

CUET 2026 May 11 (Shift-2) English

Question Paper (Memory-Based) With Solutions PDF

Conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA)



General Instructions

- (i) The test is of 1 hour duration.
- (ii) The question paper consists of 50 questions. The maximum marks are 250.
- (iii) 5 marks are awarded for every correct answer, and 1 mark is deducted for every wrong answer.

1. Use the correct form of the word "RESOLVE" to fill in the blank:- Did you make any New Year's _____ this year?

- (1) resolve
- (2) resolving
- (3) resolution
- (4) resolution

Correct Answer: (4) resolution

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question tests the ability to use the correct "part of speech." While "resolve" is a verb, the sentence requires a noun to follow the adjective "New Year's."

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

- **Resolve (Verb):** To settle or find a solution.
- **Resolution (Noun):** A firm decision to do or not to do something.

- **Resolvation:** This is not a standard English word.

In the context of New Year's goals, the standard term is "New Year's resolution."

Step 3: Final Answer:

The correct form is "resolution."

Quick Tip: To distinguish between the verb and noun: "I resolve (verb) to exercise more." "My resolution (noun) is to exercise more."

2. Choose the appropriate word for the meaning of the underlined word: Ravi came up on the stage and started speaking impromptu.

- (1) Quickly
- (2) Unrehearsed
- (3) Incoherently
- (4) Impressively

Correct Answer: (2) Unrehearsed

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

The question asks for the definition of the word "impromptu" within the context of public speaking.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The word "**impromptu**" describes an act (like a speech or musical performance) done without being planned, organized, or practiced beforehand.

- **Unrehearsed:** This is a perfect synonym.
- **Incoherently:** This means confused or unclear; while an impromptu speech can be incoherent, the word itself doesn't mean that.
- **Impressively:** This refers to the quality of the result, not the lack of preparation.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The meaning of impromptu is "unrehearsed."

Quick Tip: "Impromptu" comes from the Latin phrase *in promptu*, meaning "in readiness." It implies that the speaker was ready to speak even without a script!

3. Rearrange the following phrases into a meaningful sentence: One common mistake that _____.

- (A) thinking that it
- (B) would be a waste of time
- (C) to work together
- (D) many people have made is

- (1) (D), (A), (C), (B)
- (2) (B), (C), (A), (D)
- (3) (C), (A), (B), (D)
- (4) (C), (B), (D), (A)

Correct Answer: (1) (D), (A), (C), (B)

Solution:**Step 1: Understanding the Concept:**

Sentence rearrangement requires identifying the subject, the verb, and the logical flow of information.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. The introductory phrase is "One common mistake that..." 2. This needs to be followed by a phrase describing who made the mistake: (D) "many people have made is" 3. Now we need to define the mistake: (A) "thinking that it" 4. This leads to the action within the thought: (C) "to work together" 5. Finally, the conclusion of the thought: (B) "would be a waste of time."

Step 3: Final Answer:

The complete sentence is: "One common mistake that many people have made is thinking that

it to work together would be a waste of time." (Note: Logically, the correct sequence for a standard sentence would be D-A-C-B).

Step 4: Final Answer:

The correct order is (D), (A), (C), (B).

Quick Tip: When rearranging, look for "hinge" words. "Is" (in D) usually precedes "thinking" (in A), and "it" (in A) needs to refer to something, like the act of "working together" (in C).

4. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given below to make a meaningful sentence:- Ten tourists were _____ injured in the accident and a few of them succumbed to their injuries on the way to the hospital.

- (1) spuriously
- (2) gravely
- (3) fatefully
- (4) vitally

Correct Answer: (2) gravely

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question requires choosing an adverb that correctly describes the severity of physical injuries in a tragic context.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

- **Gravely:** This means "in a serious or solemn manner" or "to a degree that causes great alarm." In medical or accident contexts, "gravely injured" is the standard collocation for life-threatening harm.
- **Spuriously:** Means falsely or fake (e.g., a spurious claim).
- **Fatefully:** Suggests something having far-reaching and typically disastrous consequences,

but it describes the *event* rather than the *physical state* of the person.

- **Vitally:** Means essentially or energetically; it doesn't fit the context of an injury.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The correct word is "gravely."

Quick Tip: The clue is "succumbed to their injuries." This tells you the injuries were extremely serious. "Gravely" and "Seriously" are the most common words used in news reports for such situations.

5. Rearrange the following phrases into a meaningful sentence: The need for a scientific understanding _____.

- (A) the Rio Earth Summit, the first of its kind
- (B) involving world leaders on environment and development
- (C) of natural ecosystems including forests was the main objective of
- (D) of phenomena like climate change, biodiversity, and conservation

- (1) (C), (D), (A), (B)
- (2) (B), (C), (D), (A)
- (3) (D), (C), (A), (B)
- (4) (D), (B), (A), (C)

Correct Answer: (3) (D), (C), (A), (B)

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

To solve this, we must link the preposition "of" following "understanding" to its objects, and then find the verb that completes the main clause.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. The subject starts with: "The need for a scientific understanding..." 2. Understanding of what? (D) "...of phenomena like climate change, biodiversity, and conservation" 3. Continuing the object list: (C) "...of natural ecosystems including forests was the main objective of" 4. Objective of what event? (A) "...the Rio Earth Summit, the first of its kind" 5. Describing the

summit: (B) "...involving world leaders on environment and development."

Step 3: Final Answer:

The full sentence is: "The need for a scientific understanding of phenomena like climate change, biodiversity, and conservation of natural ecosystems including forests was the main objective of the Rio Earth Summit, the first of its kind involving world leaders on environment and development." The correct sequence is (D), (C), (A), (B).

Quick Tip: Always look for prepositions. "Understanding" is almost always followed by "of." Since both (D) and (C) start with "of," check which one flows better from the word "understanding."

6. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given below to make a meaningful sentence:- In my haste to stop the boiling milk from overflowing, I accidentally _____ my fingers.

- (A) sizzled
- (B) scorched
- (C) scalded
- (D) sunburnt

Correct Answer: (C) scalded

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

English has specific words for burns caused by different sources (dry heat vs. wet heat vs. radiation).

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

- **Scalded:** This is the specific term for a burn caused by **hot liquids** (like milk, water) or steam.
- **Scorched:** Usually refers to burning the surface of something (like cloth or skin) with **dry heat** or a flame, often resulting in discoloration.

- **Sizzled:** This is the *sound* of something frying; it is not typically used as a verb for a person getting injured.
- **Sunburnt:** Specifically refers to a burn from UV radiation (the sun).

Step 3: Final Answer:

Since the injury was caused by boiling milk, the correct word is "scalded."

Quick Tip: Remember: Wet = Scald. Dry = Scorch or Burn. If it involves tea, soup, or steam, you've been scalded!

7. Fill in the blank with the correct option:- The two friends appear to have fallen _____ over a minor issue.

- (A) down
- (B) out
- (C) into
- (D) by

Correct Answer: (B) out

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question tests your knowledge of phrasal verbs. A phrasal verb is a verb combined with a preposition or adverb that creates a meaning different from the original verb.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The verb "fall" changes meaning significantly based on the preposition used:

- **Fall out:** To have an argument or a disagreement that leads to a break in a friendship.
- **Fall down:** To drop to the ground.
- **Fall into:** To become involved in something accidentally or to start doing something without intending to.
- **Fall by:** Usually used in the phrase "fall by the wayside," meaning to fail or be forgotten.

Since the context involves friends and a "minor issue," "fall out" is the only logical choice.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The correct phrasal verb is "fallen out."

Quick Tip: To remember "fall out," imagine two friends standing inside a circle of friendship. When they argue, one "falls out" of the circle!

8. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given below to make a meaningful sentence:- His salary is in _____ with the amount of work he does.

- (A) accord
- (B) coordination
- (C) balance
- (D) keeping

Correct Answer: (D) keeping

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question focuses on "collocations"—words that are naturally used together in English to sound correct to a native speaker.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The phrase "**in keeping with**" is a standard English idiom meaning "in agreement with" or "consistent with."

- **In keeping with:** Used to say that something is appropriate for a specific situation.
- **Accord:** Usually used as "in accord *with*," but "in keeping with" is the much more common phrase when discussing salaries and work expectations.
- **Coordination/Balance:** While these words deal with equality, they do not fit the idiomatic structure of the sentence.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The correct phrase is "in keeping with."

Quick Tip: If you are struggling between "accord" and "keeping," look at the context. We use "keeping" when something matches a standard or a level (like a salary matching effort).

9. Fill in the blank with the correct word from the options given below to make a meaningful sentence:- Sara was so _____ that she did not take much time to make up her mind.

- (A) impervious
- (B) impetuous
- (C) inarticulate
- (D) inerrant

Correct Answer: (B) impetuous

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

This question tests vocabulary related to personality traits, specifically those involving decision-making.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

The sentence mentions that Sara "did not take much time to make up her mind," which suggests a quick, perhaps impulsive, nature.

- **Impetuous:** Acting or done quickly and without thought or care. This perfectly matches the context.
- **Impervious:** Unable to be affected by something (e.g., impervious to rain).
- **Inarticulate:** Unable to express oneself clearly.
- **Inerrant:** Incapable of being wrong or making mistakes.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The correct word is "impetuous."

Quick Tip: Think of "Impetuous" as "Impulsive." Both start with "Imp-" and describe someone who jumps into action without thinking it through!

10. Which of the following best explains the meaning of the word METAMORPHOSIS?

- (A) A man flaunts his new car to impress his neighbours
- (B) A woman throws out old clothes from her wardrobe
- (C) A garden full of weeds is converted into a lovely green lawn
- (D) A man paints his new home in bright colours

Correct Answer: (C) A garden full of weeds is converted into a lovely green lawn

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Concept:

Metamorphosis is a term often used in biology (like a caterpillar turning into a butterfly) to describe a total transformation.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

"Metamorphosis" refers to a change of the form or nature of a thing or person into a completely different one.

- **Option C:** Shows a complete transformation of the state of the garden—from messy and overgrown (weeds) to beautiful and managed (lawn). This is a structural and qualitative change.
- Options A, B, and D describe simple actions or superficial changes (cleaning, painting, showing off) but not a deep "metamorphosis."

Step 3: Final Answer:

The transformation of a weed-filled garden into a green lawn best illustrates metamorphosis.

Quick Tip: Break the word down: Meta (change) + Morph (form/shape). It literally means "changing shape" or "changing form."