



SSC CGL 2026 TIER-1



Score Booster - 33

23 SEPT 2025 (SHIFT - I)



15 Min. / 25 Questions

ENGLISH



18 JULY 2026



Time: 01:00 PM



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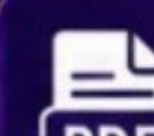
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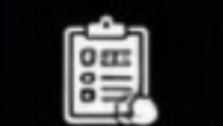
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1. Select the correct spelling of a word meaning a short, witty saying expressing a general truth or observation.

(a) Aphorism

(b) Apherism

(c) Aphorism

(d) Aphorasm

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

॥ A person who finds joy in the pain or suffering of others .

(a) Pessimist

(c) Masochist

(b) Sadist

(d) Narcissist

3. Select the correct spelling to fill in the blanks .

Her _____ wit often left her opponents speechless .

(a) trenchant

(c) trenchant

(b) trenchantt

(d) trenchaunt

4. Select the most appropriate antonym of the given word: OBSTINACY

(a) Stubbornness

(b) Flexibility

(c) Tenacity

(d) Firmness

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

To bite the hand that feeds you

(a) To show ingratitude towards a benefactor

(b) To harm someone physically

(c) To refuse help when offered

(d) To struggle against oppression

6. Select the most appropriate meaning of the given

idiom: Out of one's depth

(a) To be swimming in deep water

(b) To be feeling overwhelmed by emotions

(c) To be in a situation too difficult for one's abilities

✓ (d) To lose consciousness

**7. Select the correct spelling of a word meaning
'state of being concerned and anxious.'**

(a) Soulessitude

(b) Soulissitude

(c) Solescitude

(d) Solicitude

8. 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. Their thermometers and sleep tracking offer peace of mind .
2. Smart baby monitors are now highly recommended for new parents .
3. They provide live audio and video, letting parents check on infants remotely.
4. Advanced models also alert parents to unusual movements, boosting safety.

(a) 1-2-4-3

(b) 4-1-2-3

(c) 2-3-1-4

(d) 1-2-3-4

2=3-1

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

A statement that appears self-contradictory but contains a deeper truth .

(a) Conundrum

(b) Paradox

(c) Riddle

(d) Puzzle

10. 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 .

The volunteers, (1)/ while collecting supplies for the flood victims, (2)/ the storage facility was inspected (3)/ for safety compliance. (4)

(a) (1)

(b) (2)

(c) (3)

(d) (4)

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

c1 The editor has approved the final draft of the article .

- (a) The final draft of the article is approved by the editor.
- (b) The final draft of the article was approved by the editor.
- ☒ (c) The final draft of the article has been approved by the editor.
- (d) The final draft of the article has been rejected by the editor.

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

The project manager will lead **the team through the transition phase** . ✓

- ✓ (a) Exposure to old paint may cause lead poisoning.
- (b) They plan to lead the discussion on new strategies.
- (c) Her calm nature helped lead the group to success.
- (d) The director continues to lead multiple initiatives.

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

He behaves as if he was **the owner of the company** .

- (a) like he was (b) as if he is
(c) as though he was (d) as if he were

as if → were =

Q5.1.

14. Select the correct indirect/direct form of the given sentence. *told me.*

She said to me that she had finished her work before sunset.

(a) She told me, "I finished my work before sunset." *She said to me.*

(b) She told me, "I had finished your work before sunset."

(c) She told me, "I finish my work before sunset."

(d) She told me, "She had been finishing her work before sunset."

15. Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank .

The archaeologist unearthed an ancient artefact, providing an invaluable glimpse into a prehistoric civilization .

(a) a, an, the

(b) an, an, a

(c) the, a, an

(d) an, a, the

(A / An / the) ✓

16. 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. They use organic compounds that emit light .
2. OLEDs have transformed display technology .
3. This creates thinner, more vibrant screens .
4. Flexible screens are now pushing these limits further .

(a) 3, 4, 2, 1

(b) 2, 1, 3, 4

(c) 2, 4, 1, 3

(d) 3, 1, 2, 4

2-1-3-4

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

The scientist questioned the assumption that the new material would remain stable under extreme temperatures .

- (a) The assumption that the new material would remain stable under extreme temperatures was questioned by the scientist.
- (b) The assumption was questioned that the new material will remain stable under extreme temperatures by the scientist.
- (c) Under extreme temperatures, it was questioned that the assumption would remain stable by the scientist.
- (d) The scientist would remain stable as long as the assumption was questioned under extreme Temperatures.



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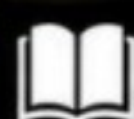


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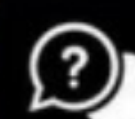
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18. Select the most appropriate synonym of the given word: GALA

(a) Ordinary

(b) Function

(c) Drab

(d) Merriment

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

Arjun said to his colleagues, "We shall not discuss this topic again."

- (a) Arjun told his colleagues that they would not discuss that topic again.
- (b) Arjun said his colleagues that they shall not discuss this topic again.
- (c) Arjun told his colleagues that they shall not discussed that topic again.
- (d) Arjun said that his colleagues would not discuss this topic again.

20. 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. For aquatic species, features like fin structure or gill morphology might be key .
2. Naming newly discovered animals, whether terrestrial or aquatic, follows strict scientific protocols .
3. Terrestrial animals, for instance, are often classified by fur patterns, skeletal features, or vocalizations .
4. Ultimately, these names help categorise biodiversity and facilitate further research .

(a) 3, 4, 2, 1

(b) 3, 1, 2, 4

(c) 2, 3, 1, 4

(d) 1, 2, 3, 4

Comprehension: Direction: (Q.21. to Q.25.)

Self-improvement is often misunderstood as a relentless pursuit of productivity, but its essence lies in conscious evolution rather than constant acceleration . Genuine growth involves introspection—the ability to assess one's values, patterns, and limitations without defensiveness . Many individuals equate self-betterment with acquiring new skills or achieving external milestones, yet transformation begins internally . Recognising one's thought habits and emotional triggers often precedes any lasting behavioural change . Another key dimension of self-improvement is consistency . Grand resolutions may generate temporary enthusiasm, but small, repeated actions cultivate real progress . This is because repetition strengthens neural pathways, turning intentional effort into natural behaviour . Equally important is self-compassion . Improvement that stems from self-criticism usually breeds anxiety, whereas a kind and patient attitude toward one's imperfections encourages resilience and persistence . Furthermore, self-improvement is a cyclical process—it requires periodic reflection and recalibration rather than linear progression . By accepting setbacks as feedback rather than evidence of failure, individuals remain adaptable and motivated . Ultimately, authentic self-improvement is not about becoming someone else, but about aligning one's daily choices more closely with one's deeper values and aspirations.

21. Select the most appropriate synonym of the word

"introspection" as used in the passage.

(a) Observation

(c) Comparison

(b) Self-examination

(d) Evaluation of others

22. According to the author, why are small, repeated actions more effective than grand resolutions?

- (a) They require less time and commitment
- ✓ (b) They gradually rewire mental patterns and habits
- (c) They ensure instant visible results
- (d) They eliminate the need for reflection

23. What attitude does the passage recommend when dealing with personal flaws?

- (a) Harsh criticism to maintain discipline
- (b) Complete indifference to mistakes
- (c) Gentle self-compassion and patience
- (d) Avoidance of introspection

24. How does the passage describe the nature of the self-improvement journey? ✓

- (a) As a straight path from weakness to strength
- (b) As a circular process of learning and adjustment
- ✓ (c) As a competitive race against time ✓
- (d) As an occasional need during crises

25. What central idea is conveyed in the final sentence of the passage?

- (a) True growth is achieved by imitating others' success
- (b) Improvement is about authenticity and alignment with one's values
- (c) Self-improvement requires abandoning old identities completely
- (d) Personal change depends entirely on external achievements

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