

NICL AO 2019 Prelims Question Paper – English Language (30 Questions)

Directions (1–5): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below.
(Passage text from the PDF – on banking and economy, approx. 300 words)

Q1. According to the passage, which factor is responsible for the rise in NPAs?

- A) Growth of agricultural output
- B) Increase in inflation
- C) Poor credit appraisal
- D) Foreign direct investment
- E) None of these

Q2. What does the author mean by "stressed assets"?

- A) Assets that yield high profit
- B) Assets that are risky and uncertain
- C) Assets generating less or no return
- D) Assets of multinational companies
- E) None of these

Q3. Which of the following is opposite in meaning to the word "buoyant" as used in the passage?

- A) Cheerful
- B) Flourishing
- C) Depressed
- D) Rising
- E) Hopeful

Q4. Which of the following best describes the author's tone in the passage?

- A) Analytical
- B) Optimistic
- C) Aggressive
- D) Pessimistic
- E) Sarcastic

Q5. What is the main idea conveyed in the passage?

- A) Inflation control is necessary for economic growth
 - B) Stressed assets are a threat to the economy
 - C) Agricultural credit is vital for rural development
 - D) Foreign investment reduces NPAs
 - E) None of these
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Directions (6–10): In the following questions, a sentence is given with a blank. Choose the most appropriate word from the given options.

Q6. The new manager is known for his _____ decisions that often surprise his team.

- A) predictable
- B) arbitrary
- C) planned
- D) logical
- E) systematic

Q7. The committee was unable to reach a consensus because of the members' _____ opinions.

- A) diverse
- B) uniform
- C) identical
- D) similar
- E) allied

Q8. The scientist's discovery was considered _____, as it challenged existing theories.

- A) insignificant
- B) groundbreaking
- C) trivial
- D) redundant
- E) obscure

Q9. Many NGOs are working towards the _____ of illiteracy in rural areas.

- A) eradication
- B) expansion
- C) promotion
- D) continuation
- E) inclusion

Q10. His arguments were so _____ that everyone accepted his proposal immediately.

- A) weak
- B) unconvincing
- C) persuasive
- D) illogical
- E) absurd

Directions (11–15): Rearrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph and answer the questions that follow.

(P, Q, R, S sentences given from the PDF – forming a para jumble)

Q11. Which of the following should be the **first sentence** after rearrangement?

- A) P
- B) Q
- C) R
- D) S
- E) Cannot be determined

Q12. Which should be the **last sentence** after rearrangement?

- A) P
- B) Q
- C) R
- D) S
- E) Cannot be determined

Q13–15. (Follow-up parajumble questions asking middle sentence order)

Directions (16–20): Each sentence has a highlighted word/phrase. Select the most suitable replacement if necessary.

Q16. The teacher asked the students to **completing** the assignment by Monday.

- A) completes
- B) complete
- C) completed
- D) completing
- E) No correction required

Q17. The government is planning to **launches** a new health scheme.

- A) launched
- B) launching
- C) launch
- D) had launched
- E) No correction required

Q18. She was confident **despite of** her limited experience.

- A) despite
- B) although
- C) even though
- D) in spite
- E) No correction required

Q19. He refused to take the medicine **because of it was bitter**.

- A) because
- B) although
- C) as of

- D) despite
- E) No correction required

Q20. The workers protested against the new rule and demanded it to be **withdraw**.

- A) withdrew
 - B) withdrawal
 - C) withdrew
 - D) withdrawn
 - E) No correction required
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Directions (21–25): Cloze Test

(A passage with 5 blanks on environment – words missing; choose best options)

Q21–25. Fill in the blanks appropriately.

- Q21. A) issue B) matter C) problem D) concern E) worry
 - Q22. A) serious B) trivial C) light D) common E) simple
 - Q23. A) developing B) damaging C) protecting D) reducing E) limiting
 - Q24. A) action B) hesitation C) delay D) neglect E) laziness
 - Q25. A) effective B) wasteful C) wrong D) casual E) useless
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Directions (26–30): Error Detection

Q26. Hardly had he entered the room (a)/ when the lights (b)/ went out, leaving everyone (c)/ in complete darkness. (d)/ No error (e)

Q27. Each of the participants (a)/ have submitted (b)/ their project report (c)/ on time. (d)/ No error (e)

Q28. The performance of the team (a)/ have been improving (b)/ steadily over the (c)/ last few months. (d)/ No error (e)

Q29. He not only praised (a)/ her work (b)/ but also offered (c)/ her a promotion. (d)/ No error (e)

Q30. The committee has decided (a)/ to postponed (b)/ the meeting (c)/ until next week. (d)/ No error (e)

Here are the answers for the 30 English questions:

1. C

2. C

3. D

4. A

5. B

6. B

7. A

8. B

9. A

10. C

11. E

12. E

13. E

14. E

15. E

16. B

17. C

18. A

19. A

20. D

21. D

22. A

23. C



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24. A

25. A

26. E

27. B

28. B

29. E

30. B



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