

# SBI Clerk 2018 English Language Previous Year Ques. Paper

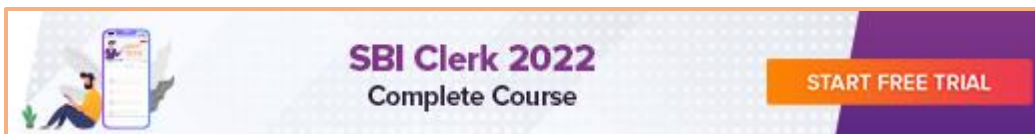
**Direction:** Read the given passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. Certain words are printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some of these.

Ever have that moment filled with immense disappointment when your goals could not be accomplished, and your **dreams seem all but a figment of your imagination**. Too many pupils, it is the feeling you get, when deep down you knew your potential and how hard you had studied yet you still feel that your result was not a true reflection of your hard work. It is doing 100 maths sums before an exam and barely passing, it is spending **numerous** hours on a project and only attaining a C, it is killing yourself on the sports field and yet failing to make the first team and for many matriculants, it is that depressing moment that, now when your results matter most, you have failed to deliver.

You are consumed with self-doubt as to whether you were justified in making certain career decisions. You wonder whether you are clever enough, talented enough, physically and psychologically fit enough to pursue your aspirations. Basically, you stop believing in yourself and it is at that exact moment that your dreams become **unattainable**. Because if you really think about it you are all you've got. People could tell you you're the future Einstein, but the words are pointless if it fails

to convince the little voice inside your head. You control that little voice and thus you control your destiny.

So if you are feeling exhausted and disheartened at the end of a tiring term, give yourself the opportunity to make peace with the fact that you cannot change your shortcomings. Thereafter start deciding how you would like to **redeem** yourself. Don't get trapped feeling sorry yourself but instead set yourself greater challenges. The only thing worse than failing is not learning from it. Try to establish what your strengths are and improve and cultivate those strengths instead of focusing on your weaknesses. In my opinion, trying to work your weaknesses to the level of your strengths is a good thing but makes you fairly average whilst nurturing your strengths and mastering them makes you exceptional. Do yourself a huge favour and stop measuring your success and capabilities according to that of others because we're all unique with a diversity of talents. The fact that she is a maths boffin does not make you stupid and the fact that he gives a cheetah a run for its money does not mean you're not athletic. We all have a little genius in us just in our special way. Einstein once said "**Everybody is a genius**. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree it will spend its whole life believing that is stupid". So, Settlers, do not sell



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yourself short by restricting your success to the achievements of others. You owe yourself more than that! Do not allow your failures to dampen your positive attitude but use it as an inspiration to try harder and most importantly eliminate the perception that failure is a bad thing. It merely tests your strength of character. Go out there and show failure what you're made of!

1. What does the phenomenon of self-doubt indicate?

- A. That you have become self-obsessed.
- B. That you have lost faith in everyone.
- C. That you have started to believe that others cannot help you.
- D. That you have stopped believing in yourself.
- E. None of these.

2. What does the following lines stated by Einstein imply?

““Everybody is a genius. But if you judge a fish by its ability to climb a tree it will spend its whole life believing that is stupid””

- A. There are people who cannot climb a tree but can definitely swim.
- B. Everybody is unique, and everyone's potential should be realised before declaring them incapable or stupid.
- C. If you identify someone's uniqueness, that person will be ashamed of his/ her uniqueness throughout his/ her life.

D. There are certain capabilities which are possessed by everyone irrespective of their potential.

E. None of these.

3. Which of the following is the MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the given word?

**Redeem**

- A. Shed
- B. Rescue
- C. Dissipate
- D. Prepare
- E. Distinguish

4. Which of the following is the MOST SIMILAR in meaning to the given word?

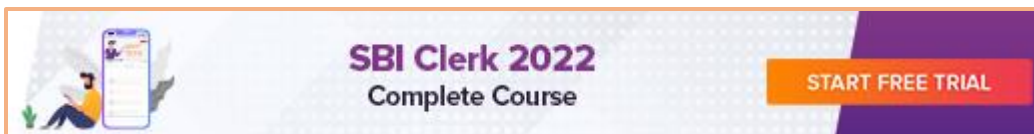
**Numerous**

- A. Gigantic
- B. Occasional
- C. Umpteen
- D. Infrequent
- E. Exotic

**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. If the given sentence is correct as it is, the answer is 'No error'. Ignore the errors of punctuation, if any.

5. The ruling party stood (1)/ for implementation of the bill (2)/ and was ready to (3)/ stake their political existence. (4)

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



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**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. If the given sentence is correct as it is, the answer is 'No error'. Ignore the errors of punctuation, if any.

6. Delegation is the transfer of (1)/ authority through superior to subordinate (2)/ at different levels (3)/ in an organized sector. (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. If the given sentence is correct as it is, the answer is 'No error'. Ignore the errors of punctuation, if any.

7. It must be noted that (1)/ decentralization should be applied (2)/ along with caution as it can (3)/ lead to organizational disintegration. (4)

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

**Direction:** A sentence with one blank is given, indicating that something has been omitted. Choose the word that best fits the blank appropriately.

8. One has to be very \_\_\_\_\_ during the monsoons as the roads become slippery.

- A. Smart
- B. Cautious
- C. Presentable
- D. Prepare
- E. Healthy

**Direction:** A sentence with one blank is given, indicating that something has been omitted. Choose the word that best fits the blank appropriately.

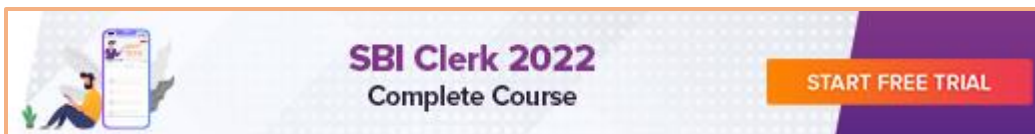
9. The judge used his \_\_\_\_\_ in settling the matter.

- A. Know
- B. Tactics
- C. Discretion
- D. Brains
- E. Bias

**Direction:** A sentence with one blank is given, indicating that something has been omitted. Choose the word that best fits the blank appropriately.

10. The Board members could not arrive at a unanimous \_\_\_\_\_ on the issue.

- A. Judgement
- B. Progress
- C. Policy
- D. Dissent
- E. Action

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**Direction:** In the given question, a statement divided into different segments is given. The first segment is fixed. Rearrange the other segments to form a coherent statement.

11. **It was hard for the Afghans/** leading to the subtle plummeting of the morale (P)/ to withstand the wave after wave of enemy attacks (Q)/ their plight further worsened the situation (R)/ and the indifference of the allies towards (S)

- A. QSRP
- B. PQRS
- C. RQPS
- D. SRPQ
- E. RQSP

**Direction:** In the given question, a statement divided into different segments is given. The first segment is fixed. Rearrange the other segments to form a coherent statement.

12. **The federation was keen on maintaining an/** exclusive membership profile and thus introduced (P)/ segregational policies adopted by premier organizations (Q)/ an invite-only policy for the new entrants (R)/ causing a sudden outcry against the (S)

- A. PRSQ
- B. SRPQ
- C. PQRS
- D. QSRP
- E. SQRP

**Direction:** In the given question, a statement divided into different segments is given. The first segment is fixed. Rearrange the other segments to form a coherent statement.

13. **Introduction of the finance bill was delayed/** budget allocation for the cottage (P)/ debating over the renewal of the last year's (Q)/ by a week as the lawmakers were busy (R)/ industry which got wasted (S)

- A. PQRS
- B. SPQR
- C. RQPS
- D. QRPS
- E. RSQP


**Direction:** In the following question, a sentence containing an idiom/ phrase is given. Choose the alternative that best expresses the meaning of the idiom/phrase.

14. The teacher **looked over** my homework and found it very well put together.

- A. Watched
- B. Pioneered
- C. Suspected
- D. Belittled
- E. Examined

**Direction:** In the following question, a sentence containing an idiom/ phrase is given. Choose the alternative that best expresses the meaning of the idiom/phrase.

15. I **heard it on the grapevine** that the vacancies are going to be increased this year for many posts.



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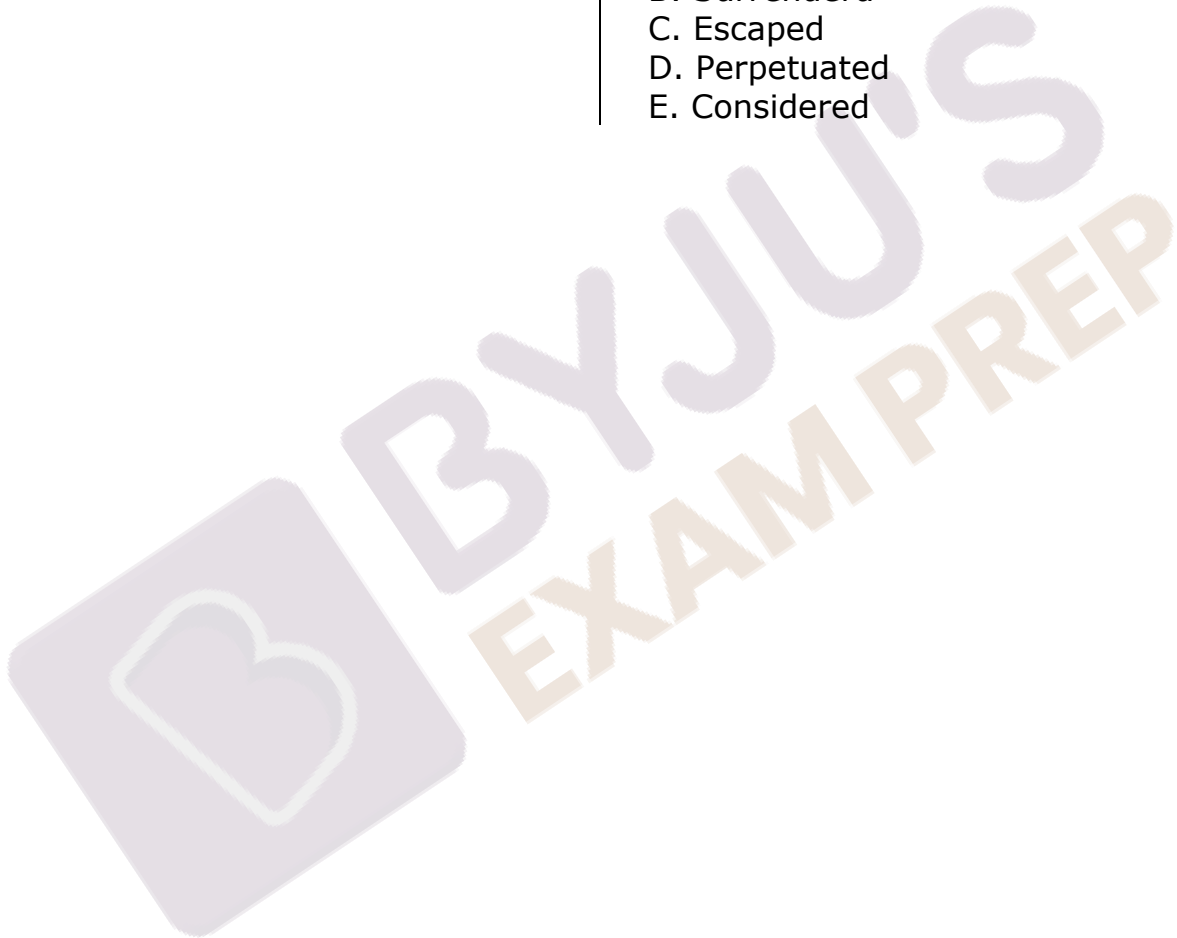



- A. To hear some official news about something
- B. To inform people about something
- C. To acquire information through an unofficial or informal means
- D. To be sure of something
- E. To deny a fact

**Direction:** In the following question, a sentence containing an idiom/ phrase is given. Choose the alternative that best expresses the meaning of the idiom/phrase.

16. The prisoners **broke out** of jail when the guards weren't looking.

- A. Raised
- B. Surrenderd
- C. Escaped
- D. Perpetuated
- E. Considered



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## ANSWERS

1. Ans. D.

According to the second paragraph of the passage, "You are consumed with self-doubt as to whether you were justified in making certain career decisions... Basically, you stop believing in yourself..." Thus, option D is the correct answer.

2. Ans. B.

The quote by Einstein asserts that a fish who lives in water and has the ability to swim cannot be judged in terms of how good it is at climbing trees. Similarly, every person is unique and possesses unique qualities and cannot be termed stupid if he/ she is not able to excel in some other task. Thus, the uniqueness/ potential of every person should be realised before calling them incapable.

3. Ans. B.

Redeem— rescue, save

Shed— discharge

Rescue— save

Dissipate— disappear

Distinguish— differentiate

Thus, option B is the correct answer.

4. Ans. C.

Numerous— many

Gigantic— huge

Occasional— irregular

Umpteen— indefinitely many; a lot of

Infrequent— irregular

Exotic— foreign

Clearly, option C is the correct answer.

5. Ans. D.

The error lies in the 4th part of the sentence. The subject is 'the ruling party' which is singular; hence 'their' should be replaced by 'its' as their is a possessive pronoun for plural subjects and its is the possessive for singular subjects.

6. Ans. B.

The error lies in the second part of the sentence.

The correct usage for transfer is 'from.....to.....' and not 'through.....to.....'.

Hence, 'through' must be replaced with 'from'.

7. Ans. C.

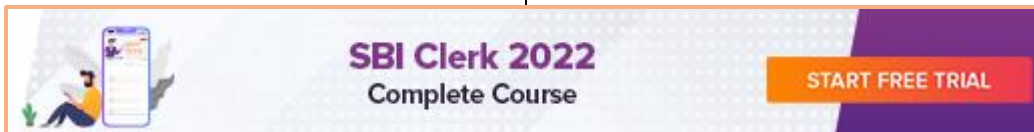
The error lies in the third part of the sentence.

The word 'along' is unnecessary and must be omitted.

Along denotes accompaniment. The context of the sentence doesn't talk about accompaniment.

8. Ans. B.

'Cautious' can be used to make the sentence meaningful which means alert or be careful. The context of the statement is that the monsoon is a bit troublesome due to slippery roads and need to be navigated with care. 'Prepare' uses the incorrect form of grammar. 'Smart' may appear to be correct, but we need to choose the most suitable response which in this case is 'cautious'.



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Hence, option B is the correct answer.

9. Ans. C.

To settle a dispute, one needs to have a sound decision-making ability to be able to judge both the sides. Also, a judge is a free body to decide upon any issue.

'Know' is a verb which means to be aware of through observation, inquiry, or information.

'Tactics' refer to an action or strategy carefully planned to achieve a specific end. A judge doesn't need tactics to make a judgment.

'Discretion' means the freedom to decide what should be done in a particular situation.

'Brains' refer to the intellectual capacity.

'Bias' means inclination or prejudice for or against one person or group, especially in a way considered to be unfair.

Hence option C is the correct response.

10. Ans. A.

Judgement means the ability to make considered decisions or come to sensible conclusions.

Progress means advancement.

Policy means a strategy or an approach.

Dissent means lack of approval.

Action means activity.

The Board members are usually involved in making decisions/judgements. "Unanimous" is an adjective which means (of two or more people) fully in the

agreement. It can appropriately modify the noun 'judgement'. No other word except 'judgement' makes sense in the given context. Hence, 'judgement' is the correct answer.

11. Ans. A.

Clearly, only segment Q fits after the first segment. This eliminates all the options except A.

Option B: It is incorrect because it ends in S which ends in 'towards' which can't be used to any statement.

Option C: It is incorrect for the same reason as option B.

Option D: 'towards their plight further worsened' makes no sense; hence it can be eliminated.

Option E: R is a clear misfit after the first segment; hence it can also be eliminated.

Hence, the correct sequence is QSRP.

12. Ans. A.

'an' at the end of the first fixed segment indicates that Q, R and S can't follow the first segment.

This leaves us with only one choice i.e. P.

This eliminates options B, D, and E. There are only two such options: option A and C.

Option C can be eliminated since part S ends with 'the' which can't be used as the end of the master statement.

Hence, the correct sequence is PRSQ.



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13. Ans. C.

This question can be best solved by the elimination technique.

'was delayed budget allocation', 'was delayed industry which' and 'was delayed debating over' do not make sense; hence P, Q and S can't follow the first segment.

This eliminates options A, B and D. Option E places S after R which makes the resultant segment as 'lawmakers were busy industry' which is illogical; hence option E can also be eliminated.

Hence, the correct sequence is RQPS.

14. Ans. E.

"Look over" means to examine something. The correct answer is option E.

"Belittle" means to undervalue someone or something.

"Pioneer" means to introduce or start.


15. Ans. C.

The idiom "to hear it on the grapevine" means to hear about something from informal communication or to hear a gossip/ rumour. The above sentence talks about the rumour that is spread about the number of vacancies for various posts. Hence, option C is correct.

16. Ans. C.

A forcible escape from a prison is called a breakout. The past participle of "break" is "broke". The correct answer is option C.

"Perpetuate" means to preserve or continue. Hence option C is the correct response.



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