

PAST QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS SAMPLE

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- The Second page will contain either some of the answers or all the answers for the particular year from which the sample questions was used.

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OBAFEMI AWOLOWO UNIVERSITY ILE-IFE, NIGERIA
2015 POST-UTME SCREENING EXERCISE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Fill out the gaps in the passage below with the correct option from the list provided in brackets in front of the gaps.

1. _____ (a. jargon b. vernacular c. dialects d. wazobia) is specialized language that appears in a non-specialized context, thus giving a 2. _____ (a. generalized b. technical c. restricted d. straightforward) flavor to statements that would be better 3. _____ (a. addressed b. written c. expressed d. spoken) in everyday words. When you are writing a 4. _____ (a. paper b. document c. treatise d. pamphlet) in, say, economics, anthropology, or psychology, you can and should use terms that are meaningful within the 5. _____ (a. pool b. conundrum c. register d. field) cash flow, kinship structure, paranoid, and so forth. But those same terms become jargon when used out of 6. _____ (a. place b. meaning c. contest d. context).
- Choose the option nearest in meaning to the italicized words in the following sentences.**
7. He cannot hide his *aversion* for Kemi's unrepentant behavior. (a) abhorrence (b) sadness (c) ignominy (d) moodiness.
8. The *investments* in stocks seemed to have gone down the drain with this meltdown in the banking sector (a) businesses (b) capital (c) surplus (d) dividends.
9. My efforts at making her to see my point were *rebuffed*. (a) embraced (b) antagonized (c) snubbed (d) dividends.
10. He is a *lout* and can't be relied upon at all (a) vagabond (b) thug (c) unserious (d) liar.
11. The undisputed boxer was quite a *mouthful* for his opponent. (a) not a match (b) undeleted (c) evenly match (d) boastful.
12. Such stories are difficult to believe because they are *make-belief* (a) lies (b) vituperations (c) genuine (d) fantasy.
13. I am all those who mistook President Buhari's _____ demeanour for cowardice will soon know him for who he actually is (a) stealthy (b) sloppy (c) snaky (d) succulent.
14. The new inspector General of Police will alleged that terrorists had _____ the rank and file of the force (a) proliferated (b) conquered (c) infiltrated (d) insulated.
15. He lay awake, his whole body _____ sleep (a) acting for (b) looking for (c) drumming for (d) aching for.
16. Please think _____ everything and let me have your answer tomorrow. (a) thoroughly (b) through (c) around (d) on.
17. I asked you _____ (a) when you are going to get marry (b) the time when you are going to get marry (c) at what point you are getting married (d) when you were going to get married.

Choose from the options A-D the word opposite in meaning to the underlined word.

18. I guess he is indifferent to our plans to rid Nigeria of societal ills. (a) interested in (b) opposed to (c) bothered (d) not interested in.
19. The increase in transportation cost imperiled my sister's plan to travel this month. (a) propelled (b) restricted (c) disturbed (d) hoodwinked.
20. The criminal's answers to the questions during interrogation were evasive (a) harsh (b) outspoken (c) clever (d) direct.

Choose the most appropriate option to complete the gaps in the following sentences.

Read the passage below and answer the questions under it.

Among his papers, there is the farewell lecture given in 1925 when he retired from his Copenhagen chair at the age of 65 _____ protesting himself 'an old fogey', though English studies were fortunate that so youthfully creative a 'fogey' was to go on writing for almost a further two decades. In the splendid apologia, he explained that for him 'linguistic investigation' involved primarily 'understanding the texts....to penetrate into the innermost thoughts of the best men and women.' 'Speech is the noblest instrument to bind man to man, and... it is by speech as by literature, or best by both combined, that one comes to understanding the people from whom they emanated.' First and foremost, of course, a student of language, he insisted on studying language at its best and in that way he hoped, he says, 'to have imparted to my hearers some of my own enthusiasm for the great poets.

My greatest enjoyment, and no doubt that of my hearers as well, has been in my Chaucer classes, partly because Chaucer has such a wonderful power of describing human beings.' So far from confining himself to expounding linguistic history for its own sake, he sees his work as 'combating mark' of which 'is antipathy', disdain, finally hatred'. Especially now since the World-war this is a task of the greatest importance, since it is necessary that the wounds of this gruesome time could be healed.' Thus he spoke to his students in 1925. Sadly, this noble friend of mankind was to see a still more gruesome manifestation of nationalism and to die in 1943 when his country had already suffered for some years the horrors of the Nazi occupation, when there was little opportunity 'to diffuse knowledge and love of what is best in other peoples'.

21. Another word used in the passage that can serve as a synonym to 'ghastly' is _____ (a) expounding (b) essential (c) splendid (d) gruesome.
22. The figure of speech used by the writer in 'though English studies were fortunate that so youthfully creative a 'fogey' was to go on writing for almost a further two decades' in describing the person being talked about is _____ (a) hyperbole (b) irony (c) innuendo (d) sarcasm.
23. The writer believes that _____ (a) human beings are best understood by what they say or by what is written about them (b) human beings are very difficult to penetrate in a linguistics investigation (c) the innermost thoughts of all men and women are the major preoccupations of linguistics (d) literature and language are combined in any worthwhile linguistic enquiry to understand human beings.
24. According to the writer, he derived greatest enjoyment in _____ (a) Chaucer, the great personality he befriended when he was in school (b) the profound ideas expounded by his teachers while he was in school (c) series of lectures he received about Chaucer and his

- writings (d) the wonderful ways his teacher described human beings in many of his lectures.
25. We can categorically pinpoint on the passage that the writer was talking about _____ (a) a former student of his who is intelligent (b) disturbing trend in linguistic study (c) distinguished scholar who had impacted positively on the field of discussion (d) the ghastly malady of out time, nationalism', 'the

essential mark' of which 'is antipathy, disdain, finally hatred.'

ANSWERS TO 2015 ENGLISH LANGUAGE

- 1.A 2.C 3.C 4.A 5.D 6.D 7.A 8.A 9.C 10.B
11.B 12.D 13.A 14.C 15.D 16.B 17.D 18.A 19.A
20.D 21.D 22.D 23.D 24.C 25.C

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2014 POST-UTME AUGUST 2, 2014 SCREENING EXERCISE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

Read the passage and use it to answer question 1-4

As we both fed our eyes wistfully at the used under-wear section, Vivian noticed a heap of women's underwear, a mixture of braziers of various sizes and designs, panties, g-strings and tongs, underskirts, lingerie of different colours, all heaped and scattered on a big bedspread like a pile of rubbish. Some were quite ancient and threadbare, while a few appeared not to have suffered much oppression in the hands and private parts of their previous owners. It was apparent that the international businessman who imported such inglorious assortment had agent with prongs, long enough to dip deep into deepest and farthestmost refuse bins and dumps of Europe to be able meet the demand back home.

- We can infer from the passage above that
 - the effort of international businessmen were commended by the writer for their contribution to Nigeria's economy
 - the writer believes that Nigerian government has not been doing enough to encourage importers of goods to remain in business and recoup money they have invested in their business
 - The writer makes comic comments on the porous Nigerian borders through which contraband goods are imported into the country
 - the writer subtly castigates and derides the patronage of substandard goods that dots the Nigerian market in the name of imported goods
- "...all heaped and scattered on a big bedspread like a pile of rubbish" The figure of speech used in that quotation is
 - metaphor
 - simile
 - hyperbole
 - pun
- It was apparent that the international businessman who imported such inglorious assortment had agents with prongs, long enough to dig deep into the deepest and farthestmost refuse bins and dumps of Europe to be able to meet the demand back home. From the quotation above, it is apparent that the writer is being
 - metaphorical
 - categorical
 - sarcastic
 - specific
- Another word that means the same as the word 'threadbare' as it is used in the passage is
 - worn-out
 - dirty
 - expensive
 - cheap

Choose the most appropriate option from a-d to complete the gaps in the following sentences.

- While the host community was condemned roundly by their hostility, the visiting contingent was applauded for their
 - friendliness
 - hospitality
 - dexterity
 - methodology
- It is hard to quantify the _____ that the abducted Chibok girls would have gone through since they were taken away by the dreaded Boko Haram insurgents.
 - rape
 - trauma
 - isolation
 - insecurity
- The high-profile witness has been discredited having been accused of being _____ with the truth in his testimony
 - biological
 - geographical
 - circumventing
 - economical
- The jailed businessman has left his family in _____ due to the confiscation of his property by the government
 - bliss
 - quandary
 - opulence
 - Eldorado
- The Federal Government has expressed the fear that the violent activity of the insurgents may _____ if powerful foreign assistance is not received soon.
 - extrapolate
 - proliferate
 - metamorphose
 - escalate

- I am sure that if you probe further, the accused person will reveal where the _____ money is kept.
 - pilfered
 - missed
 - lost
 - robbed
- I was waving frantically but you drove _____ me
 - past
 - pass
 - passed
 - passing
- The driver was reckless, the road was slippery due to the early morning downpour, and _____ there was a crash that claimed two lives
 - frantically
 - subsequently
 - constantly
 - unequivocally
- Did you know we were very fortunate to run _____ for the newly elected president of the country when he was campaigning for the office?
 - errant
 - errands
 - an errand
 - around

Choose the option nearest in meaning to the italicized words in the sentences below

- The *erratic* power supply these days has caused a lot of damage to household items that use electricity.
 - lackadaisical
 - regular
 - uneven
 - high-voltage
- "You need to go and study the *etymology* of the underlined words in the returned essay," the lecturer told the student.
 - meaning
 - technicality
 - originality
 - origin
- The man told him point blank that his argument was bereft _____ sound reasoning.
 - with
 - of
 - in
 - off
- The workers expressed their heartfelt thanks _____ the management for the notable improvement to their conditions of service
 - toward
 - with
 - towards
 - to
- He won the elections but many people were killed by his thugs, and thus many said his was a _____
 - Philistine victory
 - pyrrhic victory
 - crocodile victory
 - pseudo victory
- The aspirant for the highest office in the coming elections has started distributing live cows to each electorate in his ward; but some rejected it because they considered it a _____
 - an Eldorado gift
 - Grievous gift
 - Greece gift
 - Greek gift

Fill out the gap in the passage below with the correct option from the list provided in brackets in front of the gaps

- 20 is specialized language, that appears in a non-specialized context, thus giving a 21 flavour to statements that would be better 22 in everyday words. When you are writing 23 in, say, economics, anthropology, or psychology, you can and should use terms that are meaningful within the 24 cash flow, kinship structure, paranoid, and so forth. But those same terms become jargon when used out of 25.
- jargon
 - Vernacular
 - Dialects
 - Wazobia
 - Generalized
 - Technical
 - Restricted
 - straightforward

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