

TNPSC Group II / IIA — General English

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B. Practice MCQs (25)

1. Read the passage: 'The banyan tree is arguably the most recognizable tree in the Indian subcontinent. It features large leaves and unique aerial roots that grow downwards to form additional trunks. This creates a large canopy, providing extensive shade and shelter for numerous birds and small animals. In many villages, it serves as a central gathering place for community discussions.' What unique feature of the banyan tree is mentioned in the passage?

- (A) It bears delicious fruits
- (B) It has aerial roots that form additional trunks
- (C) It is the tallest tree in the world
- (D) It has colorful flowers

2. Based on the banyan tree passage, why is the tree important for the village community?

- (A) It provides wood for fuel
- (B) It acts as a central gathering place for discussions
- (C) It stops the wind from destroying houses
- (D) It provides leaves for decoration

3. Based on the banyan tree passage, who benefits from the shade and shelter of the large canopy?

- (A) Only the village elders
- (B) Numerous birds and small animals
- (C) Only travelers passing by
- (D) Insects and aquatic animals

4. Read the passage: 'Ramu was a hardworking farmer in a small village. He would wake up before dawn to plough his fields. Despite the harsh weather, his dedication never wavered. His main crop was paddy, which sustained his family and allowed him to earn a modest income at the local market. His honest toil won him the respect of all his neighbours.' When did Ramu typically wake up?

- (A) At noon
- (B) Before dawn
- (C) Late in the morning
- (D) At midnight

5. Based on the farmer passage, what was Ramu's main crop?

- (A) Wheat
- (B) Cotton
- (C) Paddy
- (D) Sugarcane

6. Based on the farmer passage, what does the word 'toil' mean in this context?

- (A) Laziness
- (B) Hard work
- (C) Farm equipment
- (D) Harvest

7. Fill in the blank with the suitable article: He is ____ honest man.

- (A) a
- (B) an
- (C) the
- (D) no article

8. Choose the correct preposition: The cat jumped ___ the wall.

- (A) in
- (B) over
- (C) under
- (D) into

9. Choose the correct question tag: Let us go for a walk, ___?

- (A) shall we
- (B) do we
- (C) will you
- (D) don't we

10. Change the voice from Active to Passive: 'The manager completed the project.'

- (A) The project is completed by the manager.
- (B) The project was completed by the manager.
- (C) The project has been completed by the manager.
- (D) The project will be completed by the manager.

11. Identify the sentence pattern for: 'She gave me a pen.'

- (A) S V O A
- (B) S V IO DO
- (C) S V O C
- (D) S V C A

12. Fill in the blank with the correct tense: I ___ a book when he came in.

- (A) read
- (B) was reading
- (C) am reading
- (D) have read

13. Identify the degree of comparison in the sentence: 'Mount Everest is the highest peak in the world.'

- (A) Positive degree
- (B) Comparative degree
- (C) Superlative degree
- (D) None of the above

14. Identify the adverb in the following sentence: 'The old man walked slowly down the street.'

- (A) old
- (B) walked
- (C) slowly
- (D) street

15. Fill in the blank with the correct conjunction: He is poor, ___ he is honest.

- (A) and
- (B) but
- (C) so
- (D) because

16. Fill in the blank with the correct tense form: The train ___ before I reached the station.

- (A) left
- (B) has left
- (C) had left
- (D) will leave

17. Identify the correct non-finite verb (gerund/infinitive): I enjoy ___ in the river.

- (A) to swim
- (B) swimming
- (C) swam
- (D) swim

18. Identify the sentence pattern for: 'They elected him President.'

- (A) S V IO DO
- (B) S V O C
- (C) S V O A
- (D) S V A

19. Choose the correct synonym for the word 'Abundant'.

- (A) Scarce
- (B) Plentiful
- (C) Rare
- (D) Empty

20. Choose the correct antonym for the word 'Optimistic'.

- (A) Hopeful
- (B) Pessimistic
- (C) Cheerful
- (D) Positive

21. Choose the correct one-word substitute for: 'A person who knows many languages.'

- (A) Linguist
- (B) Polyglot
- (C) Bilingual
- (D) Translator

22. What is the meaning of the phrasal verb 'Look after'?

- (A) To search for
- (B) To take care of
- (C) To despise
- (D) To inspect

23. What is the meaning of the phrasal verb 'Put off'?

- (A) To wear
- (B) To extinguish
- (C) To postpone
- (D) To tolerate

24. Choose the correct synonym for the word 'Courageous'.

- (A) Timid
- (B) Brave
- (C) Cowardly
- (D) Fearful

25. Choose the correct antonym for the word 'Conceal'.

- (A) Hide
- (B) Cover
- (C) Reveal
- (D) Protect

C. Answer Key & Explanations

1. (B) The passage explicitly states that the banyan tree features 'unique aerial roots that grow downwards to form additional trunks'.
2. (B) The passage mentions that in many villages, the tree 'serves as a central gathering place for community discussions'.
3. (B) The text clearly states that the canopy provides 'extensive shade and shelter for numerous birds and small animals'.
4. (B) The passage states, 'He would wake up before dawn to plough his fields'.
5. (C) The passage explicitly mentions, 'His main crop was paddy'.
6. (B) In the context of a hardworking farmer, 'toil' refers to hard and continuous work.
7. (B) The word 'honest' begins with a vowel sound (silent 'h'), so the article 'an' is used.
8. (B) To move from one side of a barrier to the other, the preposition 'over' is used.
9. (A) Sentences starting with 'Let us' or 'Let's' always take the question tag 'shall we'.

10. **(B)** The active sentence is in simple past tense, so the passive verb form is 'was + past participle'.
11. **(B)** She (Subject) gave (Verb) me (Indirect Object) a pen (Direct Object).
12. **(B)** The past continuous tense 'was reading' is used for an action that was going on when another past action occurred.
13. **(C)** The adjective 'highest' and the use of 'the' before it indicates the superlative degree.
14. **(C)** 'Slowly' modifies the verb 'walked', describing how the action was performed.
15. **(B)** The conjunction 'but' is used to connect two contrasting ideas.
16. **(C)** When two past actions occur, the past perfect (had left) is used for the earlier action.
17. **(B)** The verb 'enjoy' is followed by a gerund (verb + ing).
18. **(B)** They (Subject) elected (Verb) him (Object) President (Complement completing the object).
19. **(B)** 'Abundant' means existing or available in large quantities; plentiful.
20. **(B)** 'Optimistic' means hopeful about the future, while 'Pessimistic' means expecting the worst.
21. **(B)** A 'polyglot' specifically refers to someone who knows or uses several languages.
22. **(B)** The phrasal verb 'look after' means to take care of someone or something.
23. **(C)** 'Put off' means to delay or postpone an action or event.
24. **(B)** 'Courageous' means not deterred by danger or pain; brave.
25. **(C)** 'Conceal' means to hide, so its direct opposite is 'Reveal' (to make known).