

# Wipro Elite NTH Verbal Ability Questions - Paper 5



## Reading comprehension

(1-6) Directions: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions.

The English language in education today is all-pervasive. “Hear more English, speak more English and become more successful” has become a self-fulfilling prophecy. Some say it’s already a universal language, ahead of other mother tongues such as Arabic, Chinese, Russian, Spanish or French. In reality, of course, this has been centuries in the making. Colonial conquest and global trade routes won the hearts and minds of foreign education systems. These days, the power of English has become accepted wisdom, used to justify the globalisation of education at the cost of existing systems in non-English-speaking countries. The British Council exemplifies this, with its global presence and approving references to the “English effect” on educational and employment prospects.

In non-English countries the packaging of English and its promise of success takes many forms. Instead of being integrated into (or added to) national teaching curricula, English language learning institutes, language courses and international education standards can dominate whole systems. Schools in non-English-speaking countries attract globally ambitious parents and their children with a mix of national and international curricula. The love of all things English begins at a young age in non-English-speaking countries, promoted by pop culture, Hollywood movies, fast-food brands, sports events and TV shows. Later, with English skills and international education qualifications from high school, the path is laid to prestigious international universities in the English-speaking world and employment opportunities at home and abroad. But those opportunities aren’t distributed equally across socioeconomic groups. Global education in English is largely reserved for middle-class students. This is creating a divide between those inside the global English proficiency ecosystem and those relegated to parts of the education system where such opportunities don’t exist. For the latter there is only the national education curriculum and the lesson that social mobility is a largely unattainable goal.

Indonesia presents a good case study. With a population of 268 million, access to English language curricula has mostly been limited to urban areas and

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middle-class parents who can afford to pay for private schools. At the turn of this century, all Indonesian districts were mandated to have at least one public school offering a globally recognised curriculum in English to an international standard. But in 2013 this was deemed unconstitutional because equal educational opportunity should exist across all public schools. Nevertheless, today there are 219 private schools offering at least some part of the curriculum through Cambridge International, and 38 that identify as Muslim private schools. Western international curricula remain influential in setting the standard for what constitutes quality education.

Academic performance measured by knowledge and skill is, of course, still important and a source of personal fulfilment. But without that cultural balance and the nurturing of positive character traits, it lacks deeper meaning. A regulation issued by the Indonesian minister of education in 2018 underlined this. It listed a set of values and virtues that school education should foster: faith, honesty, tolerance, discipline, hard work, creativity, independence, democracy, curiosity, nationalism, patriotism, appreciation, communication, peace, a love of reading, environmental awareness, social awareness and responsibility. These have been simplified to five basic elements of character education: religion, nationalism, Gotong Royong (collective voluntary work), independence and integrity. These are not necessarily measurable by conventional, Western, English-speaking and empirical means.

1. Refer to the sentence: *These days, the power of English has become accepted wisdom, used to justify the globalisation of education at the cost of existing systems in non-English-speaking countries.* What does the author seek to convey through the sentence?

A –

Although diversity is a major goal of global education, the prevalence of English has led to the degradation of education systems in non-English-speaking countries.

B –

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The English language has become a unifying force for various countries.

C –

The significance of English is widely accepted and it has undermined existing education systems in non-English-speaking countries.

D –

The dominance of English in global education has led to deterioration of quality.

### **Solution**

(c) is the right answer. The author has talked about the “power of English”. By this phrase he aims to highlight that English holds a lot of significance in today’s day and age. He has explained it by highlighting its prevalence in global education and the opportunities that it brings. He has also pointed out that in many countries, English has been able to expand its footprint at the expense of non-English education systems. Thus, C is the right answer as it captures the central idea.

A is incorrect as the statement does not talk about diversity in academics.

B is incorrect as the statement does not seek to highlight the role of English in bringing countries together.

D is incorrect because the statement is not concerned with the quality of global education

2. What is the primary purpose of the author in the second paragraph of the passage?

A –

to highlight how unequal access to English may be associated with the class divide

B –

to highlight the difference in quality of private and government schools

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C –

to highlight the need to provide access to English language to every socio-economic class

D –

to highlight the overwhelming focus on English instead of local languages

### **Solution**

(a) is the right answer. In the second paragraph the author has highlighted that the global education in English and the opportunities it brings is limited to the middle class. Those students who are not proficient in English do not get enough opportunities to move ahead as they are part of the non-English education systems. Refer to the lines: *Global education in English is largely reserved for middle-class students. This is creating a divide between those inside the global English proficiency ecosystem and those relegated to parts of the education system where such opportunities don't exist. For the latter there is only the national education curriculum and the lesson that social mobility is a largely unattainable goal.* Thus, the unequal access to English is associated with the class divide.

B is incorrect as the second paragraph does not talk about private and government schools.

C is incorrect because the author does not advocate that every socio-economic group should be provided access

D is incorrect because it is not the central idea of the second paragraph.

E is incorrect because the paragraph does not talk about the Western curricula.

3. Based on the information given in the passage, it is clear that \_\_\_\_\_.

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A -

English language should be accepted as the global medium of education as European countries have fared better in terms of education.

B -

If English becomes the global language, we may end up losing better ways of learning.

C -

English is often seen as a passport to success in many non-English-speaking countries.

D -

There is a need to focus on other education systems that only use English in a limited way.

### **Solution**

(c) is the right answer. The author has highlighted the significance of English language and its dominance in global education. He has also highlighted that it brings in greater opportunities in academics as well as in terms of jobs.

A is incorrect as the passage does not state that European countries have fared better in terms of education.

B is incorrect because the passage does not state that other ways of learning are under threat because of the English language.

D is incorrect as the passage does not talk about the degree to which English should be used in other education systems.

4. As per the passage, which of the following statements is TRUE?

A -

The inability to communicate coherently in the mother tongue limits the chances of success.

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B -

The English language may dominate the education system but pop culture is still dominated by regional languages.

C -

Education systems of different countries are based on different values and they understand success in different ways.

D -

Access to English language may be uniform but the access to global education is not.

### **Solution**

(c) is the right answer. Refer to the lines: *A regulation issued by the Indonesian minister of education in 2018 underlined this. It listed a set of values and virtues that school education should foster:..... These are not necessarily measurable by conventional, Western, English-speaking and empirical means.* The author seeks to highlight that not all education systems measure success in the same way as the Western, English-speaking education system does. Thus, C is true.

A is incorrect as the passage is not concerned with any language other than English.

B is incorrect. Refer to the lines: *The love of all things English begins at a young age in non-English-speaking countries, promoted by pop culture, Hollywood movies, fast-food brands, sports events and TV shows.*

D is incorrect. Refer to the lines: *But those opportunities aren't distributed equally across socioeconomic groups. Global education in English is largely reserved for middle-class students.*

5. Which of the following factors have contributed to the rise of English as a global language?

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1. Colonialism and dominance of trade routes by English-speaking countries
2. Dominance of the English language in the pop culture
3. Better academic and employment opportunities are available to those proficient in English

A -

Only 1

B -

Only 2 and 3

C -

Only 1 and 3

D -

All 1, 2 and 3

### **Solution**

(d) is the right answer. Refer to the lines: *Colonial conquest and global trade routes won the hearts and minds of foreign education systems.....The love of all things English begins at a young age in non-English-speaking countries, promoted by pop culture, Hollywood movies, fast-food brands, sports events and TV shows. Later, with English skills and international education qualifications from high school, the path is laid to prestigious international universities in the English-speaking world and employment opportunities at home and abroad. All the three factors have been explicitly mentioned in the passage.*

6. Which of the following is the opposite in meaning to the word 'unattainable' as used in the passage?

A -

convivial

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B -  
exuberant

C -  
esoteric

D -  
feasible

### **Solution**

(d) is the right answer. If you say that something is unattainable, you mean that it cannot be achieved or is not available. FEASIBLE is the antonym.

Convivial (adj.)- pleasant, friendly, and relaxed.

Exuberant (adj.)- full of energy, excitement, and cheerfulness.

Esoteric (adj.)- intended for or likely to be understood by only a small number of people with a specialized knowledge or interest.

Diligent (adj.)- having or showing care and conscientiousness in one's work or duties.

### **Error location**

7. In the following question, one part of the sentence may have an error. Find out which part of the sentence has an error and select the appropriate option. If a sentence is free from error, select 'No Error'.

A -  
The successful conservation of

B -  
the earth's species in a way that keeps

C -



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biodiversity functional and healthy

D -  
will likely depend at collaboration.

### Solution

In D, replace the preposition AT with ON, as the verb DEPEND will take the preposition ON after it. Thus, (d) is the right answer.

### Error location

8. In the following question, one part of the sentence may have an error. Find out which part of the sentence has an error and select the appropriate option. If a sentence is free from error, select 'No Error'.

- A -  
While sport fishermen are excited about red snapper fish
- B -  
moving down the East Coast of Australia,
- C -  
if they eat juvenile lobsters in Tasmania they could harmed
- D -  
this environmentally and economically important crustacean.

### Solution

In C, replace the second form verb HARMED with HARM as the modal verb COULD will take the base form of the main verb that follows it. Thus, (c) is the right answer.

### Error location

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9. In the following question, one part of the sentence may have an error. Find out which part of the sentence has an error and select the appropriate option. If a sentence is free from error, select 'No Error'.

- A -  
Large birds of prey are more acutely
- B -  
affected by dramatic climate changes
- C -  
because they have fewer offspring and
- D -  
No error

### Solution

The sentence is grammatically correct and free of error. Thus, (d) is the right answer.

### Phrase replacement

10. Which of the following phrases (1), (2), and (3) given below each sentence should replace the phrase printed in bold letters to make the sentence grammatically correct? Choose the best option among the five given alternatives that reflect the correct use of the phrase in the context of the grammatically correct sentence. If the sentence is correct as it is, mark 'No Improvement' as the answer.

**To minimise the impacted** on the endangered turtles, authorities supervise and limit the number of visitors each night.

1. For minimum impact on
2. For the purpose of minimally impactful

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3. So that there is minimal impact on

A -

No Improvement

B -

Only 1 and 2

C -

Only 1 and 3

D -

Only 2 and 3

### Solution

The sentence tells us how the authorities have limited the number of tourists each night so that there is minimum impact on the endangered turtles. Both 1 and 3 can replace the highlighted phrase to convey the requisite meaning. Thus, (c) is the right answer.

2 is incorrect as it ends with the adjective IMPACTFUL, which does not link with the remaining sentence grammatically. The highlighted phrase is incorrect as the noun IMPACT should have been used in place of the verb IMPACTED as it is being modified by the definite article THE.

### Phrase replacement

11. Which of the following phrases (1), (2), and (3) given below each sentence should replace the phrase printed in bold letters to make the sentence grammatically correct? Choose the best option among the five given alternatives that reflect the correct use of the phrase in the context of the grammatically correct sentence. If the sentence is correct as it is, mark 'No Improvement' as the answer.

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New evidence has also failed **to brought a support** for his ideas, but this is not to say that we should ignore what he wrote.

1. To throw support to
2. To support
3. To have supported

A -  
No Improvement

B -  
**Only 1 and 2**

C -  
Only 1 and 3

D -  
Only 2 and 3

### Solution

The sentence tells us how new evidence does not support his ideas, but one must not ignore his writings. Both 1 and 2 can replace the highlighted phrase to convey the requisite meaning. Thus, (b) is the right answer.

3 is incorrect as it introduces the helping verb HAVE which will be redundant since the helping verb HAS has already been used in the sentence. The highlighted phrase is incorrect as the infinitive construction TO + VERB will take the base form of the verb BRING instead of the second form verb BROUGHT.

### Phrase replacement

12. Which of the following phrases (1), (2), and (3) given below each sentence should replace the phrase printed in bold letters to make the sentence grammatically correct? Choose the best option among the five given alternatives that reflect the correct use of the phrase in the context of the grammatically

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correct sentence. If the sentence is correct as it is, mark 'No Improvement' as the answer.

**In compare with** Norway, Sweden had substantially higher actual and projected unemployment numbers as a result of the recession.

1. Compared to

2. As opposed to

3. In contrast to

A -

No Improvement

B -

Only 1 and 2

C -

Only 1 and 3

**D -**

**All 1, 2 and 3**

### **Solution**

The sentence tells us how Sweden had higher unemployment when compared to Norway. All 1, 2 and 3 can replace the highlighted phrase to convey the requisite meaning. Thus, (D) is the right answer.

The highlighted phrase is incorrect as the noun COMPARISON should have been used in place of the verb COMPARE.

### **Jumbled sentences**

13. In the question given below, rearrange the parts of the sentence in the correct order, and choose the correct option.

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attempts to cut spending (A)/ during her first months in office (B)/ as a result of the administration's (C)/ she attracted public attention (D)

A -

ADCB

B -

ABDC

C -

DBAC

**D -**

**DBCA**

### **Solution**

DBCA is the final order. D begins the sentence by establishing the subject - SHE, and tells us that she attracted attention from the public. B follows by telling us when - during the first few months when she was in office. CA follows as a pair, telling us the reason behind this - the administration tried to cut spending. Thus, (d) is the right answer.

### **Jumbled sentences**

14. In the question given below, rearrange the parts of the sentence in the correct order, and choose the correct option.

large sections of the fans began to (A)/ question the coach's ability and (B)/ as a result, crowds began to dwindle (C)/ and morale was beginning to suffer (D)

A -

ACBD

B -

BCDA

C -

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BADC

**D -**

**No rearrangement required**

### **Solution**

ABCD is the final order. A begins the sentence by establishing the subject - large sections of the fans. B follows by telling us that they began to question the ability of the coach. CD follow as a pair, giving the effects of this - crowds began to reduce in number, and morale of the team was suffering. Thus, (d) is the right answer.

### **Jumbled sentences**

15. In the question given below, rearrange the parts of the sentence in the correct order, and choose the correct option.

the Hindu cultural influence found (A)/ many of the surviving examples of (B)/ today throughout Southeast Asia (C)/ are the result of the Chola expeditions (D)

A -

BDAC

B -

BACD

C -

BCAD

D -

ADBC

### **Solution**

BACD is the final order. BA begins the sentence as a pair, by establishing the subject - the surviving examples of Hindu cultural influence. C follows by telling us where these examples have been found - throughout Southeast Asia. D concludes

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by telling us that they are the result of Chola expeditions. Thus, (b) is the right answer.

### Jumbled sentences

16. In the question given below, rearrange the parts of the sentence in the correct order, and choose the correct option.

as a result of famine and forced labour (A)/ people died in Indonesia (B)/ a UN report stated that four million (C)/ during the Japanese occupation (D)

A -  
DCAB

B -  
DBAC

C -  
CABD

D -  
CBAD

### Solution

CBAD is the final order. C begins the sentence by establishing the subject - a UN report. B follows by telling us the statement made by this report - four million deaths in Indonesia. A gives the causes behind these deaths - famine and forced labour. D concludes by telling us when this took place - during the Japanese occupation. Thus, (d) is the right answer.

### Antonyms

17. In the following question, choose the word opposite in meaning to the given word.

Indigent



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A -  
Wealthy

B -  
Suffered

C -  
Subject

D -  
Opportunity

### **Solution**

(a) is the correct answer. INDIGENT means poor or needy. WEALTHY is its antonym.

Suffered- Undergone, Subject- Issue, Opportunity- Chance.

### **Synonyms**

18. In the following question, out of the four alternatives, choose the one which best expresses the meaning of the given word.

Overjoyed

A -  
Guarantee

B -  
Respectable

C -  
Ecstatic

D -  
Objective

### **Solution**

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(c) is the correct answer. OVERJOYED means 'extremely happy'. ECSTATIC is its synonym.

Guarantee- Assurance, Respectable- regarded to be good, Objective- Aim.

### Phrasal verbs/idioms

19. In the question below, a sentence is given with an idiom in brackets, followed by four options. Select the option that gives the correct meaning of the idiom.

The scientists (**have blazed the trail**) when it comes to gene therapy.

- A -  
have condemned the violence
- B -  
have defied the rules
- C -  
have done something new
- D -  
have surrendered

### Solution

(c) is the correct answer. 'To blaze the trail' means 'to do something never done before'. (c) conveys the requisite meaning of the phrase.

### Phrasal verbs/idioms

20. In the following question, a sentence is given with a phrase or idiom in brackets. Select the option given below that can replace the bracketed phrase.

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The fight between the party members (has break out) due to disagreement over the bill.

- A -  
has broken out
- B -  
have broken out
- C -  
has broke out
- D -  
No improvement

### **Solution**

(a) is the correct answer. The sentence tells us about why a fight has erupted between the party members. (a) conveys the requisite meaning of the phrase.

The present perfect tense construction HAS + VERB will take the past participle form of the verb BROKEN. This makes C and the highlighted phrase incorrect as they use the second form and the base form of the verb respectively. B is incorrect as it uses the plural verb HAVE in place of the singular HAS while the subject FIGHT is singular.

### **Phrasal verbs/idioms**

21. In the following question, a sentence is given with a phrase or idiom in brackets. Select the option given below that can replace the bracketed phrase.

The prime minister went to the state (to calling on) the victims of the cyclone.

- A -  
to call out
- B -  
to call on

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C -  
to call off

D -  
No improvement

### **Solution**

(b) is the correct answer. The sentence tells us how the prime minister went to visit the victims of the cyclone. CALL ON means to visit. (b) conveys the requisite meaning of the phrase.

A is incorrect as CALL OUT means to shout. C is incorrect as CALL OFF means to cancel. The highlighted phrase is incorrect as infinitive construction TO + VERB will take the base form of the verb CALL instead of the continuous form verb CALLING.

### **Para jumbled sentences**

22. In the question given below, rearrange the fragments in the correct order, and choose the correct option.

P. Disability is an 'umbrella term for impairments, activity limitations and participation restrictions.

Q. These limitations are caused by an interaction between the health conditions of an individual and the contextual factors reflected in the social-economic environment of the day.

R. The understanding about disability has moved away from a biological perspective to questions of accessibility, inclusion and empowerment.

S. Civil Society activists and policymakers have started thinking about the issue of disability in terms of a rights-based and inclusive paradigm.

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A -  
PQRS

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B -  
PSQR

C -  
PRQP

D -  
SQRP

### **Solution**

(a) is the correct answer. The correct sequence is PQRS. P begins the sentence by introducing the subject- DISABILITY. Q follows P as it talks about the reasons for these limitations (mentioned in P) related to disability and how they are caused. R follows Q by stating how the understanding of disability has changed over the years. S concludes by further showing the work of social activists and activists to accommodate the change in understanding of disability.