

NDA & NA EXAMINATION (I) 2026

TOTAL MARKS: 200

TIME ALLOWED: 50 MINUTES

INSTRUCTIONS

1. This test consists of **50 questions**.
2. Each question carries **4 marks**.
3. For every incorrect answer, **1.33 marks will be deducted** as negative marking.
4. There is **no penalty for an unattempted question**.
5. Each question has **four alternatives — (a), (b), (c) and (d)**. Select the most appropriate answer.
6. Attempt the test within the prescribed time to simulate **actual examination conditions**.
7. Check the **Answer Key & Explanations** only after completing the test.

Directions (Q. Nos. 1 to 10): Each item in this section consists of a sentence with italic word/words followed by four words. Select the word that is nearest in meaning to the italic word/words and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

1. The 'Jataka Tales' present moral narratives in the form of **ALLEGORIES**.
(a) aphorisms (b) adages
(c) enjambments (d) parables
2. He was upbraided for appearing in court in a state of **INEBRIATION**.
(a) ululation (b) intoxication
(c) confabulation (d) sublimation
3. The **OBSTREPEROUS** behavior of the students inside the classroom drew the attention of the Principal.
(a) compliant (b) obnoxious
(c) inconspicuous (d) disorderly
4. These were based primarily in Himachal Pradesh, where the treks were as **GRUELLING** as the terrain.
(a) rigorous (b) egregious
(c) unctuous (d) ominous
5. I think they would wish for some more **ADORNMENT** around the school campus for the special function.
(a) subsummation (b) decoration
(c) coloration (d) inculcation
6. The travel company tried to identify destinations that were off the **BEATEN TRACK**.
(a) untenanted (b) unfrequented
(c) unattended (d) untoward
7. Women gather in the community park on a regular basis to **CHANT** prayers for the benefit of all.
(a) confound (b) inculcate
(c) indite (d) recite

8. The HR Manager was able to **UTILIZE** the specific skills of each member of the team assembled for the project.
(a) harness (b) harbor
(c) harangue (d) herald
9. The oppressive pollution was noticed to have **ABATED** after the unseasonal rainfall.
(a) mitigated (b) enhanced
(c) discontinued (d) suppressed
10. Often, the context and structure of an **AMBIGUOUS** statement is difficult to discern.
(a) absolutistic (b) explicit
(c) cryptic (d) solipsistic

Directions (Q. Nos. 11 to 20): Each item in this section consists of a sentence with an italic word followed by four words. Select the word that is opposite in meaning to the italic word and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

11. She had a **RUDDY**, open face and an oddly guileless manner.
(a) cacophonous (b) cadaverous
(c) nauseous (d) bumptious
12. He used to be known among his colleagues for his **RIGHTEOUSNESS**.
(a) iniquity (b) ingenuity
(c) absorptivity (d) incredulity
13. He found the musical rendition by the septuagenarian maestro to be **LISTLESS**.
(a) wearying (b) unedifying
(c) unengaging (d) scintillating
14. The official accused of espionage was found to be **DISINGENUOUS**.
(a) scrupulous (b) duplicitous
(c) mendacious (d) perfidious
15. The young are easily **EXCITABLE** when presented with strong emotional triggers.
(a) composed (b) agitated
(c) aggrieved (d) alarmed

- (a) misled (b) enlightened
(c) confused (d) befuddled
17. Effective governance seeks to **OPTIMIZE** public resource allocation.
(a) upgrade (b) rationalize
(c) maximize (d) degrade
18. The student's striking **AUDACIOUSNESS** disturbed long-standing social hierarchies on campus.
(a) boldness (b) fearlessness
(c) timidity (d) insightfulness
19. There are four **CONCURRENT** handloom fairs around the city.
(a) consecutive (b) distributive
(c) aberrative (d) abstensive
20. **LUCIDITY** is a desired quality in effective communication.
(a) Clarity (b) Felicity
(c) Facility (d) Ambiguity

Directions (Q. Nos. 21 to 25): Given below are some idioms/phrases followed by four alternatives to each. Select the most appropriate alternative which gives the correct meaning of the idiom/phrase and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

21. 'Nuts and bolts'
(a) To complete the first step in a process
(b) To get down to practical details
(c) To receive harm or punishment for one's actions
(d) To irritate people and make them go away
22. 'Hat in hand'
(a) With humility
(b) Easy to use
(c) Available for anyone
(d) To marry someone
23. 'Straight from the horse's mouth'
(a) Ready and eager to engage in an activity
(b) Significantly disturbing business
(c) Information from reliable and authoritative source
(d) Sudden feelings of fear and embarrassment
24. 'Bite off more than you can chew'
(a) To suddenly wrap out of conversation
(b) To try to do more than you can manage
(c) To do something in the easiest or cheapest way
(d) To exaggerate something wildly
25. 'A piece of cake'
(a) Something difficult to extract from the original
(b) Something very difficult to understand
(c) Something that appears very inviting
(d) Something very easy to accomplish

Directions (Q. Nos. 26 to 30): Each of the following sentences has word/words in *italic*.

belongs/belong to.

26. He claimed his **HALF** share of the booty.
(a) Adverb (b) Adjective
(c) Noun (d) Determiner
27. **SWIMMING** is a healthy exercise.
(a) Verb (b) Gerund
(c) Adjective (d) Adverb
28. I have told you **NOW AND AGAIN** that you must not read such trash.
(a) Conjunction (b) Preposition
(c) Noun (d) Adverb
29. He succeeded **BY DINT OF** perseverance and sheer hard work.
(a) Conjunctive phrase (b) Adjectival phrase
(c) Prepositional phrase (d) Adverbial phrase
30. I need you to return **THOSE** books I lent you last month.
(a) Modal (b) Determiner
(c) Noun (d) Adjective

Directions (Q. Nos. 31 to 35): Each of the following items features one part of a sentence, followed by four alternatives. Complete the sentence by choosing the correct alternative and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

31. I will not pay for the goods
(a) till he sends me the bill again
(b) until he sends me the bill again
(c) if he sends me the bill again
(d) unless he sends me the bill again
32. I did not buy it
(a) because I did not like the look of it
(b) as far as I did not like the look of it
(c) anyway I did not like the look of it
(d) if I did not like the look of it
33. I sent her a bouquet of orchids
(a) for which she was absolutely delighted
(b) with which she was absolutely delighted
(c) of which she was absolutely delighted
(d) on which she was absolutely delighted
34. You must stay inside
(a) where it starts raining
(b) when it starts raining
(c) because it starts raining
(d) till it starts raining
35. We must wait
(a) until you see the light turn green
(b) till you see the green light
(c) because you can see the green light
(d) unless you see the red signal

Directions (Q. Nos. 36 to 40): The following items have four sentences, one of which is correct. Select the correct sentence and mark

36. (a) Although it was raining, we had the picnic.
(b) Although it was raining, still we had the picnic.
(c) Although it was raining, yet we had the picnic.
(d) Although it was raining, even then we had the picnic.
37. (a) When I would arrive, I will call you.
(b) When I shall arrive, I will call you.
(c) When I will arrive, I will call you.
(d) When I arrive, I will call you.
38. (a) Who among you has the answer?
(b) Whom among you has the answer?
(c) Whom amongst you has the answer?
(d) Who amid you has the answer?
39. (a) No sooner than he reached the station the train left.
(b) No sooner had he reached the station than the train left.
(c) No sooner he had reached the station than the train left.
(d) No sooner had he reached the station then the train left.
40. (a) Hardly had I arrived at the airport than the plane departed.
(b) Scarcely had I arrived at the airport when the plane departed.
(c) Hardly I had arrived at the airport when the plane departed.
(d) Scarcely had I arrived at the airport then the plane departed.

Directions (Q. Nos. 41 to 45): Each item in this section has a sentence with four underlined parts labeled (a), (b), (c) and (d). Read each sentence to find out whether there is any error in any underlined part. Indicate your response in the Answer Sheet accordingly.

41. The project staff are (a)/ working on the weekend (b)/ so as not to delay (c)/ the project any further. (d)/
42. When I saw Arnab (a)/ he said he (b)/ had taken his (c)/ driving test yesterday. (d)/
43. Of all the players (a)/ it was Ramesh (b)/ who plan his tactics (c)/ with utmost care. (d)/
44. Many people in India are (a)/ still not aware (b)/ of India's indigenous fabrics (c)/ that reflects the rich heritage of craftsmanship. (d)/
45. Meaningful ecological (a) /effects of the handloom (b)/ sector can be optimized (c) /through recycling practices. (d)/

46. Read the following pairs:

Active Voice — Passive Voice

I. They laughed at his warnings and objected to all his proposals.
→ His warnings were laughed at and his proposals were objected to.

Identify the pair(s) wherein the Passive Voice is correctly stated and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

- (a) I only (b) II only
(c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II

47. Read the following pairs:

Direct Speech — Indirect Speech

I. The policeman said to us, "Where are you going?"

→ The policeman asked where were we going.

II. "Call the first witness," said the Judge.

→ The Judge said them to call the witness first.

Identify the pair(s) wherein the Indirect Speech is correctly stated and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

- (a) I only (b) II only
(c) Both I and II (d) Neither I nor II

48. Read the following pairs:

Idiom/Phrase — Meaning

I. Have one foot in the grave → To be in the last stage of life

II. Get your feet wet → Establish yourself securely in an establishment

III. Follow suit → Correctly conform to another's action

Identify the pair(s) wherein the meaning is correctly stated and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

- (a) I only (b) III only
(c) I and III (d) II and III

49. Read the following pairs:

Group of words — One-word substitution

I. Decayed with usually a very bad or disgusting smell → Putrid

II. Humorous in a clever and often ironic way → Wry

III. In a state of tremulous excitement → Aflutter

Identify the pairs wherein the one-word substitution is correctly stated and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

- (a) I and II only (b) II and III only
(c) I and III only (d) I, II and III

50. Fill in the blanks (X, Y) in the following

sentences with the appropriate word/phrase given in the brackets:

I. I spent X (less/the least) money on clothes in the whole family.

II. The people who work the hardest make Y (a few/the fewest) mistakes.

Identify the words/phrases and mark your response on the Answer Sheet accordingly.

- (a) I—the least, II—the fewest
(b) I—the least, II—a few
(c) I—less, II—a few
(d) I—less, II—the fewest

1. D (parables) – *Allegory* is a symbolic narrative conveying a moral or spiritual idea. Parables are short moral stories with the same purpose.
2. B (intoxication) – *Inebriation* means drunkenness. Intoxication is its direct synonym.
3. D (disorderly) – *Obstreperous* means noisy and difficult to control. Disorderly is the closest meaning.
4. A (rigorous) – *Gruelling* describes something extremely demanding. Rigorous best conveys this idea.
5. B (decoration) – *Adornment* means beautification by adding ornaments. Decoration is the closest synonym.
6. B (unfrequented) – *Off the beaten track* refers to places rarely visited. Hence, unfrequented.
7. D (recite) – *Chant* means to repeat rhythmically. Recite is the nearest equivalent.
8. A (harness) – *Utilize* means to use effectively. Harness best matches this meaning.
9. A (mitigated) – *Abated* means reduced in intensity. Mitigated is the closest synonym.
10. C (cryptic) – *Ambiguous* means unclear or capable of more than one meaning. Cryptic is the best match.
11. B (cadaverous) – *Ruddy* means healthy and reddish. Cadaverous is its opposite.
12. A (iniquity) – *Righteousness* means moral goodness. Iniquity means wickedness.
13. D (scintillating) – *Listless* means dull and lifeless. Scintillating means lively and brilliant.
14. A (scrupulous) – *Disingenuous* means dishonest. Scrupulous means honest and morally upright.
15. A (composed) – *Excitable* means easily agitated. Composed means calm.
16. B (enlightened) – *Perplexed* means confused. Enlightened means having clear understanding.
17. D (degrade) – *Optimize* means improve. Degrade means make worse.
18. C (timidness) – *Audaciousness* means boldness. Timidness is its opposite.
19. A (consecutive) – *Concurrent* means happening together. Consecutive means one after another.
20. D (ambiguity) – *Lucidity* means clarity. Ambiguity means lack of clarity.
21. B – *Nuts and bolts* means the practical details of a task.
22. A – *Hat in hand* means with humility.
23. C – *Straight from the horse's mouth* means information from a reliable source.
24. B – *Bite off more than you can chew* means attempt more than you can manage.
25. D – *A piece of cake* means something very easy.
26. B (Adjective) – *Half* qualifies the noun share, so it is an adjective.
27. B (Gerund) – *Swimming* functions as the subject; hence it is a gerund.
28. D (Adverb) – *Now and again* modifies the verb by showing frequency.
29. C (Prepositional phrase) – *By dint of* is a fixed prepositional phrase meaning *because of*.
30. B – In the sentence, those is determiner.
31. D – Unless introduces a negative condition (*if not*).
32. A – Because correctly expresses the cause.
33. B – The correct collocation is delighted with.
34. B – When correctly introduces the time clause.
35. A – Until expresses continuation up to a particular time.
36. A – Although itself shows contrast; adding *still/yet* is unnecessary.
37. D – After when, the simple present is used for future time clauses.
38. A – Who is correct because it is the subject of the clause.
39. B – The correct pair is No sooner...than.
40. B – The correct pair is Scarcely...when.
41. B – Error in the preposition/time expression.
42. D – With reported speech, yesterday changes to the previous day.
43. C – Error in subject–verb agreement; use plans.
44. D – A plural subject takes reflect, not *reflects*.
45. B – Use affects (verb), not effects (noun).
46. A (I only) – Only Statement I is in the correct passive voice.
47. D (Neither I nor II) – Both reported speech conversions are incorrect.
48. C (I and III) – Statements I and III are correct.
49. D (I, II and III) – All three one-word substitutions are correct.
50. A (I—the least, II—the fewest) – Superlative forms required: the least and the fewest