built (ii) has ever built (iii) has ever been built (iv) had ever been built
35. This non-government organization _____ twenty-five years ago.
 (i) found (ii) founded (iii) was found (iv) was founded
36. Neither the manager nor his subordinates _____ present at the meeting.
 (i) was (ii) would (iii) will be (iv) were
37. None of the tenants _____ paid their rent.
 (i) have (ii) has (iii) has been (iv) has had
38. The audience _____ returning to their seats after the interval.
 (i) had been (ii) is (iii) are (iv) will

Change the Direct and Indirect Speech of the following sentences:

39. "Do you know where Mrs. Ishrat would be staying in Karachi?" Samia asked me.
 40. "We have made major organisational changes and the company is now in a much stronger financial position." Mr. Khoker told the reporters.
 41. "We may start a van service for our office staff very soon." The supervisor told us.
 42. I asked him what time he would pick me.
 43. I asked the travel agent for some brochures.
 44. Sarah told her brother to be careful whilst crossing the road.

Change the Voice of the following sentences:

45. The house was searched by the police and the stolen goods recovered.
46. The new austerity measures were authorised by the board of directors.
47. The examination results were announced by the Board on July 25, 2011.
48. I have arranged a party for him.
49. Someone has stolen the apparatus.
50. The leaders are seeking a fair resolution to the crisis.

Part – B**Q.1 Write an essay of approximately 400 words on any one of the following topics:**

- (a) Good Education is essential for prosperity of the nation
- (b) Wealth does not necessarily bring happiness
- (c) Political Activism – Good or bad for the country

(20)**Q.2 Write a Précis of 125 words of the following passage. (Word count carries marks)**

A great defect of our civilization is that we do not know what to do with our knowledge. Science has given us unlimited powers, yet we often do not use them to our advantage. Machines are made to be man's servants; yet he has grown so dependent on them that they have become masters. Already, men spend most of their lives caring for and waiting upon machines. Machines are stern masters. They must be fed with fuel, washed and they must be kept at the right temperatures. And if they do not get their meals in time, they refuse to work and spread ruin and destruction all around them. So we have to wait upon them attentively and do all that we can to keep them in good temper. Already, we find it difficult either to work or play without the machines, and a time may come when they will rule us just as we rule the animals.

And this brings me to the question "What do we do with all the time which the machines have saved for us, and the new energy they have given us?" It must be admitted, we do very little. For the most part we use our time and energy to make more and better machines; but more and better machines will only give us still more time and still more energy, and what we do with them? The answer, I think, is that we should try to become more civilized. Remember that being civilized means making and linking beautiful things, thinking freely, and living rightly and maintaining justice between human beings. Man has a better chance today to do these things than ever before; he has more time, more energy and less to fear. If he give, time and energy which his machines have won for him to making more beautiful things, to finding out more and more about the universe, to removing the causes of conflicts between nations, to discovering how to eliminate poverty, then I think, our civilization would be more rewarding than it has ever been before.

(Total Word Count = 350) (14)**Q.3 Read the following passage and answer the questions at the end:**

Rapidly increasing environmental pollution has created a deep sense of awareness among the masses of the urgent need to safeguard our habitat. There are different types of pollution affecting our cities. However, our environmentalists have been giving more attention to air, water and noise pollution.

Air pollution in our major cities is mainly caused by emission of particulate matters by the vehicles, in the form of smoke. Location of cement, chemical, and steel plants in close proximity to the urban areas are also responsible for air pollution. In Pakistan, burning of coal, agricultural waste, used liquid fuel and discarded tyres by brick kilns also contribute towards air pollution. Air pollution results in diseases of lung cancer, chronic lung and respiratory problems, asthma and pre-mature births.

Discharge of urban and industrial waste in the rivers and canals and sewerage systems are major causes of water pollution. Water pollution is a major cause of diseases resulting from consumption of contaminated foodstuff.

The concern for noise pollution, which has reached alarming proportions in a number of important cities of the world, including Karachi, has been minimal. It is because of this apathy that the average noise-level in Karachi far exceeds the safe level of 55-60 decibels. In certain areas of the city, the noise levels during the day-time, have been recorded in excess of 100 decibels. Empirical studies reveal that excessive noise levels pose a grave threat to human health and cause a number of complications. In a well-researched study on the impact of high noise levels on human beings, it has been established that consistently high level of noise not only damages the ear drums, but also causes nausea, severe body pains and hypertension which may lead to nervous breakdown and ulcers.

The real cost of noise-induced loss to industry is considered to be far greater than that of most other occupational hazards. Declining productivity among workers in certain industries, such as stone crushing, heavy steel and metal stamping and aeronautical engineering is attributable to high noise levels which adversely affect the mental and physical health of the workers. Workers exposed to high intensities of noise for prolonged periods are often found to be irritable and tense and prone to react violently even to minor differences or disagreements. Extended periods of eight hours of daily exposure to high levels of noise can cause life-long deafness.

With growing environmental awareness, some countries in Europe are beginning to take the problems of noise most seriously. In the Netherlands, zoning regulations prohibit the construction of housing projects in areas which have high levels of noise pollution, like main highways or airports. In addition, construction of anti-noise surface-porous asphalt roads have reduced traffic noise by up to 5 decibels.

In the major cities of Pakistan, three-wheeler rickshaws, buses and trucks plying with defective silencers are the worst offenders. Besides, mechanical workshops in the residential areas also contribute to the menace of noise pollution. The citizens must take serious note of the threats posed by noise pollution and adopt measures and regulations to curb all kinds of noise pollution.

- (i) State *three* types of pollution mentioned in the passage. (1.5)
- (ii) Identify any *two* major causes of air pollution in Pakistan. (02)
- (iii) Name the different types of fuels that are used in brick kilns in Pakistan. (02)
- (iv) Identify *four* adverse effects of air pollution on human health. (02)
- (v) According to the passage, which types of industries create the most noise on the roads and residential areas of Pakistan? (1.5)
- (vi) Identify *four* types of dangers posed to human health by noise pollution. (02)
- (vii) How are industrial workers affected by high levels of noise? (03)
- (viii) What types of precautionary measures have been taken in the Netherlands to avoid noise pollution? (02)

(THE END)