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SSC CGL 2026 TIER-1



Score Booster - 37

24 SEPT 2025 (SHIFT - II)



15 Min. / 25 Questions



ENGLISH



23 JULY 2026



Time: 01:00 PM



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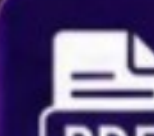
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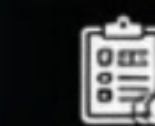
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Comprehension Direction: [Q.76. to Q.80.]

Once dismissed as a hobby for tech enthusiasts, podcasting has evolved into a sophisticated and highly strategic medium for both entertainment and professional communication. Beyond the casual image of informal chats, successful podcasters must negotiate an intricate ecosystem of audio production quality, listener analytics, content licensing, sponsorship deals, and social media amplification. The accessibility of podcasting seemingly offers an egalitarian platform—anyone with a microphone can, in principle, reach a global audience. Yet, the reality is considerably more selective. Sustained success requires not only compelling storytelling but also expertise in audio editing, marketing strategies, audience engagement, and trend analysis. Regular scheduling, careful interaction with listeners, and adaptation to changes in distribution policies have become essential competencies. Moreover, the psychological consequences of relying on listener metrics for professional validation cannot be overlooked.

Podcasters frequently face stress, performance anxiety, and fluctuating motivation. Unlike conventional employment, the field offers minimal institutional support; creators must independently negotiate contracts, manage finances, and address health considerations. Nonetheless, for those who can navigate this challenging terrain, the rewards are substantial creatively and financially. The medium allows exceptional independence, providing a direct channel between the creator and the audience, largely free from traditional editorial oversight. In a rapidly evolving media landscape, podcasting represents more than a passing fad; it signals a transformation in how content is produced, distributed, and consumed.

1. Identify the grammatical function of the phrase "providing a direct channel between the creator and the audience" in the sentence: "The medium allows exceptional independence, providing a direct channel between the creator and the audience, largely free from traditional editorial oversight."

- (a) Adjective phrase
- (b) Present participial phrase functioning as an adverb
- (c) Noun phrase acting as an object
- (d) Absolute phrase modifying the subject

2. In the sentence "Beyond the casual image of informal chats, successful podcasters must negotiate an intricate ecosystem of audio production quality, listener analytics..." What is the function of the introductory phrase "Beyond the casual image of informal chats"?
- (a) Appositive phrase
 - (b) Adverbial phrase modifying "must negotiate"
 - (c) Prepositional phrase functioning as a noun
 - (d) Absolute phrase with implied verb

3. What is the closest meaning of the word "intricate" as used in the passage?

- (a) Simple and straightforward
- (b) Complex and detailed
- (c) Predictable and repetitive
- (d) Superficial and careless

4. Choose the most appropriate antonym for the word "egalitarian" as used in the passage.

- (a) Exclusive**
- (b) Democratic**
- (c) Inclusive**
- (d) Accessible**

5. Which of the following best captures the primary tension described in the passage?

- ☒ (a) The tension between casual perception of podcasting and the professional demands of the field
- (b) The tension between sponsorship deals and creative freedom
- (c) The tension between global audiences and local content restrictions
- (d) The tension between audio quality and listener engagement

6. What does the phrase "go back to square one" mean?

(a) To start over after a failure

(b) To complete a task successfully

(c) To take a short break from work

(d) To finalize a project

7. Fill in the blank with the correctly spelt word.

The critic's review was filled with _____ remarks that hurt the author deeply.

- ☒ (a) scurrilous
- (b) scurilous
- (c) scurrillous
- (d) scurrellous

8. Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word:

REPINE

- (a) Complain
- (b) Restore
- (c) Celebrate
- (d) Forgive

✓ 9. Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word:

VERACIOUS

(a) Truthful +

(b) Honest +

✓ (c) Deceptive —

(d) Sincere +

10. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom:

In the nick of time

- (a) Too early
- (b) A little late
- (c) Just before it was too late
- (d) Without any preparation

✓ 11. Select the correct spelling of a word meaning 'to weaken or reduce in force'.

- (a) Attenuate
- ✓ (b) Atennuate
- (c) Attanuate
- (d) Atenuuate

12. Spot the correct spelling of "a person who studies fossils".

- (a) Paleantologist
- (b) Paleontologist
- (c) Paleontolagist
- (d) Palaontologist



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13. Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words:

"A group of crows."

- (a) Murder**
- (b) Flock**
- (c) Swarm**
- (d) Cluster**

14. Select the option that can be used as a one-word substitute for the given group of words:

"A person who travels on foot."

(a) Pedestrian

(b) Voyager

(c) Walker

(d) Hiker

→ long journey.

→ long distance

15. Fill in the blank with the most appropriate phrasal verb:

She tried to _____ the sensitive information during the meeting.

- (a) play down
- (b) phase out
- (c) hand off
- (d) come across

✓ 16. The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them contains an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options.

Had the manager explained the policy clearly (1) /
to the staff members, (2) / they would not have
made (3) / so many confusions. (4)

- (a) (1)
- (b) (2)
- (c) (3)
- (d) (4)

17. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in the Active/Passive voice.

They don't allow pets in this hotel.

(a) Pets aren't allowed in this hotel.

(b) Pets haven't been allowed in this hotel.

(c) Pets weren't allowed in this hotel.

(d) Pets shouldn't be allowed in this hotel

✓ 18. Select the option which contains the most appropriate **HOMONYM** of the word given in bold/underline.

He put the **lead** pencil on the table.

- ✓ (a) The pipes were made of lead.
- (b) He will lead the team to victory.
- (c) The teacher gave him a lead for the assignment.
- (d) She used a lead to mark the stone.

19. Select the option that expresses the given sentence in the Active/Passive voice.

The meeting was reported to have been postponed due to unforeseen circumstances.

- (a) The news reported that the meeting had been postponed due to unforeseen circumstances.**
- (b) It was reported that the meeting had been postponed due to unforeseen circumstances.**
- (c) The meeting was reported as postponed due to unforeseen circumstances.**
- (d) Officials reported that the meeting had been postponed due to unforeseen circumstances.**

20. Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underline/Bold segment in the given sentence. He was so hungry to eat the entire meal.

(a) that he could eat the entire meal

(b) and he ate the entire meal

(c) that he eats the entire meal

(d) that he might eat the entire meal

21. Select the most appropriate option to substitute the underline/Bold segment in the given sentence.

He is superior than his colleague in experience.

- (a) superior to his colleague
- (b) superior than his colleague
- (c) more superior than his colleague
- (d) superior from his colleague

22. Select the correct indirect/direct form of the given sentence.

✓ The manager complained that the employees had neglected the safety protocols during the inspection.

- (a) The manager complained, "The employees did neglect the safety protocols during the inspection."
- (b) The manager complained, "The employees had neglected the safety protocols during the inspection."
- (c) The manager complained, "Employees neglect the safety protocols during the inspection."
- ✓ (d) The manager complained, "The employees have neglected safety protocols during the inspection."

23. Select the correct indirect/direct form of the given sentence.

Anita said, "I will meet you at the station."

- (a) Anita said she will meet me at the station.**
- (b) Anita said she would meet me at the station.**
- (c) Anita said she shall meet me at the station.**
- (d) Anita said she meets me at the station.**

24. Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.

1. A festival was celebrated in the town with great enthusiasm.
2. Stalls, games, and food outlets were set up for visitors.
3. People from nearby villages joined the celebrations.
4. Traditional dances and music performances entertained the crowd.

(a) 1-3-2-4

(b) 3-2-4-1

(c) 2-4-1-3

(d) 4-1-3-2

1 3 2 4

25. Sentences of a paragraph are given below in jumbled order. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph.

1. The ingredients are gathered from the market.
2. The dough is kneaded until smooth.
3. The bread is baked in the oven.
4. The recipe is chosen from a cookbook.

(a) 4-1-2-3

(b) 1-2-3-4

(c) 4-2-1-3

(d) 2-1-4-3

4 1 2 3

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