

CUET 2026 English May 30 Shift 1

Question Paper (Memory-Based) with Solutions

Conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA)



General Instructions

- (i) The examination will be conducted in Computer-Based Test (CBT) mode.
- (ii) Each question carries +5 marks for correct answer and -1 mark for wrong answer.
- (iii) The total number of questions are 50.
- (iv) Duration of the exam is 1 hour (60 minutes).

1. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

The ____ pupils were berated by the teacher for disturbing the other classes.

- (A) Ruminative
- (B) Rambunctious
- (C) Docile
- (D) Absconding

Correct Answer: (B) Rambunctious

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The objective of this question is to identify the most appropriate adjective that describes pupils who were reprimanded by their teacher for creating a disturbance in other classes.

By examining the context of the sentence, we must look for a word that signifies disruptive, noisy, or unruly behavior.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. Let us analyze the context of the sentence: "The pupils were berated by the teacher for disturbing the other classes."

This indicates that the pupils were acting in an unruly, noisy, and uncontrolled manner.

2. Let us evaluate Option (A) "Ruminative": The word "ruminative" means expressing or involving deep or serious thought.

Thoughtful or quiet pupils would not be berated for creating an active disturbance.

3. Let us evaluate Option (B) "Rambunctious": The word "rambunctious" means uncontrollably exuberant, boisterous, or noisy.

This matches the context of pupils causing a disturbance.

4. Let us evaluate Option (C) "Docile": The word "docile" means ready to accept control or instruction, or being submissive.

Submissive pupils would not disrupt other classes.

5. Let us evaluate Option (D) "Absconding": The word "absconding" means running away, often to avoid detection or arrest.

While pupils might skip school, they cannot actively disturb other classes while being absent from them.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Based on the contextual analysis, the correct option is (B) as "rambunctious" accurately describes the disruptive pupils.

Quick Tip: When attempting vocabulary-based fill-in-the-blank questions, always look for the clue words in the sentence.

Here, the words "berated" and "disturbing" indicate that we need an adjective representing noisy or troublesome behaviour.

Eliminating positive or unrelated words like "docile" and "ruminative" makes finding the answer much easier.

2. Choose the correct word to complete the sentence.

When fire raged through the hamlet, loud cries ____ the air.

- (A) Rend
- (B) Rent
- (C) Render
- (D) Rented

Correct Answer: (B) Rent

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The question asks us to identify the correct verb form to complete the sentence about cries filling or piercing the air during a fire.

The tense of the sentence must be consistent with the past tense verb "raged" used in the subordinate clause.

Step 2: Key Formula or Approach:

The grammar rule of tense consistency requires that all actions occurring in the same time frame in a sentence should be in corresponding tenses.

Additionally, we need to recognize the idiomatic expression involving the verb "rend" which means to tear or pierce the air with a sound.

Step 3: Detailed Explanation:

1. We must first observe the tense of the sentence.

The main verb in the clause "When fire raged through the hamlet" is "raged," which is in the simple past tense.

2. Therefore, the verb completing the second part of the sentence must also be in the simple past tense.

3. Let us analyze Option (A) "Rend": "Rend" is the base or present tense form of the verb, meaning to tear apart.

Since it is in the present tense, it is grammatically incorrect for this past-tense context.

4. Let us analyze Option (B) "Rent": "Rent" is the past tense and past participle form of the verb "rend."

In English, the idiom "to rent the air" refers to a sudden, loud sound piercing the silence or the atmosphere.

This fits the tense and context of "loud cries" during a tragedy.

5. Let us analyze Option (C) "Render": "Render" means to provide, submit, or cause to become. It does not form any logical idiom with "the air" in this context.

6. Let us analyze Option (D) "Rented": "Rented" is the past tense of "rent" (to pay for the use of something).

It is contextually irrelevant to loud cries in a burning hamlet.

Step 4: Final Answer:

The correct past tense verb that fits the idiomatic context is "Rent," which is Option (B).

Quick Tip: Always look at the tense of the surrounding verbs in a sentence to determine the correct tense of the blank.

Do not confuse the noun "rent" (payment) with the past tense of the verb "rend" (to tear).

Memorizing common literary collocations like "cries rent the air" is highly beneficial for competitive exams.

3. Choose the correct preposition to complete the sentence.

I think his long silence is tantamount ____ a refusal.

- (A) With
- (B) About
- (C) By
- (D) To

Correct Answer: (D) To

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The objective of this question is to identify the correct preposition that follows the adjective "tantamount".

This requires an understanding of fixed prepositional collocations in English grammar.

Step 2: Key Formula or Approach:

Many adjectives in English are followed by a specific preposition to express a particular meaning.

These are called fixed prepositions, and they must be memorized as complete phrases.

Step 3: Detailed Explanation:

1. The word "tantamount" is an adjective that means equivalent in value, significance, or effect.
2. In standard English usage, the adjective "tantamount" always collocates with the preposition "to".
3. Therefore, the complete phrase is "tantamount to," which means "equivalent to".
4. Let us evaluate Option (A) "With": "Tantamount with" is not a recognized grammatical construction in standard English.
5. Let us evaluate Option (B) "About": "Tantamount about" is grammatically incorrect and does not convey the intended meaning of equivalence.
6. Let us evaluate Option (C) "By": "Tantamount by" is also grammatically incorrect and violates the rules of prepositional collocation.
7. Let us evaluate Option (D) "To": "Tantamount to" is the correct, standard grammatical collocation that matches the meaning of "equivalent to".

Step 4: Final Answer:

The correct preposition is "to," making Option (D) the right choice.

Quick Tip: Whenever you learn a new high-level adjective like "tantamount," "conducive," or "inimical," always learn the preposition that goes with it.

Most adjectives denoting equivalence, contribution, or opposition (like "equal to," "similar to," "conducive to") are followed by "to."

4. Choose the word that best completes the sentence.

He behaved in a ____ manner and refused to give monetary assistance to his family.

- (A) Cowardly
- (B) Generous
- (C) Compassionate
- (D) Niggardly

Correct Answer: (D) Niggardly

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

This question requires us to identify an adjective that describes a person who refuses to give financial or monetary help to their family.

The correct vocabulary word must align with the concepts of stinginess or ungenerous behavior.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. Let us examine the context of the sentence: "refused to give monetary assistance."

This action indicates that the subject is extremely reluctant to spend or share money.

2. Let us analyze Option (A) "Cowardly": "Cowardly" means lacking courage or being easily frightened.

While it is a negative characteristic, it does not specifically relate to financial behavior or stinginess.

3. Let us analyze Option (B) "Generous": "Generous" means showing a readiness to give more of something, especially money, than is necessary or expected.

This is the opposite of the behavior described in the sentence.

4. Let us analyze Option (C) "Compassionate": "Compassionate" means feeling or showing sympathy and concern for others.

A compassionate person would likely help their family, which contradicts the subject's behavior.

5. Let us analyze Option (D) "Niggardly": "Niggardly" is an adjective that means stingy, miserly, or extremely ungenerous with money.

This word describes the behavior of refusing to provide monetary assistance.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Based on the definition of the word and the context of the sentence, "niggardly" is the correct

choice, which corresponds to Option (D).

Quick Tip: Do not confuse the suffix "-ly" with adverbs only.

Words like "niggardly," "cowardly," "friendly," and "miserly" are adjectives and can modify nouns or fit into "in a ... manner" constructions.

Identifying the part of speech and looking for financial context clues will lead you to the correct option.

5. Select the option that identifies the antonym(s) of the word "Munificent."

- a. Penurious
- b. Benevolent
- c. Generous
- d. Frugal

- (A) a & d
- (B) b & d
- (C) a only
- (D) b, c & d

Correct Answer: (A) a & d

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The question asks us to identify which of the given words (a, b, c, or d) function as antonyms to the word "Munificent."

To solve this, we must define "Munificent" and analyze the definitions of each option provided in the list.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. Definition of "Munificent": The word "munificent" is derived from the Latin "munus" (gift) and "facere" (to make).

It means extremely generous, bountiful, or lavish in giving gifts or money.

2. Let us analyze word (a) "Penurious": "Penurious" has two main meanings: extremely poor, or extremely stingy and unwilling to spend money.

Since it denotes extreme stinginess, it is a direct antonym of "munificent."

3. Let us analyze word (b) "Benevolent": "Benevolent" means well-meaning, kindly, or charitable.

This is a near-synonym of "munificent" rather than an antonym.

4. Let us analyze word (c) "Generous": "Generous" is a direct synonym of "munificent."

5. Let us analyze word (d) "Frugal": "Frugal" means sparing or economical with regard to money or food.

While less extreme than "penurious," it still represents a cautious, non-lavish approach to money, which makes it an antonym of the lavish, spendthrift nature of "munificent."

6. Therefore, both (a) "Penurious" and (d) "Frugal" act as antonyms to the word "Munificent."

Step 3: Final Answer:

The correct choice is Option (A) which includes both "a" and "d" as antonyms.

Quick Tip: In antonym/synonym questions with multiple selections, first classify each given word as positive (+), negative (-), or neutral.

Since "munificent" is a positive word related to giving (+), its antonyms must be related to withholding or lack of giving (-).

"Penurious" and "frugal" both represent withholding or sparing money, making them the correct antonyms.

6. Select the correctly spelled word from the options given below.

- (A) Dissemination
- (B) Dissimination
- (C) Dessemination
- (D) Disseminition

Correct Answer: (A) Dissemination

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The objective of this question is to identify the correct spelling of the word meaning the act of spreading something, especially information, widely.

This requires familiarity with standard English spelling conventions and word roots.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. The word in question is "dissemination," which refers to the spreading or scattering of news, information, or seeds.

2. Let us break down the word etymologically: it comes from the Latin prefix "dis-" (meaning apart or in different directions) and "semen" (meaning seed).

When combined, they form "disseminare" (to scatter seed).

3. The correct spelling is D-I-S-S-E-M-I-N-A-T-I-O-N.

Note that the word has a double 's' because of the combination of the prefix "dis-" and the root beginning with 's'.

It has a single 'm', and uses 'e' after the double 's', and 'i' after 'm'.

4. Let us evaluate Option (B) "Dissimination": This is incorrect because it replaces the 'e' with an 'i'.

5. Let us evaluate Option (C) "Dessemination": This is incorrect because it uses the prefix "de-" instead of "di-".

6. Let us evaluate Option (D) "Disseminition": This is incorrect because it replaces the suffix "-ation" with "-ition".

Step 3: Final Answer:

The correct spelling is "Dissemination," which matches Option (A).

Quick Tip: To master spelling questions, try breaking the word down into its prefix, root, and suffix. For "dissemination," remembering the Latin root "semen" (seed) helps you remember the 'e' in the middle of the word.

Practicing writing difficult words by hand can also help build muscle memory for correct spelling.

7. Select the option that best expresses the meaning of the idiom "Too many irons in the fire."

- (A) Being careless with responsibilities
- (B) Being involved in too many activities at the same time
- (C) Working with several machines simultaneously
- (D) Facing unexpected difficulties

Correct Answer: (B) Being involved in too many activities at the same time

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The goal of this question is to identify the correct figurative meaning of the common idiom "too many irons in the fire."

Understanding the historical context or figurative usage of idioms helps in determining their definitions.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. Let us explore the origin of the phrase: This idiom originates from the blacksmithing trade. A blacksmith heats iron bars in a fire before shaping them on an anvil.

If the blacksmith puts too many pieces of iron into the fire at the same time, they cannot work on all of them before they cool down, which results in ruined work.

2. Figuratively, "too many irons in the fire" describes a situation where a person is attempting to manage too many projects, tasks, or jobs simultaneously.

As a result, they may not be able to give adequate attention to any single one of them, leading to potential failure.

3. Let us evaluate Option (A) "Being careless with responsibilities": While having too many

tasks can lead to carelessness, this is not the direct definition of the idiom.

4. Let us evaluate Option (B) "Being involved in too many activities at the same time": This directly and accurately defines the idiom.

5. Let us evaluate Option (C) "Working with several machines simultaneously": This is a literal interpretation of the words and is incorrect for an idiomatic phrase.

6. Let us evaluate Option (D) "Facing unexpected difficulties": This refers to general hardship, not the specific burden of self-imposed multitasking.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The option that best captures the meaning of the idiom is Option (B).

Quick Tip: Idioms often have historical or trade-based origins (like blacksmithing, sailing, or farming). Visualizing the literal scenario (a blacksmith struggling to handle multiple hot irons) can help you deduce the modern, figurative meaning of the phrase.

Avoid options that explain the idiom in a highly literal way (e.g., using physical machines or real fire).

8. Choose the correct one-word substitution for the given expression.

A vote by the people of a country on an issue of national importance.

- (A) Referendum
- (B) Plebiscite
- (C) Election
- (D) Ballot

Correct Answer: (A) Referendum

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

This question asks for a single word that can replace the description of a direct national vote on a specific, significant issue.

We must analyze the exact meanings and differences between the given political terms.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. Let us define Option (A) "Referendum": A referendum is a direct vote by the entire electorate of a country on a specific proposal, law, or policy of national importance.

This matches the given definition exactly.

2. Let us define Option (B) "Plebiscite": A plebiscite is also a direct vote of the electorate, but historically and politically, it is specifically used to decide questions of sovereignty, self-determination, or the allegiance of a territory.

While very similar, "referendum" is the more general and widely accepted term for votes on domestic policy or constitutional issues of national importance.

3. Let us define Option (C) "Election": An election is a formal process where the electorate votes to choose individuals or political parties to hold public office.

It is a vote for people, not directly on a policy issue.

4. Let us define Option (D) "Ballot": A ballot is the physical card, paper, or electronic system used to cast a vote.

It refers to the tool or method of voting rather than the democratic event itself.

5. Comparing "Referendum" and "Plebiscite," the term "Referendum" is the standard term used for general policy questions referred to the people.

Step 3: Final Answer:

Thus, "Referendum," which is Option (A), is the most appropriate one-word substitution for the given expression.

Quick Tip: When choosing between very similar options like "Referendum" and "Plebiscite," look at the broader, standard definition.

A "referendum" is used for general constitutional or legislative issues, while a "plebiscite" often deals with sovereignty or state borders.

Eliminating clearly incorrect options like "election" and "ballot" first will ensure you focus on the exact semantic difference.

9. Select the word that is closest in meaning to "Winsome."

- (A) Charming
- (B) Hostile
- (C) Arrogant
- (D) Indifferent

Correct Answer: (A) Charming

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The objective of this question is to find the synonym or the word closest in meaning to the adjective "Winsome."

This requires an understanding of vocabulary definitions and positive/negative tone association.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. Definition of "Winsome": The word "winsome" originates from the Old English "wynsum," where "wyn" means joy, pleasure, or delight.

It is used to describe someone who is attractive or appealing in appearance or character, often in a fresh, innocent, and engaging way.

2. Let us analyze Option (A) "Charming": "Charming" means extremely pleasing or delightful, possessing a quality that attracts others.

This matches the definition of "winsome" very closely, as both describe a highly appealing personal quality.

3. Let us analyze Option (B) "Hostile": "Hostile" means showing or feeling active opposition or unfriendliness.

This is a highly negative trait and is the opposite of the pleasant, inviting nature of "winsome."

4. Let us analyze Option (C) "Arrogant": "Arrogant" means having an exaggerated sense of one's own importance or abilities.

This is also a negative trait, whereas "winsome" is positive.

5. Let us analyze Option (D) "Indifferent": "Indifferent" means having no particular interest or sympathy, being unconcerned.

This is a neutral but cold trait, which does not convey the active warmth or appeal of "winsome."

Step 3: Final Answer:

Therefore, "Charming" is the closest synonym to "Winsome," which corresponds to Option (A).

Quick Tip: If you are unsure of the exact meaning of a word, try to determine if the word has a positive, negative, or neutral connotation.

"Winsome" sounds gentle and positive.

Out of the options, "Hostile" and "Arrogant" are negative, and "Indifferent" is neutral-to-negative.

"Charming" is the only positive option, making it the most logical choice.

10. Choose the word that best matches the following meaning.

"To obtain or gather information from different sources."

- (A) Compile
- (B) Cull
- (C) Infer
- (D) Deduce

Correct Answer: (B) Cull

Solution:**Step 1: Understanding the Question:**

The goal of this question is to find a single word that means to gather or obtain information or ideas from various different sources.

We must analyze the exact definitions and subtle differences between the given options, particularly "compile" and "cull."

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. Let us define Option (A) "Compile": To "compile" means to produce something, such as a list, book, or report, by assembling information collected from other sources.

While related, "compile" focuses heavily on the final assembly and structuring of the gathered data into a single coherent document.

2. Let us define Option (B) "Cull": To "cull" means to select, choose, or gather from a large quantity or from a variety of diverse sources.

It emphasizes the active process of selective extraction, collection, and gathering of information. This matches the phrase "to obtain or gather information from different sources" precisely.

3. Let us define Option (C) "Infer": To "infer" means to deduce or conclude information from evidence and reasoning rather than from explicit statements.

It is a mental reasoning process, not the physical act of gathering sources.

4. Let us define Option (D) "Deduce": To "deduce" means to arrive at a fact or a conclusion by reasoning from general premises.

Like "infer," it is a cognitive process of reasoning rather than information gathering.

5. Comparing "Compile" and "Cull," "cull" is the specific action of selecting and gathering from different sources, whereas "compile" is the subsequent act of putting them together.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The word that best fits the given meaning is "Cull," which is Option (B).

Quick Tip: Pay close attention to the focus of the definition in one-word substitution questions.

If the focus is on "assembling" or "putting together," the answer is "compile."

If the focus is on "selecting" or "gathering from multiple places," the answer is "cull."

11. Select the word that is closest in meaning to "Insidious."

- (A) Treacherous
- (B) Happy
- (C) Exciting
- (D) Honest

Correct Answer: (A) Treacherous

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

This question requires us to find the synonym or closest meaning of the word "Insidious."

We need to understand both the denotation (dictionary definition) and the connotation (negative tone) of the word.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. Definition of "Insidious": The word "insidious" describes something that proceeds in a gradual, subtle, or stealthy way, but with extremely harmful or destructive effects.

It suggests a hidden danger that catches someone off guard.

2. Let us analyze Option (A) "Treacherous": "Treacherous" means guilty of or involving betrayal or deception, or presenting hidden, unpredictable, and grave dangers.

Because both "insidious" and "treacherous" involve hidden, deceptive harm, they are very close synonyms.

3. Let us analyze Option (B) "Happy": "Happy" means feeling or showing pleasure or contentment.

This is a positive emotion and has no relation to the dangerous and deceptive nature of "insidious."

4. Let us analyze Option (C) "Exciting": "Exciting" means causing great interest or enthusiasm. This is unrelated to harmful or stealthy threats.

5. Let us analyze Option (D) "Honest": "Honest" means free of deceit, truthful, and sincere.

This is the opposite of "insidious," which relies heavily on subtlety and deceit to cause harm.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The word closest in meaning to "Insidious" is "Treacherous," which is Option (A).

Quick Tip: "Insidious" is a common word in medical contexts (e.g., an insidious disease is one that develops slowly without symptoms until it is advanced) and political contexts (e.g., insidious plots).

Associating words with their common contexts can help you remember their meanings.

Since insidious implies hidden, deceitful danger, "treacherous" is the most logical synonym.

12. Choose the correct term for the following.

The art or science of teaching.

- (A) Pedagogy
- (B) Philology
- (C) Epistemology
- (D) Anthropology

Correct Answer: (A) Pedagogy

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The task is to find the correct term that describes "the art or science of teaching."

We must analyze the academic fields represented by each of the options to determine which one specifically relates to education and teaching.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. Let us define Option (A) "Pedagogy": Pedagogy refers to the method and practice of teaching, especially as an academic subject or theoretical concept.

Etymologically, it comes from the Greek "paidagogos," which was a slave who led children to school ("pais" means child, and "ago" means to lead).

Over time, it came to mean the science and art of teaching and education.

This matches the given description.

2. Let us define Option (B) "Philology": Philology is the branch of knowledge that deals with the structure, historical development, and relationships of languages.

It focuses on literary texts and written records rather than teaching methods.

3. Let us define Option (C) "Epistemology": Epistemology is the philosophical study of the nature, origin, and limits of human knowledge.

It asks questions like "What is knowledge?" and "How do we know what we know?", but does not study the practical methods of classroom teaching.

4. Let us define Option (D) "Anthropology": Anthropology is the scientific study of humans, human behavior, cultures, societies, and biology in both the past and present.

It is a broad social science and is not specifically the science of teaching.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The correct term for the art or science of teaching is "Pedagogy," which is Option (A).

Quick Tip: Learning Greek and Latin roots is incredibly useful for one-word substitutions.

The prefix "ped-" or "paed-" refers to children, as in pediatrician or pedagogy.

Recognizing this prefix can quickly point you to the correct option related to teaching or children.

13. Select the word that is opposite in meaning to "Cryptic."

- (A) Ambiguous
- (B) Obscure
- (C) Apparent
- (D) Mysterious

Correct Answer: (C) Apparent

Solution:**Step 1: Understanding the Question:**

This question requires us to identify the word that is opposite in meaning (antonym) to "Cryptic."

We must analyze the definitions of the main word and each of the four choices provided.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. Definition of "Cryptic": The word "cryptic" comes from the Greek "kryptos," meaning hidden, secret, or concealed.

In English, it describes something that has a hidden, mysterious, or obscure meaning that is difficult to understand.

2. Let us analyze Option (A) "Ambiguous": "Ambiguous" means open to more than one interpretation, or having a double meaning.

Because it describes something unclear, it is a synonym of "cryptic."

3. Let us analyze Option (B) "Obscure": "Obscure" means not discovered or known about, uncertain, or hard to see.

This is another synonym of "cryptic."

4. Let us analyze Option (C) "Apparent": "Apparent" means clearly visible, obvious, or easy to see and understand.

Since "cryptic" refers to things that are hidden or hard to comprehend, "apparent" represents the exact opposite concept.

5. Let us analyze Option (D) "Mysterious": "Mysterious" means difficult or impossible to understand or explain.

This is a direct synonym of "cryptic."

6. Therefore, the only word in the options that serves as an antonym to "cryptic" is "apparent."

Step 3: Final Answer:

The word opposite in meaning to "Cryptic" is "Apparent," which corresponds to Option (C).

Quick Tip: In antonym questions, three out of the four options will often be synonyms of the target word (or of each other).

Here, "ambiguous," "obscure," and "mysterious" are all synonyms representing unclearness.

Identifying this pattern lets you easily pick the "odd one out," which is the antonym, "apparent."

14. Identify the figure of speech used in the following sentence.

"To err is human, to forgive divine."

- (A) Alliteration
- (B) Antithesis
- (C) Hyperbole
- (D) Personification

Correct Answer: (B) Antithesis

Solution:

Step 1: Understanding the Question:

The objective of this question is to identify the literary device or figure of speech used in the famous quote, "To err is human, to forgive divine."

We must analyze the structure and relationships of the words and ideas in the sentence.

Step 2: Detailed Explanation:

1. Let us break down the structure of the given sentence: "To err is human, to forgive divine." The sentence is divided into two parts that are grammatically parallel.

2. Let us look at the contrasting ideas in each part:

- "To err" (making a mistake/doing wrong) is placed in contrast with "to forgive" (showing mercy/clemency).

- "Human" (imperfect and mortal) is placed in contrast with "divine" (perfect and godlike).

3. Define "Antithesis": Antithesis is a figure of speech in which two contrasting or opposing ideas are placed side-by-side in a parallel grammatical structure.

This matches the structure of the quote, as it balances the human tendency to make mistakes against the godly act of forgiveness.

4. Let us evaluate Option (A) "Alliteration": Alliteration is the repetition of the same consonant sounds at the beginning of adjacent or closely connected words.

There is no notable repetition of consonant sounds here.

5. Let us evaluate Option (C) "Hyperbole": Hyperbole is an extreme exaggeration used to make a point or show emphasis.

This sentence expresses a philosophical truth rather than an exaggeration.

6. Let us evaluate Option (D) "Personification": Personification is attributing human characteristics to non-human things or abstract ideas.

There is no personification in this sentence.

Step 3: Final Answer:

The figure of speech used in the sentence is "Antithesis," which corresponds to Option (B).

Quick Tip: To identify "Antithesis," look for two key elements: parallel grammatical structure and opposite/contrasting words.

In this sentence, the structure "To [verb] is [adjective]" is repeated twice with contrasting pairs ("err" vs "forgive" and "human" vs "divine").

This symmetrical contrast is a hallmark of antithesis.