

CUET 2025 May 29 English Question Paper with Solutions

Time Allowed :1 Hours	Maximum Marks :250	Total questions :50
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General Instructions

Read the following instructions very carefully and strictly follow them:

1. The test is of 1 hour duration.
2. The question paper consists of 50 questions. The maximum marks are 250.
3. 5 marks are awarded for every correct answer, and 1 mark is deducted for every wrong answer.

1. In the sentence “Her response was so equivocal that no one could ascertain her true intentions,” the word “equivocal” most nearly means:

- (A) Clear and concise
- (B) Purposefully vague
- (C) Emotionally charged
- (D) Aggressively critical

Correct Answer: (B) Purposefully vague

Solution: The word “equivocal” is used to describe a response that does not clearly convey the speaker’s position or intention. In the context of the sentence — “no one could ascertain her true intentions” — it suggests that the response was unclear on purpose.

- (A) “Clear and concise” is the opposite of “equivocal.”
- (C) “Emotionally charged” refers to strong emotions, which is not implied in the sentence.
- (D) “Aggressively critical” indicates hostility, which is also not relevant here.

Thus, “Purposefully vague” (B) best captures the meaning of “equivocal” in this context.

Quick Tip

Look for context clues in the sentence. Words like “no one could ascertain” point to ambiguity — a strong hint that the correct meaning involves vagueness or uncertainty.

2. All poets are dreamers. Some dreamers are not realists. Therefore, which of the following must be true?

- (A) Some poets are not realists.
- (B) All dreamers are poets.
- (C) Some realists are not poets.
- (D) None of the above.

Correct Answer: (D) None of the above

Solution: The two premises are:

1. All poets are dreamers. (i.e., $\text{Poets} \subseteq \text{Dreamers}$)
2. Some dreamers are not realists.

Let's analyze the options:

(A) "Some poets are not realists": Not necessarily true. Poets are dreamers, and some dreamers are not realists, but we don't know if those specific dreamers include poets.

(B) "All dreamers are poets": This reverses the first statement. We know all poets are dreamers, but not all dreamers are poets.

(C) "Some realists are not poets": We have no information about the set of realists in relation to poets.

Therefore, none of the options (A), (B), or (C) must be true.

Quick Tip

Translate logical statements into Venn diagrams or subsets. Be cautious of reversing or generalizing conditional statements unless clearly supported.

3. The novel was a masterful exploration of identity, filled with ____ descriptions and a ____ narrative that blurred the line between reality and imagination.

(A) mundane, fragmented

(B) vivid, immersive

(C) obscure, abrupt

(D) flat, disjointed

Correct Answer: (B) vivid, immersive

Solution: The sentence sets a positive and artistic tone with phrases like "masterful exploration" and "blurred the line between reality and imagination." This suggests the novel is engaging and rich in sensory detail.

(A) "Mundane, fragmented" and

(C) "Obscure, abrupt" and

(D) "Flat, disjointed" all have negative connotations and do not fit the context of a "masterful" and imaginative narrative.

Only (B) "vivid, immersive" complements the described experience and maintains the tone of praise.

Quick Tip

When completing sentences, always align your word choices with the tone and intent of the surrounding context — especially adjectives and adverbs.

4. Rearrange the following parts to form a meaningful and grammatically correct sentence:

P. to innovate continuously

Q. is what sets

R. a successful company

S. apart from its competitors

(1) PQRS

(2) RQSP

(3) RPQS

(4) QRSP

Correct Answer: (2) RQSP

Solution: Step 1: Identify the subject and verb.

The subject is clearly “a successful company” (R), and the verb phrase “is what sets” (Q) follows it. This makes “RQ” a logical beginning.

Step 2: Identify the remaining meaningful connectors.

What sets the company apart is its ability “to innovate continuously” (P), and it is being compared with “its competitors” (S). So the logical order is:

$$R \rightarrow Q \rightarrow S \rightarrow P$$

Step 3: Combine for full sentence.

“A successful company is what sets apart from its competitors to innovate continuously.” — This is grammatically incorrect.

Correction:

Actually, correct sequence is:

“A successful company is what sets it apart from its competitors: to innovate continuously.”

So correct order is: RQSP

Quick Tip

While solving rearrangement problems, always start by finding the subject and the main verb. Then look for logical connectors and purpose clauses.

5. Choose the sentence in which the idiom "to turn a blind eye" is used correctly:

- (1) She turned a blind eye to the bright sunlight and put on her sunglasses.
- (2) He turned a blind eye when he missed the road sign.
- (3) The manager turned a blind eye to the employee's repeated tardiness.
- (4) She turned a blind eye to read the fine print on the contract.

Correct Answer: (3) The manager turned a blind eye to the employee's repeated tardiness.

Solution: Step 1: Understand the meaning of the idiom.

"To turn a blind eye" means to deliberately ignore something wrong or undesirable.

Step 2: Evaluate each option.

- (1) and (4) are literal uses, not idiomatic.
- (2) suggests a mistake, not a deliberate act.
- (3) fits the idiom: the manager is deliberately ignoring a fault.

Quick Tip

Idioms often have non-literal meanings. Always interpret them contextually rather than word-by-word.

6. Choose the word that is closest in meaning to "inscrutable":

- (1) Transparent
- (2) Mysterious
- (3) Predictable
- (4) Defiant

Correct Answer: (2) Mysterious

Solution: Step 1: Understand the meaning of the word "inscrutable".

"Inscrutable" means something that is impossible to understand or interpret.

Step 2: Find the synonym.

Transparent → Easy to understand (opposite meaning)

Mysterious → Difficult to interpret or understand → Correct

Predictable → Opposite of mysterious

Defiant → Showing resistance, unrelated

Quick Tip

Always eliminate antonyms first when solving synonym questions. It narrows down the choices quickly.

7. Choose the word that is opposite in meaning to "magnanimous":

(1) Generous

(2) Petty

(3) Noble

(4) Tolerant

Correct Answer: (2) Petty

Solution: Step 1: Understand the word "magnanimous".

"Magnanimous" means generous or forgiving, especially toward a rival or someone less powerful.

Step 2: Identify the opposite.

Generous, Noble, and Tolerant all share similar meanings.

Petty means small-minded, mean, or spiteful — opposite of generous and forgiving.

Quick Tip

When identifying antonyms, focus on the emotional or moral tone of the word. "Magnanimous" has a noble tone, so its antonym will be low or mean-spirited.

8. Though the scientist's theory was initially dismissed as absurd, it gradually gained _____ as more experimental data began _____ to its predictions.

(1) recognition, corroborate

- (2) notoriety, oppose
- (3) clarity, undermine
- (4) irrelevance, validate

Correct Answer: (1) recognition, corroborate

Solution: Step 1: Read the sentence context.

The theory was initially dismissed but then gradually gained something positive as more data supported it.

Step 2: Evaluate word pairs.

”Recognition” means acknowledgment and ”corroborate” means to support — both fit.

”Notoriety” implies negative fame — not suitable.

”Clarity” is neutral and ”undermine” contradicts support.

”Irrelevance” contradicts the idea of support, and ”validate” mismatches.

Quick Tip

Look for logical consistency across blanks. Both blanks should reflect the same tone and flow with the context of the sentence.

9. Rearrange the parts to form a coherent sentence:

P. remained largely unexplored

Q. until technological advances

R. the depths of the ocean

S. enabled deep-sea navigation

(1) RPQS

(2) QSRP

(3) PRSQ

(4) RQSP

Correct Answer: (1) RPQS

Solution: Step 1: Identify the subject.

”The depths of the ocean” (R) is the logical subject. What about them?

Step 2: Follow the flow.

RP: ”The depths of the ocean remained largely unexplored”

Q: “until technological advances”

S: “enabled deep-sea navigation”

Combining:

The depths of the ocean remained largely unexplored until technological advances enabled deep-sea navigation.

Quick Tip

When rearranging, always start with a clear subject and verb. Follow with conditions, causes, or results in natural order.

10. Identify the correct use of the idiom “bite the bullet”:

- (A) She bit the bullet and ignored the doctor’s advice.
- (B) He bit the bullet and finally accepted the unpleasant assignment.
- (C) They bit the bullet by throwing a lavish party.
- (D) She bit the bullet before making a wish on her birthday.

Correct Answer: (B) He bit the bullet and finally accepted the unpleasant assignment.

Solution: Step 1: Understand the idiom “bite the bullet.” It means to endure something difficult or unpleasant that cannot be avoided.

Step 2: Evaluate each option:

- (A) Ignoring advice is a choice, not necessarily enduring difficulty.
- (B) Accepting an unpleasant assignment reflects facing a tough task — correct use.
- (C) Throwing a lavish party isn’t unpleasant — incorrect.
- (D) Making a wish is unrelated to enduring difficulty.

Step 3: (B) is the only one that matches the true meaning of the idiom.

Quick Tip

Idioms often describe metaphorical actions. “Bite the bullet” = face hardship bravely or accept a difficult reality.

11. Choose the word closest in meaning to “ephemeral”:

- (A) Everlasting
- (B) Temporary
- (C) Unchangeable
- (D) Fragile

Correct Answer: (B) Temporary

Solution: Step 1: Know the meaning of “ephemeral” – lasting for a very short time.

Step 2: Check each option:

- (A) “Everlasting” means forever — opposite of ephemeral.
- (B) “Temporary” means not permanent — matches the meaning — correct.
- (C) “Unchangeable” refers to constancy, not duration.
- (D) “Fragile” refers to breakability, not time span.

Step 3: (B) is the most accurate synonym for “ephemeral.”

Quick Tip

Link unfamiliar words to root meanings or usage in context. “Ephemeral” often describes fleeting beauty or moments.

12. Select the correct antonym for “meticulous”:

- (A) Careless
- (B) Systematic
- (C) Accurate
- (D) Consistent

Correct Answer: (A) Careless

Solution: Step 1: Understand “meticulous” – showing great attention to detail, very precise.

Step 2: Consider the meaning of each option:

- (A) “Careless” means lacking attention — exact opposite — correct.
- (B) “Systematic” implies organization, similar to meticulous.
- (C) “Accurate” is a quality of being correct — also similar.
- (D) “Consistent” refers to regularity — not opposite.

Step 3: (A) is clearly the antonym of “meticulous.”

Quick Tip

When asked for antonyms, first define the word mentally. Then, eliminate similar choices and choose the one that contradicts it directly.
