

**BA (HONS.) ENGLISH
ENTRANCE EXAM
MODEL QUESTION PAPER**

PART I

Section A: GRAMMAR

[15 marks]

I. Given below are sentences with some errors in them. Identify the part in each sentence that has an error. If there is no error, choose “D.”

5x1 = 5 marks

1. He was / a quiet and reflective man / nineteen years elder than his wife. / No error
A B C D
2. The English people / like drinking / a lot of tea. / No error
A B C D
3. The station platform / was crowded from / people who were returning from the
A B C
festival. / No error
D
4. These shoes were uncomfortable and / I'm going to / take them off. / No error.
A B C D
5. I've got to / clean the house / before the guests arrive. / No error
A B C D

II. Given below are some sentences with blanks. Look at the options given below and identify the right word or phrase for each blank.

5x2 = 10 marks

6. Does Joe have enough experience _____?

a) to doing the job

- b) for doing the job
 - c) for the job to be done
 - d) to do the job
7. Which of the following adjective - noun collocations is NOT possible?
- a) A tough decision
 - b) A tough steak
 - c) A tough drink
 - d) A tough woman
8. What are you going to do _____?
- a) while you'll be waiting
 - b) while you're waiting
 - c) while you'd be waiting
 - d) while you be waiting
9. When I arrived, everybody was sitting round the table with their mouths full. They _____.
- a) were eating
 - b) had eaten
 - c) had been eating
 - d) will have been eating
10. Where's the nearest shop _____?
- a) that sells bread
 - b) who sells bread
 - c) where bread sells
 - d) whose sells bread

Section B: VOCABULARY

[10 marks]

Read the passage given below and choose the most suitable word/phrase from the options given below:

10x1=10 marks

Home cinema ___(11)___ a real “movie theatre” using pictures displayed on a high-quality ___(12)___ television set, such as a plasma TV, and surround sound from strategically sited loudspeakers. The source for sound and ___(13)___ is a DVD (Digital Versatile Disc). Its player uses standard CD (Compact Disc) digital technology, but with a higher density of laser read microscopic pits – more than 20 billion such pits in multi-level spiral tracks that,

____(14)____ out, would extend nearly 40 km (25 miles). Blu-ray is a high-quality DVD system that fits much more ____(15)____ on its disc than standard DVDs, allowing High Definition video files to be stored. It is hard for the human ear to ____(16)____ the direction of low-pitched sounds, so these emanate from a central bass speaker, often built into or below the screen unit. High-pitched sounds, the direction of which is easier to detect, ____(17)____ from mid-and high-frequency speakers positioned around the viewer. Plasma screens use fluorescent tube (“strip-light”) ____(18)____. Tiny three-cell pixels, each about one millimeter across, contain red, green, and blue phosphor (19) and a gas mix. Where electric pulses ____(20)____ for a split second in the criss-cross matrix of wire electrodes, the gas energizes and emits ultraviolet light, which in turn makes the phosphor glow.

11	a	depicts	b	sources	c	channels	d	replicates
12	a	tube	b	widescreen	c	filter	d	node
13	a	picture	b	quality	c	vision	d	light
14	a	limited	b	stretched	c	conducted	d	operated
15	a	records	b	units	c	data	d	information
16	a	discern	b	distinguished	c	demarcate	d	detail
17	a	source	b	emanate	c	evict	d	sample
18	a	methodology	b	philology	c	technology	d	radiology
19	a	materials	b	substances	c	gases	d	chemicals
20	a	coincide	b	connect	c	contact	d	counter

Section C: READING

[15 marks]

Read the following texts (passages 1 and 2) and answer the questions that follow:

Passage 1

5x1 = 5 marks

We leave a record of everything we do online; our cyber-whereabouts can be tracked and that information used for various purposes. Every time we use a credit card, make a major purchase, answer a survey, apply for a loan, or join a mailing list, our actions are observed and recorded. And most of us have no idea just how much information about us has been recorded and how much data is available to various sources. The scale of information gathering and the scale of exchange have both expanded so rapidly in the last decade that there are now millions of electronic profiles of individuals existing in

cyberspace, profiles that are bought and sold, traded, and often used for important decisions, such as whether or not to grant someone a loan. However, that information is essentially beyond our control. We can do little to stop the information gathering and exchange and can only hope to be able to control the damage if something goes wrong.

Something went wrong recently for me. Someone obtained my Social Security number, address, work number and address, and a few other vital pieces of data. That person then applied for a credit account in my name. The application was approved, and I soon received a bill for nearly \$5,000 worth of computer-related purchases.

Fraud, of course, is a different issue, but this kind of fraud couldn't happen—or at least, couldn't happen with such ease and frequency – in a world of paper-based records. With so much information floating about in cyberspace, and so much technology that can record and observe, our privacy has been deeply **compromised**.

21. Through this passage the author is

- a) advocating a return to a world of paper based records.
- b) warning against the ease with which cyber fraud can be committed.
- c) educating the public about increasing surveillance.
- d) informing about the existence of cyber profiles and its potential misuse

22. The passage suggests that all of the following contribute to the erosion of privacy EXCEPT

- a) increased use of credit cards for purchases.
- b) buying and selling of electronic profiles.
- c) lack of controls over information exchange.
- d) easy access to electronic information in cyberspace.

23. The author describes a personal experience with identity theft in order to

- a) show how prevalent identity theft is.
- b) show how angry he is about having his privacy invaded.
- c) show an example of how private information can be taken and misused.
- d) demonstrate the vast scale of information exchange.

24. The word *compromised* means

- a) conceded.
- b) dishonoured.
- c) negotiated.
- d) jeopardized.

25. Based on the passage, it can be inferred that the author would support which of the following?

- a) stricter sentencing for perpetrators of fraud

- b) greater flexibility in loan approval criteria
- c) stricter regulations for information gathering and exchange
- d) banning of issuing credit cards online.

Passage 2

5x2 = 10 marks

New York City's Central Park.

Although it is called Central Park, New York City's great green space has no "center"—no formal walkway down the middle of the park, no central monument or body of water, no single orienting feature. The paths wind, the landscape constantly shifts and changes, the sections spill into one another in a seemingly random manner. But this "decentering" was precisely the intent of the park's innovative design. Made to look as natural as possible, Frederick Law Olmsted's 1858 plan for Central Park had as its main goal the creation of a democratic playground – a place with many centers to reflect the multiplicity of its uses and users.

Olmsted designed the park to allow interaction among the various members of society, without giving preference to one group or class. Thus, Olmsted's ideal of a commonplace civilization" could be realized.

26. In sentence 2, paragraph 1, the author describes specific park features in order to

- a) present both sides of an argument.
- b) suggest the organization of the rest of the passage.
- c) provide evidence that the park has no center.
- d) demonstrate how large the park is.

27. When the author says "in a seemingly random manner" he means

- a) The landscape shifts without reason.
- b) The design is random and without any plan.
- c) The apparent randomness is intended.
- d) There are sections with random designs.

28. The main idea of this passage is that

- a) New York City is a democratic city.
- b) Olmsted was a brilliant designer.
- c) More parks should be designed without centers.
- d) Central Park is democratic by design.

29. The passage suggests that Olmsted's design

- a) was radically different from other park designs.
- b) was initially very unpopular with New Yorkers.
- c) was inspired by similar parks in Europe.
- d) did not succeed in creating a democratic playground.

30. The word *commonplace* as used in paragraph 2 most nearly means

- a) inclusive.
- b) ordinary.
- c) mediocre.
- d) normal.

Section D: WRITING

[10 marks]

The first (S1) and last (S4) sentences of a paragraph are given. Decide which among P, Q and R can be the second (S2) and third (S3) sentences. Choose their order of occurrence from the choices given. **5x2 = 10 marks**

31. **S1.** A sheikhdom whose wealth rests on black gold is building a city called ‘Masdar,’ which translates as “the source,” but it will not rely on any of it.

S2 _____

S3 _____

S4. Further, the municipality, which will ultimately aim to be zero carbon and zero waste, will boast a plant to produce the fuel required for long distance travel from the residents’ sewage.

P. All water will be also be recycled; even residents’ wastewater will be used to grow crops in enclosed, self-sustaining farms that will further recycle their own water.

Q. The electricity for lighting, air-conditioning, sea water desalinating and transport will be provided by solar power plants that are already being constructed in the surrounding desert.

R. Subterranean electric cars—dubbed Personalized Rapid Transit—will ferry passengers from point to point because this city will be off-limits to automobiles.

- A) QR**
- B) RQ**
- C) PQ**
- D) PR**

32. **S1.** Susan Greenfield, a British scientist, has warned that technologies such as computer games, the Internet and social media can eventually modify the nature of the mind.

S2 _____

S3 _____

S4. When such a speedy response is not forthcoming, the instantly gratified younger generation might react adversely like a surly child.

P. Humans occupy more ecological niches than any other species on the planet because of the superlative ability of our brains, to adapt to their environment.

Q. On social networking sites, particularly, responses are immediate and people may begin to expect such quick responses also in actual life.

R. She fears that attention spans have been shortened because of so much time spent in front of screens where everything is instantaneous.

- A) PR**
- B) PQ**
- C) RQ**
- D) QR**

33. **S1.** Scientists have discovered the world's largest tropical peatland in the remote Congo swamps which are estimated to store the equivalent of three years' worth of the world's total fossil fuel emissions.

S2 _____

S3 _____

S4. Because of their remote location, these Congo basin peatlands are relatively undisturbed, but because newly discovered, they are not protected by conservation plans and face threats from drainage for agricultural plantations.

P. Peat is an organic wetland soil made from part-decomposed plant debris, more commonly found in cool environments, such as northern Russia, Europe and Canada.

Q. If peatlands dry out, either through changes in land use such as drainage for agriculture or reduced rainfall, further decomposition resumes, releasing carbon dioxide into the atmosphere.

R. Healthy peatlands act as carbon sinks, removing carbon from the atmosphere through plant growth.

- A) PR**
- B) PQ**
- C) RQ**

D) QR

34. **S1.** Almost five decades after India first formulated its National Education Policy, the Ministry for HRD appears to be gearing up for another revision to this policy document.

S2 _____

S3 _____

S4. It was hoped that through this effort children in elementary schools would be provided with uniforms and textbooks, and schools would have sufficient classrooms and teachers.

P. The problem of poor learning outcomes is of particular concern, for it is a structural issue pertaining to the design of curricula and ingrained rote learning methods.

Q. The state of education, particularly in the critical primary and pre-primary years, is far from satisfactory.

R. Since the early 2000s, successive governments have kept up the momentum in a bid to resolve issues in the supply of personnel and infrastructure.

- A) PR**
- B) QR**
- C) RP**
- D) RQ**

35. **S1.** Globalisation is the new buzzword that has come to dominate the world and it has brought in new opportunities to developing countries.

S2 _____

S3 _____

S4. Another negative aspect of globalisation is that a great majority of developing countries remain removed from the process and do not reap any benefits.

P. Greater access to developed country markets and technology transfer hold out promises of improved productivity and higher living standards.

Q. Globalization, with its reliance on the market economy and faith in the private capital demands a process of structural adjustment.

R. But globalisation has also thrown up new challenges like growing inequality across and within nations, volatility in financial markets and environmental deteriorations.

- A) QR
- B) PQ
- C) PR
- D) RP

PART II

Section E : General Knowledge

[10 marks]

36. The permanent secretariat of SAARC is located at

- a) New Delhi
- b) Islamabad
- c) Kathmandu
- d) Thimphu

37. In which year was the first computer with a mouse sold?

- a) 2000
- b) 1984
- c) 1991
- d) 2001

38. Who invented the light bulb?

- a) Thomas Alva Edison
- b) Humphry Davy
- c) Alexander Graham Bell
- d) Tobias Nicholson

39. The city which was once known as the “forbidden city” is

- a) Jaipur
- b) Tokyo
- c) Rome
- d) Peking

40. What is the nationality of Gabriel Garcia Marquez?

- a) Chilean
- b) Nigerian
- c) Colombian
- d) Argentinian

41. The Indian delegation to the first World Conference on Human Rights was led by

- a) Dr. Manmohan Singh
- b) Farooq Abdullah
- c) Dinesh Singh
- d) Alam Khan

42. The United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) is located at which of the following places

- a) Geneva
- b) Rome
- c) Paris
- d) Vienna

43. "Ashoka Chakra" is awarded for

- a) Acts of gallantry and extraordinary courage in the presence of enemy on the battle field.
- b) Bravery and exemplary gallantry displayed by children to save other people from danger.
- c) Outstanding contribution to the nation in the field of social, cultural, economic, political or other spheres of life.
- d) Peacetime military decoration awarded for valour, courageous action or self-sacrifice away from the battlefield.

44. Who among the following invented the small pox vaccine?

- a) Robert Koch
- b) Edward Jenner
- c) Robert Hooke
- d) Louis Pasteur

45. The expansion of the acronym ESA is _____

- a) Eastern Satellite for Asia
- b) Easy Space Access
- c) Everyday Satellite Association
- d) European Space Agency

Section F: REASONING

[20 marks]

Choose the correct answer.

10 X 2 = 20 marks

46. forecast: future: : regret : ?

- a) present
- b) atone
- c) past
- d) sad

47. bicycle : vehicle : : mercury : ?

- a) liquid
- b) metal
- c) thermometer
- d) quicksilver

48. Choose the correct alternative that will continue the same pattern and replace the question mark in the given series. – 1, 3, 4, 8, 15, 27, ?

- a) 37
- b) 44
- c) 50
- d) 55

49. Choose the missing terms out of the given alternatives. BF, CH, ?, HO, LT

- a) EK
- b) DN
- c) EL
- d) EM

50. 2, 8, 16, 128, ?

- a) 2042
- b) 2046
- c) 2048
- d) 2056

51. Choose the word which is different from the rest

- a) croon
- b) hum
- c) sing
- d) waltz

52. chassis: car:: _____ : cat

- a) skeleton
- b) head
- c) eye
- d) tail

53. Daya has a brother Anil, Daya is the son of Chandra. Bimal is Chandra's father. In terms of relationship, what is Anil to Bimal?

- a) Son
- b) Grandson
- c) Brother
- d) Grandfather

54. Select the odd one out – amble, limp, march, dream.

- a) amble
- b) limp
- c) march
- d) dream

55. Select the odd one out – blink, chew, hiccup, breathe.

- a) blink
- b) chew
- c) hiccup
- d) breathe

PART III

Section G: LITERATURE

[20 marks]

Choose the correct answer:

10x1 = 10 marks

56. How many lines are there in a sonnet?

- a) 12
- b) 14
- c) 10
- d) They vary

57. Who wrote “Where ignorance is bliss, it is folly to be wise”?

- a) Browning
- b) Marx
- c) Shakespeare
- d) Milton

58. The nationality of Robert Louis Stevenson, who wrote *Treasure Island* is

- a) British
- b) Irish

- c) American
- d) Indian

59. *Wuthering Heights* was written by which Bronte sister?

- a) Ann
- b) Charlotte
- c) Emily
- d) Francis

60. Who wrote *The Day of the Jackal* about an attempted assassination of Charles de Gaulle?

- a) John Grisham
- b) Frederick Forsyth
- c) Michael Connelly
- d) John le Carré

61. "To make a clean breast of" means

- a) To gain prominence
- b) To praise oneself
- c) To confess without reserve
- d) To clean up a mess

62. In Mary Shelley's novel, what is the first name of Dr Frankenstein?

- a) Victor
- b) Richard
- c) William
- d) Robert

63. In Greek mythology, who was the father of Icarus?

- a) Prometheus
- b) Zeus
- c) Poseidon
- d) Daedalus

64. What was the first of C S Lewis' books about the kingdom of Narnia?

- a) The Chronicles of Narnia
- b) The Lion, the witch and the Wardrobe
- c) Prince Caspian: The Return to Narnia
- d) The Magician's Nephew

65. Which British novelist wrote *Brave New World*?

- a) Henry James
- b) H. G. Wells
- c) Aldous Huxley
- d) Issac Asimov

Choose the correct answer:

5x2=10 marks

66. Which novel opens with the famous line "It was a bright cold day in April, and the clocks were striking thirteen."

- a) *Clockwork Orange*
- b) *1984*
- c) *To the Lighthouse*
- d) *The Sound and the Fury*

67. A ____ is a humorous poem consisting of five lines. The first, second, and fifth lines must have the same verbal rhythm. The third and fourth lines have to rhyme with each other.

- a) Limerick
- b) Sonnet
- c) Haiku
- d) Lyric

68. Which epic poem by Dante begins on Good Friday in the year 1300?

- a) *Le Gereuselemme Liberata*
- b) *Orlando Furioso*
- c) *Decameron*
- d) *The Divine Comedy*

69. Captain John Joseph Yossarian is the central figure of which 1961 novel?

- a) *Catcher in the Rye*
- b) *Catch 22*
- c) *Moby Dick*
- d) *The Guns of Navarone*

70. The remark passed by Antonio on Shylock, the Jew, in William Shakespeare's play *The Merchant of Venice*: "Hie thee, gentle Jew./ The Hebrew will turn Christian: he grows kind."

Is an example of:

- a) connotation
- b) alliteration
- c) satire

d) parody