



# Top 20 English Language Questions for ESIC UDC/ Steno (Free PDF)

**Directions:** Rearrange the following six sentences A, B, C, D, E and F in the proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph; then answer the questions given below.

A. But recent reports suggest President Barack Obama has decided to break out of this mould.

B. As all cricket fans know, in one-day cricket the leading batsman in the side often finds himself unable to score freely in the first 45 of the allotted 50 overs.

C. Mostly they act like lame ducks, as they are derisively referred to, engaging in warm and fuzzy non-controversial activities like presidential visits abroad, planning their presidential libraries and so on.

D. He is said to be considering taking some serious steps to push forward his disarmament and arms control agenda which, after a lot of promise and considerable initial success, had stalled in subsequent years.

E. He finally lets loose with his bat in the last five "slog" overs to make up for lost time, permitting himself bold and unconventional shots without fear that he might get out since the innings will end in five overs anyway.

F. Not all U.S. Presidents view their last few months in office as "slog" overs and turn hyperactive to reach their promised targets.

1. Which of the following will be the **Last** sentence?

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. F

2. Which of the following will be the **First** sentence?

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. F

3. Which of the following will be the **Third** sentence?

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. F

4. Which of the following will be the **Fourth** sentence?

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. F

5. Which of the following will be the **Second** sentence?

- A. A
- B. B
- C. C
- D. D
- E. E



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**Direction:** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

On the face of it, the Securities and Exchange Board of India's decision to slap a penalty of ₹ 7,269 crores, its highest ever, on PACL Ltd and its directors for mobilizing funds under an illegal collective investment scheme (CIS) may appear harsh. This is in addition to an earlier disgorgement order which directed the firm to refund ₹ 49,100 crores collected from investors. But PACL seems like a fit case for SEBI to levy deterrent penalties, given its long-running crusade against Ponzi operators who target the most vulnerable section of small savers. Over the last couple of years, SEBI has unearthed over 200 money-pooling schemes that hadn't registered with it, in violation of its CIS regulations. But PACL has been the largest and most blatant repeat offender under this law. The group is estimated to have raised ₹ 49,100 crores from over 5.85 crore investors, making it larger in scope than the Sahara scam.

PACL's modus operandi was to collect upfront payments from small investors in the villages of Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh for a scheme to 'develop' barren agricultural land situated in far-flung States. Investigations revealed that the scheme had all the hallmarks of a classic Ponzi operation. For one, though they were ostensibly buying land, PACL's

investors had no say either in the location or the development of the plots they bought. Two, plots across different regions were sold for identical prices, on the promise of fabulous returns. Worst of all, PACL did not even own 80 percent of the land that is sold. As these facts came to light, SEBI issued its first cease-and-desist notice to PACL in 1998.

But for the 16 years that followed, PACL adopted various dilatory tactics to stymie the regulator by refusing to comply with directives, failing to appear for hearings, and filing counterclaims in the high court, even as it continued to mobilize new money. Along the way, thanks to the somewhat ambiguous definition of a CIS under the original regulations, it even secured a favorable ruling from the Rajasthan High Court. It is only when this ruling was set aside by the Supreme Court last year that SEBI was able to proceed against PACL in full measure. Thankfully, the definition of a CIS has since been tightened, with any money-pooling involving a corpus of ₹ 100 crores or more, now requiring registration.

In imposing this penalty on PACL, SEBI has used its newly won powers under the Prevention of Fraudulent and Unfair Trade Practices Regulations, which specify a fine of up to three times the illegal profits made by perpetrators of fraud. Having imposed this mammoth



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disgorgement order and penalty though, the critical task ahead for SEBI would be to identify the actual small investors in PACL, so that the monies disgorged can be refunded to them. Little progress on this front has been made in the Sahara case. But a sound mechanism for restitution of lost money is a must-have if victims of financial fraud are to regain their faith in the system.

Source:

<https://www.thehindubusinessline.com>

6. Which among the following sentences is TRUE according to the passage?

(1) SEBI has imposed a penalty of Rs. 7000 cr. on PACL Ltd and its directors for mobilising funds under an illegal collective investment scheme.

(2) PACL group have raised Rs. 49,100 cr. from over 5.85 cr. people, under their Ponzi schemes.

(3) The CIS definition states that if a money pooling scheme has a corpus of over Rs. 100 cr, it has to be registered with SEBI.

A. Both 1 and 2

B. Only 2

C. Only 3

D. Both 2 and 3

E. All of the above

7. Which among the following were the wrong doings of PACL Ltd.?

A. PACL collected money from small investors for a scheme to 'develop' barren agricultural land.

B. The investors had no rights in the location or the development of the plots.

C. PACL didn't even own the lands which it sold to its investors.

D. Only B and C

E. All of the above

8. Which group, according to the author is most vulnerable to be tricked by the fraudulent schemes?

A. Small savers

B. New investors

C. Big investors

D. Illiterate people

E. Private employees

9. Which of the following is NOT TRUE regarding the PACL's scheme?

(1) Most of the land being sold by PACL was not even owned by it.

(2) The investors had a say in the land being bought.

(3) The scheme took investments from small rural investors.

A. Only 1

B. Only 2

C. Both 1 and 2

D. Only 3

E. None of these

10. Which among the following express the **OPPOSITE** meaning of the word "**Dilatory**" as given in the passage?

A. Backward

B. Procrastinating

C. Diligent

D. Laggard

E. Slack



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**Direction:** The following question carries a statement with a blank. The statement is followed by three phrases, more than one of which may fit in the blank. Choose the phrase(s) that can be placed in the blank to make the sentence grammatically correct and meaningful.

11. Everyone was so set on getting to their destination that I ended up having to lean up against a wall, trying so hard to breathe,

- \_\_\_\_\_.
- i. until the crowd dispersed.
  - ii. until there was more calm around me.
  - iii. until there were hoards of people around me.
- A. Only i                      B. Only ii  
C. Both i and ii          D. Both ii and iii  
E. All of the above

**Direction:** A statement with one blank is given below. Choose the set of words from the given options which can be used to fill the given blank.

12. The story of this small community is one of the \_\_\_\_\_ by the state.

- i. erasures instigated
  - ii. unjust obliteration of pieces of evidence
  - iii. misconduct of information
- A. Only i  
B. Only ii  
C. Both i and ii  
D. Both ii and iii  
E. All of the above

**Direction:** A statement with one blank is given below. Choose the set of words from the given options which can be used to fill the given blank.

13. There is something behind \_\_\_\_\_ the king him-self.

- i. dethrone of the
  - ii. the throne greater than
  - iii. and ahead of time
- A. Only i  
B. Only ii  
C. Both i and ii  
D. Both ii and iii  
E. All of the above

**Direction:** A statement carrying one blank is given below. Choose the phrase(s) which can fill the blank to make the sentence grammatically correct and meaningful.

14. He shrugged whimsically, his eyes crinkling \_\_\_\_\_.

- i. beyond his spectacles
  - ii. behind his foresight
  - iii. behind his glasses
- A. Only i  
B. Only iii  
C. Both i and ii  
D. Both ii and iii  
E. All of these





**Direction:** A statement with one blank is given below. Choose the set of words from the given options which can be used to fill in the given blank.

15. The radio had been stolen, but otherwise we got the \_\_\_\_\_.

- i. car backed into one piece
  - ii. car fixed in one piece
  - iii. car back in one piece
- A. Only i  
B. Only iii  
C. Both i and ii  
D. Both ii and iii  
E. All of the above

**Direction:** Read the sentence to find out whether there is any error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number corresponding to that part will be your answer. If the given sentence is correct, mark the answer as "No error". Ignore the errors of punctuation, if any.

16. Information about Hindi and Urdu literature (1)/ and litterateurs shall be (2)/ transferred to the next generation (3)/ in digital form, said the minister. (4)

- A. 1  
B. 2  
C. 3  
D. 4  
E. No error

**Direction:** Read the sentence to find out whether there is an error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number corresponding to that part will be your answer. If the given sentence is correct as given, mark option E, i.e. "No error" as the answer. Ignore the errors of punctuation.

17. Illegal sand mining has become (1)/ a boom business fuelled (2)/ by the ever-increasing demand (3)/ of the construction industry. (4)

- A. 1  
B. 2  
C. 3  
D. 4  
E. No error

**Direction:** Read the sentence to find out whether there is any error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number corresponding to that part will be your answer. If the given sentence is correct as it is, mark the answer as "No error". Ignore the errors of punctuation if any.

18. Difficult circumstances forced (1)/ them to stay in the (2)/ jungle, where they did (3)/ not find nothing to eat. (4)

- A. 1  
B. 2  
C. 3  
D. 4  
E. No error



**Direction:** In the given question, a sentence is divided into five parts out of which the last part is correct. Out of the remaining four, there are errors in three parts. Choose the part which doesn't have an error. If all the four parts are correct, mark E i.e. All are correct as the answer.

19. These question is the concern (A)/ of every stakeholder in this rewarding journey of (B)/ education – a journey that never end, (C)/ and where every stages of life is filled with (D)/ **numerous opportunities and challenges.** (E)

- A. These question is the concern
- B. of every stakeholder in this rewarding journey of
- C. education – a journey that never end
- D. and where every stages of life is filled with
- E. All are correct

**Direction:** In the given question, a sentence is divided into five parts out of which the last part is correct. Out of the remaining four, there are errors in three parts. Choose the part which doesn't have an error. If all the four parts are correct, mark E i.e. All are correct as the answer.

20. Women lose their delicacy in refinement, (A)/ when they are being compelled night and day (B)/ to haggle with their destiny (C)/ at things which are pitifully small, and (D)/ **for this they are blamed by those for whom they toil.** (E)

- A. Women lose their delicacy in refinement,
- B. when they are being compelled night and day
- C. to haggle with their destiny
- D. at things which are pitifully small, and
- E. All are correct



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## ANSWERS

1. Ans. D.

While arranging sentences in a meaningful paragraph we should first understand the central theme of the passage. Here, presidential activities are being compared to the way cricketers play. To draw out the comparison we should first explain the cricketer's way of playing only then will the comparison be logical. Hence, the first statement should be B which serves as an introductory sentence. Next should be statement E which is a continuing statement to B (talks about the last five overs). The next statement should be F which is similar in context to sentence E (about the last five over's slog and its comparison to the president's activities). Next should be statement C which is a continuing statement of the activities performed. It should be followed by sentence A which brings a contrast in the usually followed path. Last should be statement D.(referring to 'he' used for Obama). Hence, the correct sequence is BEFCAD.

Refer to the last question of the series.

2. Ans. B.

While arranging sentences in a meaningful paragraph we should first understand the central theme of the passage. Here, presidential activities are being compared to the

way cricketers play. To draw out the comparison we should first explain the cricketer's way of playing only then will the comparison be logical. Hence, the first statement should be B which serves as an introductory sentence. Next should be statement E which is a continuing statement to B (talks about the last five overs). The next statement should be F which is similar in context to sentence E (about the last five over's slog and its comparison to the president's activities). Next should be statement C which is a continuing statement of the activities performed. It should be followed by sentence A which brings a contrast in the usually followed path. Last should be statement D.(referring to 'he' used for Obama). Hence, the correct sequence is BEFCAD.

Therefore, the correct answer is option B.

3. Ans. E.

While arranging sentences in a meaningful paragraph we should first understand the central theme of the passage. Here, presidential activities are being compared to the way cricketers play. To draw out the comparison we should first explain the cricketer's way of playing only then will the comparison be logical. Hence, the first statement should be B which serves as an introductory



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sentence. Next should be statement E which is a continuing statement to B (talks about the last five overs). The next statement should be F which is similar in context to sentence E (about the last five over's slog and its comparison to the president's activities). Next should be statement C which is a continuing statement of the activities performed. It should be followed by sentence A which brings a contrast in the usually followed path. Last should be statement D.(referring to 'he' used for Obama). Hence, the correct sequence is BEFCAD. Therefore, the correct answer is option E.

4. Ans. C.

While arranging sentences in a meaningful paragraph we should first understand the central theme of the passage. Here, presidential activities are being compared to the way cricketers play. To draw out the comparison we should first explain the cricketer's way of playing only then will the comparison be logical. Hence, the first statement should be B which serves as an introductory sentence. Next should be statement E which is a continuing statement to B (talks about the last five overs). The next statement should be F which is similar in context to sentence E (about the last five over's slog and its comparison to the president's activities). Next should be statement C which is a continuing statement of the activities performed. It should be followed by sentence A which brings a contrast in the usually followed

path. Last should be statement D.(referring to 'he' used for Obama). Hence, the correct sequence is BEFCAD.

Therefore, the correct answer is option C.

5. Ans. E.

While arranging sentences in a meaningful paragraph we should first understand the central theme of the passage. Here, presidential activities are being compared to the way cricketers play. To draw out the comparison we should first explain the cricketer's way of playing only then will the comparison be logical. Hence, the first statement should be B which serves as an introductory sentence. Next should be statement E which is a continuing statement to B (talks about the last five overs). The next statement should be F which is similar in context to sentence E (about the last five over's slog and its comparison to the president's activities). Next should be statement C which is a continuing statement of the activities performed. It should be followed by sentence A which brings a contrast in the usually followed path. Last should be statement D.(referring to 'he' used for Obama). Hence, the correct sequence is BEFCAD.

Therefore, the correct answer is option E.



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6. Ans. D.

Statement 1 is incorrect as it has been mentioned in the introductory paragraph that SEBI has imposed a penalty of Rs. 7,269 cr. on PACL Ltd and its directors for mobilising funds under an illegal collective investment scheme.

Statement 2 has been mentioned at the end of the first paragraph.

Statement 3 has been mentioned at the end of the second paragraph.

Thus the correct response is option D as it includes both the correct statements.

7. Ans. E.

The second paragraph talks about the details of the scheme and also the way PACL has duped the investors. All the options have been mentioned in the paragraph and thus the correct response is option E which considers all the options.

8. Ans. A.

The author in the first paragraph makes it a point that the 'small savers' segment is the most vulnerable to the frauds like the Ponzi schemes.

So, the correct response is option A.

9. Ans. B.

The scheme put forward by PACL has been described in the second paragraph. While statements 1 and 3 are in accordance with the data given in the paragraph, option 2 is in complete contrast with the data

and thus option B is the correct response.

10. Ans. C.

'Dilatory' means intended to cause a delay.

'Procrastinating' means to delay or postpone action; put off doing something.

'Diligent' means having or showing care and conscientiousness in one's work or duties.

'Laggard' means a person who makes slow progress and falls behind others.

'Slack' means having or showing laziness or negligence.

Hence option C is the correct response.

11. Ans. C.

The sentence talks about the speaker finding it difficult to cope with the crowd around him.

"until the crowds dispersed" is correct because it implies that the speaker found peace only when there was less crowd around him.

"until there was more calm around me" is correct because it implies the same thing as the previous snippet.

"until there were hoardes of people around me" is incorrect because it implies that the speaker found peace only when there was crowd around him, which doesn't make sense.

Thus, C is the correct option.



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12. Ans. C.

The sentence talks about a story revolving around a small community whose identity has been erased by the government.

"erasures instigated" perfectly fits into the blank as it completes the sentence and makes perfect sense.

"unjust obliteration of pieces of evidence" is correct too as obliteration means deletion or destruction. The finished sentence means that the evidence supporting the community has been erased by the government.

"misconduct of information" cannot be used here as the word "misconduct" means bad conduct which is not the case here, and thus the sentence does not make sense. Thus, C is the correct answer.

13. Ans. B.

Here only option B is correct. It is the only option that makes the sentence logical. While "dethrone of the" doesn't make any sense, option iii makes the sentence grammatically incorrect.

Option i: dethrone means take the throne away from the king

Option ii: it is talking about something which is greater the king himself

Option iii: something which is ahead of time

14. Ans. B.

"Crinkle" means wrinkle. Someone's eyes would perform actions behind

his/ her glasses. Thus, only alternative (iii) is correct.

15. Ans. B.

Only option B is logical. It means that the subject got the car back without much damage.

Option i: car is reversed into one piece

Option ii: car repaired one piece. Also doesn't make sense. Repairing itself means bringing the car into one piece.

Option iii: car is received without much damage.

16. Ans. B.

'Shall' is used to express certain rules or laws and 'should' is used to express personal opinion. In the context of the passage, it is clear that the suggestion made is a personal opinion. So, 'shall' needs to be replaced with 'should'. Hence, option B is the correct response.

17. Ans. B.

The error lies in the second part of the sentence.

"Boom" can either be used as a noun, a verb or an adjective. The given segment already has a noun i.e. "business" and the word "boom" here describes the business (works as an adjective). Hence, it should be replaced by its adjective form i.e. "booming" which means having a period of great prosperity or rapid economic growth. Thus, option B is the right response.



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18. Ans. D.

The error is in the fourth part of the sentence. Here double negatives have been used which make the sentence redundant. Thus, "nothing" should be replaced by "anything". Hence, option D is the correct response.

19. Ans. B.

Option B is the correct option. The errors in the other parts are as follows:

A- "These" is a plural determiner. Hence, either "questions are" should be used or "This" should be used as the determiner.

C- Here "journey" is the subject which is singular, hence, the verb should be singular. Thus, "ends" should be used instead of "end".

D- "Every" should take a singular verb after it. Thus, "stage" should be used.

20. Ans. C.

Only C is correct.

The error in A is the preposition 'in' which needs to be replaced with 'and' to connect the two traits 'delicacy' and 'refinement' and convey the correct meaning.

The error in B is the tense 'being compelled' and must be replaced with the verb 'compelled' in simple past tense.

The error in part D of the sentence is the preposition 'at' which is incorrect and must be replaced with 'over' to make the sentence correct. People 'haggle over' things and not 'at'



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