

CUET 2025 English Question Paper With Solutions

Time Allowed :1 Hour	Maximum Marks :250	Total Questions :50
-----------------------------	---------------------------	----------------------------

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.

Identify the part of the sentence that contains a grammatical error:

Sentence: Each of the boys have submitted their assignment on time. No error

- (a) have
- (b) their
- (c) on time
- (d) No error

Correct Answer: (a) have

Solution: The error is in part (a) "have". The subject "Each" is singular and requires the singular verb "has". The correct sentence should be: "Each of the boys has submitted their assignment on time."

Quick Tip

- The word "Each" is always singular and therefore takes a singular verb.
- Pay attention to subject-verb agreement, especially with indefinite pronouns like "each," "every," "anyone."

2.

Choose the word which is closest in meaning to the word "Ostentatious":

- (a) Modest
- (b) Flashy
- (c) Simple
- (d) Sincere

Correct Answer: (b) Flashy

Solution: "Ostentatious" means characterized by vulgar or pretentious display; designed to impress or attract notice. "Flashy" means showy or ostentatious in a conspicuous or vulgar way. Therefore, "Flashy" is the closest in meaning.

- Modest: unassuming or moderate in the estimation of one's abilities or achievements.
- Simple: easily understood or done; presenting no difficulty.
- Sincere: free from pretense or deceit; proceeding from genuine feelings.

Quick Tip

- To find the closest meaning, consider the core meaning of the given word and compare it with the options.
- Ostentatious often implies a deliberate attempt to show off wealth or importance.

3.

Identify the figure of speech used in the sentence:

"The wind whispered through the trees."

- (a) Simile
- (b) Metaphor
- (c) Personification
- (d) Hyperbole

Correct Answer: (c) Personification

Solution: Personification is a figure of speech in which human qualities or abilities are attributed to inanimate objects or abstract ideas. In the sentence, the wind (an inanimate natural force) is described as "whispering," which is a human action.

Quick Tip

- **Simile:** Compares two unlike things using "like" or "as" (e.g., "brave as a lion").
- **Metaphor:** Directly compares two unlike things without using "like" or "as," stating one thing *is* another (e.g., "Her eyes were stars").
- **Personification:** Gives human traits to non-human things.
- **Hyperbole:** An exaggerated statement not meant to be taken literally (e.g., "I'm so hungry I could eat a horse").

4.

Despite facing severe criticism, the scientist remained _____ in her pursuit of truth.

- (a) hesitant
- (b) relentless
- (c) casual
- (d) indifferent

Correct Answer: (b) relentless

Solution: The phrase "Despite facing severe criticism" indicates a contrast. If the scientist continued her pursuit of truth even with criticism, she would need to be persistent and

determined. "Relentless" means unceasingly intense or persistent, which accurately describes someone who continues their efforts in the face of opposition.

- Hesitant: tentative, unsure, or slow in acting or speaking.
- Casual: relaxed and unconcerned.
- Indifferent: having no particular interest or sympathy; unconcerned.

"Relentless" best fits the context of perseverance.

Quick Tip

- Look for conjunctions like "despite," "although," or "but" which signal contrast.
- The context of overcoming adversity often points to words implying perseverance or determination.

5.

Choose the correct indirect speech for:

He said, "I will help you tomorrow."

- (a) He said that he will help me tomorrow.
- (b) He said that he would help me the next day.
- (c) He told that he would help you the next day.
- (d) He told me that he will help me tomorrow.

Correct Answer: (b) He said that he would help me the next day.

Solution: When converting direct speech to indirect speech:

- The reporting verb "said" remains "said" (or can change to "told" if there's an object, e.g., "He told me").
- The pronoun "I" changes to "he" (referring to the original speaker).
- The modal verb "will" changes to "would" (backshift in tense).
- The pronoun "you" changes to "me" (assuming the person being reported to is "me").
- The adverb of time "tomorrow" changes to "the next day".

Thus, "He said, 'I will help you tomorrow.'" becomes "He said that he would help me the next day." Option (c) incorrectly uses "told that" without an object and keeps "you". Options (a) and (d) do not correctly change "will" to "would" and "tomorrow" to "the next day".

Quick Tip

- Key changes in indirect speech: pronouns, verb tenses (backshift), and adverbs of time/place.
- "Said to [object]" often becomes "told [object]". "Said" can be used without an object.

6.

Choose the word that is closest in meaning to "obstinate":

- (a) Generous
- (b) Stubborn
- (c) Forgetful
- (d) Curious

Correct Answer: (b) Stubborn

Solution: "Obstinate" means stubbornly refusing to change one's opinion or chosen course of action, despite attempts to persuade one to do so. "Stubborn" shares this core meaning of being unyieldingly firm or tenacious.

- Generous: showing a readiness to give more of something, as money or time, than is strictly necessary or expected.
- Forgetful: apt or prone to forget.
- Curious: eager to know or learn something.

Quick Tip

- "Obstinate" and "stubborn" both describe a negative trait of inflexibility.
- Think of synonyms you already know for the options to compare them effectively.

7.

In the sentence "The jury found the witness's testimony specious," what does "specious" most nearly mean?

- (a) Believable and compelling
- (b) False but seemingly plausible
- (c) Too technical to understand
- (d) Harsh and accusatory

Correct Answer: (b) False but seemingly plausible

Solution: "Specious" means superficially plausible, but actually wrong or false. It describes something that appears to be true or good on the surface but is not so in reality. Therefore, "False but seemingly plausible" is the closest meaning.

- Believable and compelling: This is the opposite of specious.
- Too technical to understand: This relates to complexity, not deceptive plausibility.
- Harsh and accusatory: This describes tone or intent, not the truthfulness masked by appearance.

Quick Tip

- "Specious" arguments often sound convincing at first but fall apart under scrutiny.
- The root "spec-" relates to seeing or appearance, hinting at the superficial nature.

8.

Arrange the sentences to form a coherent paragraph:

1. The research team was baffled by the anomaly.
2. They decided to replicate the experiment under stricter conditions.
3. The results contradicted established scientific theories.
4. A deeper investigation revealed a minor error in calibration.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) 1-2-3-4
- (b) 3-1-2-4
- (c) 1-3-2-4
- (d) 3-2-1-4

Correct Answer: (c) 1-3-2-4

Solution: The most logical order is 1-3-2-4:

- **1. The research team was baffled by the anomaly.** (Introduces the problem/situation: a baffling anomaly.)
- **3. The results contradicted established scientific theories.** (Explains what the anomaly was or why it was baffling.)
- **2. They decided to replicate the experiment under stricter conditions.** (The team's response to the baffling, contradictory results.)
- **4. A deeper investigation revealed a minor error in calibration.** (The outcome of their further action, resolving the anomaly.)

This sequence presents a clear narrative: identification of a problem, explanation of the problem, action taken, and resolution.

Quick Tip

- Look for an introductory sentence that sets the scene or introduces the main subject.
- Identify cause-and-effect relationships and chronological progression.
- Pronouns and demonstratives (e.g., "they," "this anomaly") can link sentences.

9.

Statement: All poets are sensitive people. Some sensitive people are not artists.

Conclusion I: Some poets are not artists.

Conclusion II: Some sensitive people may be poets.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) Only Conclusion I follows.
- (b) Only Conclusion II follows.
- (c) Both conclusions follow.
- (d) Neither conclusion follows.

Correct Answer: (b) Only Conclusion II follows.

Solution: Let P = Poets, S = Sensitive People, A = Artists. **Statement 1:** All P are S (All poets are sensitive people). This means the set of poets is entirely within the set of sensitive people ($P \subseteq S$). **Statement 2:** Some S are not A (Some sensitive people are not artists). This means there's an overlap between sensitive people and those who are not artists.

Conclusion I: Some poets are not artists. From the given statements, we know all poets are sensitive. We also know some sensitive people are not artists. However, the poets (who are all sensitive) could all be among the sensitive people who *are* artists. There is no direct information linking poets to non-artists. For example, the set of poets could be a subset of sensitive people who are also artists. Thus, Conclusion I does not necessarily follow.

Conclusion II: Some sensitive people may be poets. Since "All poets are sensitive people," it implies that if poets exist, they are a subset of sensitive people. Therefore, some sensitive people are indeed poets (specifically, those individuals who are poets). The term "may be" further strengthens this, as it indicates possibility, which is certainly true based on the first statement (if poets exist, then those sensitive people who are poets exist). This is a valid conversion (by limitation) of "All P are S" to "Some S are P", assuming poets exist. Therefore, only Conclusion II follows.

Quick Tip

- Use Venn diagrams to visualize relationships in syllogisms.
- "All A are B" implies "Some B are A" (assuming A is not an empty set).
- A conclusion must necessarily follow from the statements. If you can find a scenario where the statements are true but the conclusion is false, then the conclusion does not follow.

10.

Rearrange the following sentences:

1. The printing press revolutionized the way information was disseminated.
2. Before its invention, books were copied by hand and were extremely rare.
3. This breakthrough eventually contributed to mass literacy.
4. As books became cheaper and more accessible, more people began to read.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) 2-1-4-3
- (b) 1-2-3-4
- (c) 2-1-3-4
- (d) 2-1-4-3

Correct Answer: (a) 2-1-4-3

Solution: The most coherent order is 2-1-4-3:

- **2. Before its invention, books were copied by hand and were extremely rare.** (Sets the historical context before the main event. "Its" refers to the printing press.)
- **1. The printing press revolutionized the way information was disseminated.** (Introduces the invention and its primary impact.)
- **4. As books became cheaper and more accessible, more people began to read.** (Describes the immediate consequences of the revolution mentioned in 1, explaining *how* information dissemination changed.)
- **3. This breakthrough eventually contributed to mass literacy.** ("This breakthrough" refers to the printing press and its effects. Mass literacy is a broader, long-term consequence of more people reading.)

This sequence provides a logical flow from the pre-invention era, to the invention, its immediate effects, and finally its long-term societal impact. (Note: Option (d) is identical to (a)).

Quick Tip

- Look for chronological cues (e.g., "Before its invention," "eventually").
- Pronoun references ("its," "This breakthrough") help establish links between sentences.
- Trace the cause-and-effect chain: invention → accessibility → increased reading → mass literacy.

11.

Rearrange the following sentences:

1. These practices often disregard the well-being of the environment.
2. Industrial farming techniques have become widespread in recent decades.
3. Though they increase food production, they come with serious consequences.
4. Chemicals and monocultures have degraded soil and reduced biodiversity.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) 2-3-1-4
- (b) 2-3-4-1
- (c) 1-2-3-4
- (d) 2-4-3-1

Correct Answer: (a) 2-3-1-4

Solution: The most logical order is 2-3-1-4:

- **2. Industrial farming techniques have become widespread in recent decades.**
(Introduces the main topic.)
- **3. Though they increase food production, they come with serious consequences.**
(Presents a contrast: a benefit of "they" – industrial farming techniques – but also introduces the idea of "serious consequences.")
- **1. These practices often disregard the well-being of the environment.** ("These practices" refers to industrial farming techniques and elaborates on the nature of the "serious consequences" – environmental disregard.)

- **4. Chemicals and monocultures have degraded soil and reduced biodiversity.**
(Provides specific examples of how "these practices" disregard the environment and details the consequences.)

This sequence moves from a general statement about industrial farming to its negative aspects, then specifies those aspects with examples.

Quick Tip

- Start with a general introductory sentence (like sentence 2).
- Look for connecting words and phrases ("Though," "These practices," "they").
- Often, a general statement about a problem is followed by specific examples or elaborations.

12.

The CEO's speech was so _____ that even her harshest critics were temporarily silenced.

- (a) ambiguous
- (b) inflammatory
- (c) compelling
- (d) apathetic

Correct Answer: (c) compelling

Solution: The fact that "even her harshest critics were temporarily silenced" suggests the speech was exceptionally powerful and persuasive.

- **Ambiguous:** Unclear or open to more than one interpretation; this would likely provoke more questions or criticism, not silence.
- **Inflammatory:** Arousing or intended to arouse angry or violent feelings; this might cause uproar or shock, but not necessarily thoughtful silence from critics.
- **Compelling:** Evoking interest, attention, or admiration in a powerfully irresistible way; powerfully convincing. A compelling speech could indeed leave critics speechless, at

least temporarily, due to its force and persuasiveness.

- **Apathetic:** Showing or feeling no interest, enthusiasm, or concern. An apathetic speech would be dull and unlikely to silence critics; it might bore them.

Therefore, "compelling" is the most suitable word.

Quick Tip

- Consider the effect described in the latter part of the sentence ("critics were temporarily silenced") to determine the quality needed in the blank.
- Eliminate options that would lead to an opposite or illogical outcome.