

**APTITUDE TEST IN ENGLISH - 2****R.Saradha Sankararaman****APTITUDE TEST - 6****Time: 30 min****ENGLISH / STD +2 Onwards****Marks: 10X 5 = 50****6.1 Choose the word that is most opposite meaning one given at the top.**

- |               |               |                |                |                 |
|---------------|---------------|----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| 1. Enigmatic  | (a) clear     | (b) easy       | (c) simple     | (d) honest      |
| 2. Factious   | (a) fraternal | (b) friendly   | (c) harmonious | (d) interesting |
| 3. Fortuitous | (a) unlucky   | (b) calculated | (c) willing    | (d) determined  |
| 4. Plethora   | (a) shortage  | (b) weakness   | (c) sickness   | (d) smallness   |
| 5. 5. Divest  | (a) wear      | (b) put on     | (c) clothe     | (d) dress       |

**6.2 Choose the word that is closest in meaning.**

- |                |              |                  |                 |                              |
|----------------|--------------|------------------|-----------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Martin      | (a) a god    | (b) a bird       | (c) a place     | (d) a mythological character |
| 2. Masticate   | (a) chew     | (b) repair bones | (c) beat        | (d) revive                   |
| 3. Nexus       | (a) deficit  | (b) difference   | (c) connection  | (d) distance                 |
| 4. Nimble      | (a) fluid    | (b) soft         | (c) clean       | (d) agile                    |
| 5. Nonchalance | (a) coolness | (b) detachment   | (c) inattention | (d) carelessness             |

**6.3 Choose from the four alternatives the words which best complete the sentence.**

- Good restaurants serving pure vegetarian food are very hard to .....  
(a) come by (b) get in (c) go through (d) take to
- Population increase ..... with depletion of foreign reserves has led to great daily hardships.  
(a) joined (b) mixed (c) added (d) coupled
- In our country voting is not a statutory requirement but in some other countries it is....  
(a) voluntary (b) compulsory (c) optional (d) compulsive
4. If your want to save money, you must ..... the shopping you do.  
(a) cut down on (b) get rid of (c) put up with (d) go down with
- All education is ..... on an adult's view of what a child should learn.  
(a) founded (b) grounded (c) built (d) based

**6.4 Correct the sentence or justify if there is no error.**

- Except he, and possibly our mother, all others have agreed to come back soon.
- Take it from me, I couldn't hardly believe what anyone of them had sai(d)
- One of the questions he asked me was, "Who did you travel with?"
- After destroying all evidence he remained there to see if there is any way he could carry the gold with him.
- They were quarrelling between themselves when all of a sudden it occurred to them that someone was watching all the five of them.

**6.5 Distinguish between the words.**

1. credible, creditable, credulous    2. dessert, desert, deserts    3. factitious, facetious

**6.6 Use the following phrasal verbs in sentence of your own.**

1. give in    2. knock down    3. find out    4. go back on    5. run down

**6.7 Give the phonetic transcription for the following words.**

- (a) Kite    (b) calm    (c) timber    (d) cycle    (e) tablet

**6.8 Write a few lines (100 words) about the given proverb.**

Candles lights others and consumes itself.

**6.9 Make a precise of the following passage.**

I have often heard people say how disappointed they will be if they never see a certain place which they have for years dreamed of visiting. I sometimes wonder whether, if we got all we dreamed of we might not be even more disappointed than if we failed to get it. I, for example, longed for years to go to Rome; yet, when at last I arrived at the Eternal City and drove through its streets, I wondered whether it was worth while going so far to see a city which appeared to me to be so unworthy of its history. This disappointment, I may say, did not last; but famous cities, famous objects, famous views do not always kindle at first sight the emotions we expect them to kindle. People used to think that a famous author was being funny when he said that he was disappointed with the Atlantic Ocean. To me this seems to be a straightforward confession of a disappointment that must have been experienced by thousands of people. The Atlantic ocean, to my mind, looks its best from the shore for the first time by someone who has lived till manhood in an inland district, it does not always come up to expectations. Its very bigness is against it. It is easier see at first sight the charm of a little lake, nestling among the mountains, than to drink in the vast beauty of the Atlantic. In the same way, I have never been disappointed in a hill; I have often been disappointed in a mountain .... Although mountains are undoubtedly impressive, they have a kind of dreadful monotony that makes people like myself feel hostile to their beauty. While I like reading about mountains, nevertheless, outside books, I prefer the pleasures of the plain.

**6.10 Write on the First Impressions (about 200 words)**

**APTITUDE TEST - 7****Time: 30 min****ENGLISH / STD +2 Onwards****Marks: 10X 5 = 50****7.1 Choose the word that is most opposite meaning.**

- |              |               |              |              |                 |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|-----------------|
| 1. Desultory | (a) connected | (b) wet      | (c) humid    | (d) intimate    |
| 2. Obfuscate | (a) simplify  | (b) explain  | (c) describe | (d) clarify     |
| 3. Flaccid   | (a) upright   | (b) taut     | (c) rough    | (d) uneven      |
| 4. Callow    | (a) loving    | (b) friendly | (c) bright   | (d) experienced |
| 5. Chagrin   | (a) tempt     | (b) please   | (c) whisper  | (d) attend      |

**7.2 Choose the word that is closest in meaning.**

- |                 |                       |                            |                    |                       |
|-----------------|-----------------------|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. Pontifical   | (a) given to boasting | (b) wordy                  | (c) of Pope        | (d) advisory          |
| 2. Predilection | (a) favour            | (b) pleasant feeling       | (c) prejudice      | (d) special linking   |
| 3. Preemptive   | (a) in advance        | (b) done before others act | (c) self-defeating | (d) full or foresight |
| 4. Taut         | (a) skinny            | (b) tightly drawn          | (c) relaxed        | (d) young             |
| 5. Thick-headed | (a) heavy             | (b) having a headache      | (c) stupid         | (d) confused          |

**7.3 Choose from the four alternatives the words which best complete the sentence.**

- With a little imagination it is possible to organize house work so as to ..... inefficiency.  
(a) subtract (b) diminish (c) make less (d) minimize
- Migrant workers can be seen working on many of the building.....in New Delhi.  
(a) sites (b) premises (c) locations (d) spots
- It is hazardous to work in many factories and a moment's ... can lead to tragedy.  
(a) apathy (b) delay (c) negligence (d) oversight
4. Prospective students have to prove that they have sufficient money to cover their course fees and .....  
(a) lodging (b) maintenance (c) board (d) sustenance
- Many teachers may find it necessary to supplement their ..... by taking some part-time jobs.  
(a) earning (b) profits (c) remuneration (d) income

**7.4 Correct the sentence or justify if there is no error.**

- I had just posted the letter when I remembered that I haven't enclosed the cheque which I had meant to send.
- I do all the cooking and cleaning and beside that I help my husband with his homework.
- Being idle sometimes is agreeable, but being idle all the times might become monotonous.
- I can't ask you to dinner this week as I am having my house painted at the moment and everything is upside down.
- He is determined to get a seat for the ballet even if it meant standing in a queue all night in the foul weather.

**7.5 Distinguish between the words.**

1. idle, idol      2. knave, nave    3. oar, ore

**7.6 Use the following phrasal verbs in sentence of your own.**

1. turn in      2. write out      3. make up      4. switch off      5. look for

**7.7 Give the phonetic transcription for the following words.**

- (a) baby      (b) doctor      (c) full      (d) goat      (e) behind

**7.8 Write a few lines (100 words) about the given proverb.**

Charity begins at home.

**7.9 Make a precise of the following passage.**

Propaganda is a word that has undergone notable semantic changes in the course of its history. Today, the concept of partisan indoctrination, whether by fair means or foul, is so commonly attributed to this word that it has almost shed its original connotation as the act of spreading by word or deed an acknowledged truth. One has become used to the pejorative handling to which it has been subjected, and such terms as 'clever', 'insidious', 'subtle', 'clumsy' and 'slick', which are often coupled with terrifying potentiality. What cannot propaganda do? It is not only the subservient handmaid of politics, but the inseparable ally of religion. Herein lies both its strength and its weakness. Propaganda may be used effectively to disseminate lies and pernicious ideas as, again, it may be used ineffectively to inculcate truth and wholesome ideas. It is like a two-edged sword which in the hands of the unscrupulous, can wreak havoc on the whole people, just as it can achieve incalculable good when wielded by wise hands. Modern ideologies and attitudes have thrived almost solely on the soil of propaganda and the fruits it has produced have been astounding. Propaganda has succeeded in making black white and white black.

**7.10 Write on the The Glory of the Commonplace (about 200 words)**

**APTITUDE TEST - 8**

Time: 30 min

ENGLISH / STD +2 Onwards

Marks: 10X 5 = 50

**8.1 Choose the word that is most opposite meaning.**

- |                |                 |                 |              |                |
|----------------|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|----------------|
| 1. Ravenous    | (a) sated       | (b) ascetic     | (c) swollen  | (d) pleased    |
| 2. Adamant     | (a) satisfied   | (b) comfortable | (c) yielding | (d) luxurious  |
| 3. Beget       | (a) forget      | (b) fade        | (c) harm     | (d) abort      |
| 4. Considerate | (a) thoughtless | (b) insolent    | (c) vacant   | (d) inadequate |
| 5. Obtuse      | (a) intelligent | (b) round       | (c) perfect  | (d) full       |

**8.2 Choose the word that is closest in meaning.**

- |           |                      |                 |                      |                             |
|-----------|----------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1. Ballad | (a) a kind of dance  | (b) a love song | (c) an English game  | (d) a simple narrative poem |
| 2. Occult | (a) relating to eyes | (b) unnatural   | (c) supernatural     | (d) strong                  |
| 3. Prance | (a) look greedily    | (b) jump about  | (c) take a long view | (d) observe                 |
| 4. Prolix | (a) abundant         | (b) talented    | (c) profound         | (d) long and dull           |
| 5. Gravy  | (a) sauce            | (b) serious     | (c) dead             | (d) bone meal               |

**8.3 Choose from the four alternatives the words which best complete the sentence.**

- Several hundred workers were made .... when the factory closed.  
(a) unnecessary (b) redundant (c) dispensable (d) extra
- Many economists regard unemployment as .... part of the efforts to control inflation.  
(a) a component (b) a certain (c) a useful (d) a compulsory
- Unemployment is now so widespread that ..... work is hard to find.  
(a) temporary (b) casual (c) incidental (d) momentary
- By setting up the new industry the returns in the short .... are likely to be meager, but over a number of years the profits will grow in an impressive manner.  
(a) term (b) time (c) spell (d) stint
- It is true that the new baker has a ..... bread.  
(a) plenty (b) few (c) little (d) large

**8.4 Correct the sentence or justify if there is no error.**

- Realising the he hadn't enough money and not wanting to borrow from his father, he decided selling his watch.
- He is thought to have information which will be useful for the police.
- Because of the harsh winter, which had seemingly overstayed, there were scarcely some flowers in the garden.
- Your inefficiency which I have put up since you came to this office, is beginning to be unbearable.
- No sooner had the party trapped at the summit been rescued, the storm broke.

**8.5 Distinguish between the words.**

- main, mane
- regretful, regrettable
- sequel, sequence

**8.6 Use the following phrasal verbs in sentence of your own.**

1. carry out      2. hold off      3. stand by (someone)      4. wind up      5. work out

**8.7 Give the phonetic transcription for the following words.**

- (a) year      (b) you      (c) cat      (d) tiles      (e) lemon

**8.8 Write a few lines (100 words) about the given proverb.**

The child is the father of the man.

**8.9 Make a precise of the following passage.**

I don't believe there's any man who in his heart of hearts wouldn't rather be called brave than have any other virtue attributed to him. And this elemental, if you like, unreasoning male attitude, is a sound one, because courage is not merely a virtue, it's the virtue. Without it there are no other virtues. Faith, hope, charity, all the rest don't become virtues until it takes courage to exercise the. Courage isn't only the basis of all virtue; it's its expression. True, you may be bad and brave, but you can't be good without being brave.

Courage is a mental state-an affair of the spirit - and so it gets its strength from spiritual and intellectual sources. The way in which these spiritual and intellectual elements are blended, I think, produces roughly two types of courage. The first an emotional state which urges a man to risk injury or death - physical courage. The second, a more reasoning attitude which enables him coolly to stake career, happiness, his whole future, on his judgement of what he thinks either right or worthwhile - moral courage.

Now these two types of courage, physical and moral, are very distinct. I have known many men who had marked physical courage but lacked moral courage. Some of them were in high places but they failed to be great in themselves because they lacked it. On the other hand, I've seen men who undoubtedly possessed moral courage, very cautious about taking physical risks, but I've never met a man with moral courage who wouldn't, when it was really necessary, face bodily danger. Moral courage is a higher and a rarer virtue than physical courage.

**8.10 Write on the Cultural Immunity (about 200 words) (P. 255)**

**APTITUDE TEST - 9****Time: 30 min****ENGLISH / STD +2 Onwards****Marks: 10X 5 = 50****9.1 Choose the word that is most opposite meaning.**

1. Compliant (a) disrespectful (b) pleased (c) obstinate (d) abusive
2. Waspish (a) painless (b) genial (c) slender (d) sweet
3. Understudy (a) secretary (b) employer (c) principal (d) overt
4. Languor (a) vivacity (b) clarity (c) shortness (d) brevity
5. Facetiousness (a) backwardness (b) gravity (c) smoothness (d) depravity

**9.2 Choose the word that is closest in meaning.**

1. Grapevine (a) wine from grape (b) grape juice (c) rumour (d) alcohol
2. Sombre (a) dull (b) quiet (c) serious (d) sleepy
3. Thaw (a) melt (b) freeze (c) peace (d) straw
4. Volatile (a) hot (b) bright (c) unstable (d) undependable
5. Obliterate (a) forget (b) destroy (c) remove (d) change

**9.3 Choose from the four alternatives the words which best complete the sentence.**

1. She had known me.....  
(a) since long (b) a long time (c) last two years (d) before two years
2. Having been born in a good family he is .....rich to beg.  
(a) very (b) greatly (c) too (d) plenty
3. As the headmaster was cruel to her, she ..... there again.  
(a) may go (b) could go (c) shall not go (d) ought to go
4. 4. Tourists always enjoyed ..... the setting sun in the Darjeeling hills.  
(a) to watch (b) watching (c) in seeing (d) seeing
5. He quickly read his horoscope in 'What the stars foretell' ..... the cashier was preparing his bill.  
(a) until (b) during (c) while (d) before

**9.4 Correct the sentence or justify if there is no error.**

1. My colleagues and I have carefully considered the important issues raised by the report which you sent me, and we have decided to take the following action.
2. The two prisoners escaping from the prison used a ladder which had been left behind by some workmen, climbed a twenty-foot wall and got away I a stolen car.
3. If this machine should fail to give satisfaction we guarantee to refund the purchase money.
4. It has often been said that if the divorce laws were made more stringent it would save a lot of families from breaking down.
5. He returned home only to learn that his daughter has just become engaged to their neighbour's soon.

**9.5 Distinguish between the words.**

1. verbal, verbose      2. wave, waive      3. ser, seer, sere

**9.6 Use the following phrasal verbs in sentence of your own.**

1. fall out      2. go in for      3. do with      4. pull through      5. turn out

**9.7 Give the phonetic transcription for the following words.**

- (a) dream      (b) gun      (c) weapon      (d) trace (e) race

**9.8 Write a few lines (100 words) about the given proverb.**

Christmas comes but once a year.

**9.9 Make a precise of the following passage.**

Not only is mathematics independent of us and our thoughts, but in another sense we and the whole universe of existing things are independent of mathematics. The apprehension of this purely ideal character is indispensable, if we are to understand rightly the place of mathematics as one among the arts. It was formerly supposed that pure reason could decide, in some respects, as to the nature of the actual world: geometry, at least, was thought to deal with the space in which we live. But we now know that pure mathematics can never pronounce upon questions of actual existence: the world of reason, in a sense, controls the world of fact, but it is not at any point creative to fact, and in the application of its results to the world in time and space, its certainty and precision are lost among approximations and working hypotheses. The objects considered by mathematicians have, in the past, been mainly of a kind suggested by phenomena; but from such restrictions the abstract imagination should be wholly free. A reciprocal liberty must be accorded: reason cannot dictate to the world of facts, but the facts cannot restrict reason's privilege of dealing with whatever objects its love of beauty may cause to seem worthy of consideration. Here, as elsewhere, we build up our ideals out of the fragments to be found in the world; and in the end it is hard to say whether the result is a creation or a discovery.

**9.10 Write on the Living Caricatures (about 200 words)**



**APTITUDE TEST - 10****Time: 30 min****ENGLISH / STD +2 Onwards****Marks: 10X 5 = 50****10.1 Choose the word that is most opposite meaning.**

1. Obscure (a) reflect (b) consider (c) digress (d) expound
2. Quiescent (a) loud (b) bright (c) active (d) large
3. Contenance (a) self-indulgence (b) location (c) awakening (d) unconsciousness
4. Onerous (a) multiple (b) weightless (c) effortless (d) selfless
5. Effrontery (a) diffidence (b) backwardness (c) bravery (d) flattery

**10.2 Choose the word that is closest in meaning.**

1. Orgy (a) organic (b) religious (c) misery (d) wild party
2. Scurrilous (a) funny (b) eager (c) abusive (d) sacred
3. Pled (a) set out (b) conclude (c) intend (d) beg for
4. Sobriety (a) self-control (b) companionship (c) humour (d) seriousness
5. Transgressor (a) passenger (b) law-breaker (c) protector (d) comrade

**10.3 Choose from the four alternatives the words which best complete the sentence.**

1. He discovered that by interesting himself in gardening he could ..... the frustrations and disappointments of his daily life.  
(a) make up all for (b) for all make up (c) all make up for (d) make up for all
2. Some of the students were intelligent, others slow .....  
(a) in understanding (b) understanding (c) taking things in (d) taking in things
3. Mothers usually have great difficulty in making school-going children ..... out of the bed early in the morning.  
(a) rise (b) stand (c) get (d) turn
4. The reason ..... I was feeling happy that morning was that the examination were over and I had a to months' holiday.  
(a) because (b) why (c) that (d) for
5. There was a large car-park outside the building ..... for the VIPs.  
(a) reserving it (b) lying (c) kept (d) set apart

**10.4 Correct the sentence or justify if there is no error.**

1. I was thinking inside myself that if the clock had been invented by someone south of the Equator, the clock hands would go round the other way.
2. If you obstinately insist to make tactless remarks like these it would be hardly possible for your friends to protect you.
3. Criminals usually telephone from public telephone boxes so that the police would not be able to trace the call.
4. Not only did the professionals demand new training facilities, they also did propose a revision of membership fees.
5. Patrons are respectfully informed that the right is reserved for admission to be refused to anyone without any reason being given.

**10.5 Distinguish between the words.**

1. forego, forgo      2. gentle, genteel      3. temporal, temporary

**10.6 Use the following phrasal verbs in sentence of your own.**

1. come about      2. give away      3. get over      4. (be) put out      5. switch on

**10.7 Give the phonetic transcription for the following words.**

- (a) mistake      (b) daughter      (c) tree      (d) move      (e) save

**10.8 Write a few lines (100 words) about the given proverb.**

If the counsel be good, no matter who gave it.

**10.9 Make a precise of the following passage.**

It seems to be essential to the mental health and happiness of every individual that he should have something to which he can assert exclusive possession; something, as we say that he can call his own. Delight in owning things usually shows itself as early as the second year of life, when the words "my" and "mine" are amongst the first that the child learns to utter.

Parents and teachers can make use of this characteristic of human nature in many ways. In the home a child can be led to acquire orderly habits by being encouraged to arrange his own possessions tidily; and this valuable training can be continued at school, where he can be helped to keep carefully arranged samples of his own handiwork, such as drawings, paintings, specimens of his handwriting, well-done arithmetic exercises and the like.

Closely linked with pride of possession is an impulse that appears early in the life of most children - the impulse to collect things. This too the educator can use to good effect. By the exercise of a little tact he can inspire a child to collect postage stamps, and may thus lead him to a lasting interest in history and geography. Or, by encouraging him to collect wild flowers, shells or pebbles, he may help him to become a naturalist. It is, probably safe to say that all good naturalists were unusually keen collectors when they were still at school.

In all branches of learning great scholars owe much to those who encouraged them in their childhood patiently to select, arrange and study the objects they were collecting; for such methods are essential to the scholar's attainment of his goal - the filling of a gap in human knowledge.

**10.10 Write on the Nature's Spring Song (about 200 words)**