

How to use this worksheet. Twenty-four questions on three passages, about 25 minutes, with the answer key at the end. Read the questions before the passage. Watch for a capitalised **NOT** — two of the previous year questions here are reversed that way.

Formula sheet

Read the questions first, then the passage once — one pass is usually enough

Capitalised NOT, CANNOT or EXCEPT reverses the question; missing it costs the mark

Main idea wants the broadest accurate option, never a single detail

For vocabulary in context, substitute each option back into the original sentence

Passage 1 · Sport and character — Read the passage, then answer

Passage 1. *The word sport may be said to stand for five qualities: sincerity, punctuality, obedience, regularity and tenacity. These are also the qualities a person needs in order to prosper in life. Sport is a route to physical fitness, and so it has an important place in human life. The old proverb runs, All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy. Unrelieved work tells upon our nerves and we lose our enthusiasm. Sport refreshes us and supplies fresh vigour. It makes a person physically fit, keeps the mind alert and healthy, and teaches cooperation and the acceptance of defeat. A player learns to obey the captain, to arrive on time and to keep trying when losing. These habits, once formed on the field, carry over into every other part of life.*

- 1.** According to the author, which of the following life goals CANNOT be achieved by sports? [PYQ 2023 · Morning]
(1) Healthy body (2) Physical fitness (3) Dullness of spirit (4) Mental health
- 2.** Which word in the passage means 'determination'? [PYQ 2023 · Morning]
(1) Enthusiasm (2) Tenacity (3) Punctuality (4) Sincerity
- 3.** Which proverb is quoted in the passage?
(1) A stitch in time saves nine (2) All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy (3) Practice makes perfect (4) Health is wealth
- 4.** According to the passage, the five qualities represented by sport are also:
(1) Only useful on the playing field (2) The qualities needed to prosper in life (3) Difficult to acquire (4) Unrelated to character
- 5.** Which of these is NOT listed among the five qualities?
(1) Sincerity (2) Obedience (3) Generosity (4) Regularity
- 6.** The main idea of the passage is that:
(1) Sport is only for the physically strong (2) Sport builds qualities useful throughout life (3) Sport is a waste of study time (4) Sport should replace work

Working space — Questions 1 to 6

Write the formula before you substitute.

Passage 2 · Dr John Snow and cholera — Read the passage, then answer

Passage 2. *Dr John Snow, often called the father of epidemiology, was an obstetrician with an interest in many branches of medical science. He had long believed that water contaminated by sewage was the cause of cholera. Snow published an article setting out his theory in 1849, but doctors and scientists thought he was on the wrong track and held to the established belief that cholera was caused by breathing vapours, or a miasma, in the air. When a severe eruption of the disease occurred in one district of London, Snow collected data on where each victim had lived and drawn water. Plotting the deaths on a map, he traced the outbreak to a single public hand pump, and persuaded the local authorities to remove its handle. The number of new cases fell away sharply, and his patient collection of evidence eventually overturned the accepted theory.*

7. Two words used in the passage which are synonymous with each other are: [PYQ 2021 · Shift 2]

- (1) cholera and miasma (2) eruption and outbreak (3) contamination and cesspool (4) epidemiology and obstetrician

8. Which trait of Snow is NOT very relevant to his findings on the cholera outbreak? [PYQ 2021 · Shift 2]

- (1) He was a critical thinker and a keen observer (2) He had a scientific approach (3) He took great interest in other fields of medicine (4) He collected and mapped data patiently

9. What was the established belief about the cause of cholera at the time?

- (1) Contaminated water (2) Vapours in the air (3) Contact with victims (4) Poor diet

10. What action did Snow persuade the authorities to take?

- (1) Close the hospital (2) Remove the handle of a hand pump (3) Boil all drinking water (4) Evacuate the district

11. Snow's professional speciality was:

- (1) Epidemiology (2) Obstetrics (3) Surgery (4) Chemistry

12. What does the passage suggest about scientific progress?

- (1) It depends on accepting established views (2) Evidence can overturn an accepted theory (3) Doctors are always right (4) Maps are of little use in medicine

Working space — Questions 7 to 12

Write the formula before you substitute.

Passage 3 · The Metro Man — Read the passage, then answer

Passage 3. It is hard to imagine urban India without its metro trains, the giant aluminium snakes sliding above and below the ground of bustling cities, carrying millions of people every day. Delhi has the largest network. Much of this is credited to E. Sreedharan, known as the Metro Man. By his own account he had an uneventful career in the Indian Railways from December 1954 to June 1990. The turning point came afterwards, when he was asked to build the Konkan Railway and later the Delhi Metro. He insisted on finishing every stage ahead of schedule and within budget, and treated punctuality and workmanship as matters of principle rather than convenience. Colleagues recall that he set deadlines publicly so that there could be no quiet slippage.

13. A turning point in one's life is: [PYQ 2021 · Shift 3]

- (1) a moment of celebration when one gets recognition (2) a developmental stage in one's life (3) a time when luck knocks at one's door (4) a time at which a decisive change in a situation occurs

14. As per the passage, Sreedharan had an uneventful career in the Indian Railways from _____ to _____. [PYQ 2021 · Shift 3]

- (1) December 1955; June 1990 (2) June 1954; December 1990 (3) June 1990; December 1954 (4) December 1954; June 1990

15. Why is Sreedharan known as the Metro Man?

- (1) He designed the first train (2) He led the building of the Delhi Metro (3) He drove the first metro train (4) He owns the metro network

16. According to the passage, why did Sreedharan set deadlines publicly?

- (1) To gain publicity (2) So that there could be no quiet slippage (3) Because the law required it (4) To please the government

17. The phrase 'giant aluminium snakes' in the passage is an example of:

- (1) A simile (2) A metaphor (3) An idiom (4) A proverb

18. Which quality does the passage most emphasise in Sreedharan?

- (1) Ambition (2) Insistence on punctuality and workmanship (3) Wealth (4) Popularity

Working space — Questions 13 to 18*Write the formula before you substitute.***Section D · Comprehension technique — How to attack a passage set***Six questions on method rather than content.***19.** In a comprehension question, the phrase 'chief concept of the passage' asks for:

(1) A single detail (2) The broadest accurate summary (3) The author's name (4) The last sentence

20. If a question contains the word NOT in capital letters, you should:

(1) Choose the best option (2) Choose the exception (3) Choose the first option (4) Skip the question

21. The best way to answer a vocabulary-in-context question is to:

(1) Rely only on the dictionary meaning (2) Substitute each option into the sentence (3) Choose the longest word (4) Choose the least familiar word

22. An inference question asks for something that is:

(1) Stated word for word in the passage (2) Reasonably concluded from the passage (3) Your personal opinion (4) Found in another passage

23. If two options both seem correct in a main-idea question, you should choose the one that is:

(1) Shorter (2) Broader and still accurate (3) More detailed (4) More surprising

24. The most efficient order for tackling a comprehension set is to:

(1) Read the passage twice, then the questions (2) Read the questions first, then the passage (3) Answer without reading the passage (4) Read only the first and last lines

Working space — Questions 19 to 24*Write the formula before you substitute.***Answer key***Check only after you have attempted every question. Full worked solutions for each one are on the worksheet page at aviatelearnings.com.*

1. (3)	6. (2)	11. (2)	16. (2)	21. (2)
2. (2)	7. (2)	12. (2)	17. (2)	22. (2)
3. (2)	8. (3)	13. (4)	18. (2)	23. (2)
4. (2)	9. (2)	14. (4)	19. (2)	24. (2)
5. (3)	10. (2)	15. (2)	20. (2)	

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