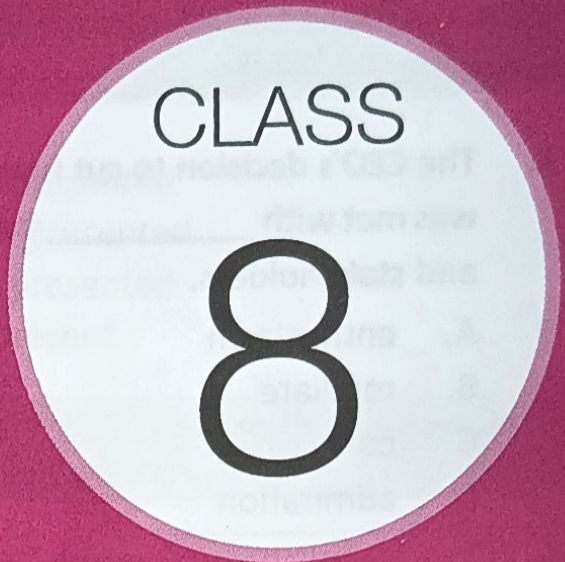
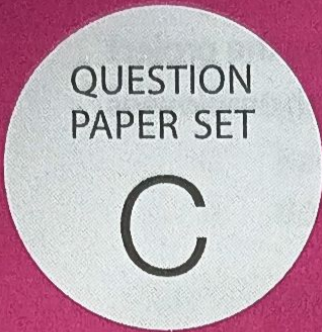




SOF INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH OLYMPIAD 2025-26



Total Questions : 50

Time : 1 hr.

Guidelines for the Candidate

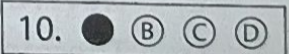
- 1. You will get additional ten minutes to fill up information about yourself on the OMR Sheet, before the start of the exam.
2. Write your Name, School Code, Class, Section, Roll No. and Mobile Number clearly on the OMR Sheet and do not forget to sign it.
3. The Question Paper comprises four sections: Word and Structure Knowledge (30 Questions), Reading (10 Questions), Spoken and Written Expression (5 Questions) and Achievers Section (5 Questions).
4. All questions are compulsory. There is no negative marking.
5. There is only ONE correct answer. Choose only ONE option for an answer.
6. To mark your choice of answers by darkening the circles on the OMR Sheet, use HB Pencil or Blue / Black ball point pen only.
7. Return the OMR Sheet to the invigilator at the end of the exam.
8. Please fill in your personal details in the space provided before attempting the paper.

Q.10: Fill in the blank.

Please teach my dog _____ a ball.

- A. to fetch B. learn C. show D. to learn

As the correct answer is option A, you must darken the circle corresponding to option A on the OMR Sheet.



Name:
SOF Olympiad Roll No.: Contact No.:

DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL ASKED TO DO SO

For questions 1 to 20, choose the correct option to fill in the blank.

1. The CEO's decision to cut funding for the project was met with _____ from both employees and stakeholders.
A. enthusiasm
B. retaliate
C. backlash
D. admiration
2. A minor spark in the showroom triggered a deadly _____ within minutes.
A. conciliation
B. consideration
C. congregation
D. conflagration
3. _____ chooses to accept the challenge must be prepared for difficult tasks ahead.
A. Whatsoever
B. Whoseever
C. Whosoever
D. Whatever
4. This hotel provides excellent service. _____, it offers great discounts for longer stays.
A. Furthermore
B. However
C. Nevertheless
D. Therefore
5. In this digital era, most of the students use video games as a _____ from hectic school life.
A. difference
B. diversion
C. divergent
D. dissonance
6. It was very _____ of them to play loud music at night while others were trying to sleep.
A. inquisitive
B. influential
C. incapable
D. inconsiderate
7. _____ the hall, a wave of excitement swept through the crowd, signalling the start of the much-anticipated event.
A. On having entered
B. Upon his entrance
C. While he enters
D. As he entered
8. The Silver Hawks team was punished for _____ the rules of the game.
A. desecrating
B. acknowledging
C. understanding
D. consecrating
9. The education minister _____ the new educational reforms, highlighting their potential to improve the learning environment.
A. criticized
B. interdicted
C. endorsed
D. thwarted
10. _____ human brain is _____ highly complex organ, capable _____ amazing things like thinking, learning, and solving problems.
A. The, the, on
B. A, the, at
C. An, a, by
D. The, a, of
11. _____ her ongoing health challenges, Nimrat remained focused and managed to achieve excellent results in her exams.
A. Because of
B. Notwithstanding
C. As a result of
D. Due to
12. _____ having all the necessary qualifications, Lucy was not selected for the final interview round.
A. Despite
B. Since
C. In spite
D. Beside

13. The _____ building near our school was demolished just a few months ago by the Municipal Committee.

- A. abashed
- B. slushy
- C. ruggedly
- D. tilted

14. The coach adjusted the training schedule _____ players wouldn't feel exhausted before the final match.

- A. unless
- B. while
- C. nevertheless
- D. so that

15. If Julia _____ flowers, James _____ her a bouquet.

- A. had liked, would have gifted
- B. liked, would had gifted
- C. likes, shall have gifted
- D. has liked, would gift

16. Many communities across the globe continue _____ that their voices and concerns _____ suppressed.

- A. to feel, have been
- B. feeling, had being
- C. to felt, are being
- D. feel, have

17. Despite various reforms, some citizens still claim _____ from the decision-making process.

- A. being exclude
- B. to has been excluded
- C. to have been excluded
- D. are being excluded

18. He mentioned that the delegates _____ the proposal carefully before rejecting it outright.

- A. is considering
- B. had considered
- C. have been considered
- D. consider

19. Everyone was dancing at the party, so I decided to _____ and have some fun.

- A. stand out
- B. hold back

- C. count down
- D. jump in

20. The manager would not have approved the budget if we _____ a detailed breakdown of the costs.

- A. not had presented
- B. have not presented
- C. had not presented
- D. do not present

For questions 21 and 22, choose the appropriate meaning of the given idiom.

21. "Chew the fat" means _____.

- A. to eat a lot
- B. to talk casually
- C. to argue incessantly
- D. to work hard

22. "Under the radar" means _____.

- A. to be noticed by everyone
- B. to remain unnoticed or hidden
- C. to escape from the police
- D. to be easily detected by technology

For questions 23 and 24, choose the part of the sentence that has an error.

23. No one is allowed to carry any electronic gadgets in the examination hall over the exam.

- A. No one is allowed
- B. to carry any electronic gadgets
- C. in the examination hall
- D. over the exam.

24. We should handled our problems ourselves instead of dragging someone else into it.

- A. We should handled
- B. our problems ourselves
- C. instead of dragging someone
- D. else into it.

For questions 25 and 26, choose the correct synonym of the given word.

25. Cannonade

- A. Silence
- B. Volley
- C. Dribble
- D. Rampart

26. Surcease

- A. Celebration
- B. Protraction
- C. Cessation
- D. Effusion

For questions 27 and 28, choose the correct antonym of the given word.

27. Coagulate

- A. Condense
- B. Congeal
- C. Gelate
- D. Flux

28. Permeate

- A. Infiltrate
- B. Deplete
- C. Pervade
- D. Saturate

For questions 29 and 30, choose the option with correct spelling.

29. How do you spell the word that means "a fortuitous coincidence"?

- A. Serendipity
- B. Coevallity
- C. Epiphaney
- D. Euphorea

30. How do you spell the word that means "a theatrical variety show featuring multiple acts, such as comedy, dance, etc."?

- A. Vauderville
- B. Vaudeville
- C. Vaudelville
- D. Vaideaville

READING

For questions 31 to 35, read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

India's space exploration efforts have witnessed remarkable progress over the years, with the Chandrayaan missions standing out as significant milestones. Launched by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), these missions were aimed at exploring the Moon and advancing India's capabilities in space technology. The term "Chandrayaan" comes from the Sanskrit words "Chandra" (Moon) and "Yaan" (vehicle), meaning "Mooncraft".

The first mission, Chandrayaan-1, was launched on October 22, 2008, from the Satish Dhawan Space Centre. It marked India's first attempt to reach the Moon and was primarily an orbital mission. The spacecraft was equipped with eleven scientific instruments, five of which were Indian, while others were from countries like the USA, the UK, Germany, Sweden, and Bulgaria. The mission's most ground-breaking achievement was the discovery of water

molecules on the lunar surface, particularly near the Moon's poles. This finding created global excitement and established ISRO as a key player in planetary exploration. Although the mission ended in August 2009 after contact was lost with the orbiter, it had completed over 3,400 orbits and far exceeded its expected life of two years.

Building on the success of Chandrayaan-1, ISRO launched Chandrayaan-2 on July 22, 2019. This mission was more ambitious, as it aimed to land a rover on the Moon's south polar region—an area not yet explored by any other country. Chandrayaan-2 consisted of three components: an orbiter, a lander named Vikram, and a rover named Pragyan. While the orbiter continued to function and sent valuable data, the lander crash-landed on the Moon's surface on September 6, 2019, due to a last-minute technical glitch. The rover, housed within the lander, could not be deployed as a result. Despite the setback, the mission was hailed as partially successful.

The orbiter remains operational, providing high-resolution images and conducting remote-sensing observations that contribute to lunar science.

Undeterred by previous challenges, India embarked on Chandrayaan-3, launched on July 14, 2023. Unlike its predecessor, this mission focused solely on the soft landing of a lander and a rover, with no orbiter included, as the Chandrayaan-2 orbiter was still functioning effectively. The lander, once again named Vikram, and the rover, Pragyan, were designed with improved features, including better navigation and hazard avoidance systems. On August 23, 2023, Vikram made a successful soft landing near the Moon's south pole, making India the first country to land in that region and the fourth country to achieve a soft landing on the Moon, after the USA, the former USSR, and China.

This achievement was not just a technological triumph, but also a moment of immense national pride. The Chandrayaan-3 rover Pragyan explored the lunar surface for nearly 14 Earth days, equivalent to one lunar day, conducting experiments and sending data back to Earth. It detected the presence of key elements such as sulphur, aluminium, and manganese, and contributed to understanding the Moon's composition and thermal properties. The successful landing and the scientific outcomes of the mission brought widespread acclaim from the international community and positioned ISRO as a rising leader in space science and technology.

31. Choose the incorrect statement.

- A. Chandrayaan-1 discovered water molecules on the moon, which was a major scientific breakthrough.
- B. Chandrayaan-2's rover Pragyan explored the Moon's surface for two lunar days.
- C. Chandrayaan-3 made India the first country to land near the Moon's south pole.

- D. ISRO made design improvements in Chandrayaan-3 to avoid previous mission failures.

32. Read Statements I and II and choose the correct option.

Statement I: Although Chandrayan-2 experienced a setback, the mission was considered to be a ground breaking success.

Statement II: Despite the lander's crash, Chandrayaan-2's orbiter remained active and continued sending valuable scientific data to Earth.

- A. Statement I is correct but Statement II is incorrect.
- B. Statement I is incorrect but Statement II is correct.
- C. Both the Statements I and II are correct.
- D. Both the Statements I and II are incorrect.

33. How does the passage support the statement: "India learns from its past missions"?

- A. By positioning ISRO as the leader of space science and technology
- B. By explaining that Chandrayaan-2 was repeated with the same outcome
- C. By highlighting how improvements were made in Chandrayan-3 after Chandrayaan-2
- D. By ceding technological triumph and international pride

34. The main scientific contribution of Candrayaan-3 was _____.

- A. launching the first Indian astronaut to the Moon
- B. mapping the entire lunar surface
- C. soft landing and exploring the Moon's south pole while collecting data
- D. sending images of earth from space

35. The synonym of the word "predecessor" is _____.

- A. successor
- B. progeny
- C. forerunner
- D. assistant

For questions 36 to 40, read the passage and answer the questions that follow.

In recent years, India has witnessed a disturbing trend: a sharp increase in heart attacks among the younger population. Traditionally considered a disease of the elderly, heart-related ailments are now striking people as young as in their late twenties and thirties. This alarming shift is prompting serious concern among healthcare professionals, public health experts, and families across the country.

According to recent studies by the Indian Heart Association and several leading hospitals, there has been a 30% increase in cardiac events among individuals aged 25 to 40 over the past decade. This is a significant deviation from earlier patterns, where most heart attack cases were recorded in individuals above the age of 50. The question that arises is—what is fuelling this unsettling trend?

The causes are multifaceted. One of the primary contributors is a sedentary lifestyle, especially in urban India. Young professionals often spend long hours sitting at desks, staring at computer screens with minimal physical activity. Add to this irregular sleep cycles, skipped meals, and fast-food consumption, and the result is a recipe for poor heart health.

Unhealthy dietary habits are also playing a key role. The growing popularity of processed foods, sugary drinks, and high-fat diets among the younger generation is replacing traditional, balanced meals. This dietary shift has led to a surge in obesity, high cholesterol, and hypertension—all of which are major risk factors for heart disease.

Stress is another silent killer. The pressure to perform in competitive work environments, financial insecurities, social expectations, and even the constant presence of digital media have intensified mental stress. Studies have shown a direct connection between chronic

stress and increased levels of cortisol, a hormone that negatively impacts heart function over time.

Furthermore, smoking and substance abuse are increasingly common among Indian youth. Despite awareness campaigns, a significant number of young adults continue to smoke or use tobacco, contributing to damaged blood vessels and increased chances of a heart attack. Alcohol consumption is also on the rise, often as a coping mechanism for stress, further endangering heart health.

Genetic predisposition is another factor that cannot be ignored. South Asians, including Indians, are genetically more susceptible to heart disease due to higher levels of lipoprotein(a) and a tendency to develop diabetes. When these genetic factors combine with modern lifestyle habits, the risk multiplies.

Another concerning issue is the lack of awareness and timely diagnosis. Young people often dismiss early symptoms such as fatigue, chest discomfort, or shortness of breath, assuming they are too young to be at risk. As a result, many cases are discovered only when a major event, like a heart attack, occurs—often too late.

Doctors and cardiologists are now urging the younger generation to undergo regular health screenings, maintain a heart-healthy lifestyle, and take preventive measures seriously. There is also a growing call for companies and institutions to support wellness programs that promote physical activity and mental well-being among employees.

36. Choose the correct evaluation of the given statement: "Young Indians are not at risk of heart attacks due to their age."
- A. True, because heart disease affects only the elderly.
 - B. False, because younger people are increasingly experiencing heart attacks.

- C. True, because they have stronger immune systems.
- D. False, because young people don't visit doctors.

37. The 30% rise in heart attacks among Indians aged 25 to 40 suggests a growing trend of heart disease in _____.

- A. rural populations only
- B. older retired individuals
- C. adolescents and professionals
- D. younger, working adults

38. What does a lifestyle with poor sleep, skipped meals, and fast food suggest?

- A. Healthy habits
- B. Traditional living
- C. Harmful modern routine
- D. A well-balanced habit

39. Based on the information provided in the passage, match the following and choose the correct option.

Column A

1. Poor sleep and fast food consumption

2. Stress

3. Sedentary lifestyle

4. Genetic predisposition

Column B

(i) Affects heart health due to prolonged physical inactivity

(ii) Increases the susceptibility of heart disease in younger people

(iii) One of the primary factors of heart ailments

(iv) Contributes to elevated cortisol levels

A. 1-(iii), 2-(iv), 3-(i), 4-(ii)

B. 1-(iii), 2-(i), 3-(ii), 4-(iv)

C. 1-(ii), 2-(iv), 3-(i), 4-(iii)

D. 1-(iv), 2-(iii), 3-(i), 4-(ii)

40. The synonym of the word "alarming" is _____.

A. soothing

B. chirking

C. dismaying

D. confusing

SPOKEN AND WRITTEN EXPRESSION

For questions 41 to 45, choose the correct option to complete each conversation.

41. Eliza: Tim, you won't believe what had happened today.

Tim: Please, tell me. You look _____.

Eliza: I had discovered an old castle _____ on the other side of the forest.

- A. surprised, cut and dried
- B. impatient, off the beaten track
- C. sad, broke a leg
- D. terrible, cutting corners

42. Arijit: After years in finance, my father decided to _____ and become a wildlife photographer.

- A. throw on the towel
- B. take the plunge
- C. break the bank
- D. beat around the bush

43. Mentor: Emily tried to stay calm during the debate, but eventually she _____ and shouted at the moderator.

A. broken down

B. bottled up

C. flipped her lid

D. pulled herself together

44. Receptionist: You are allowed to attend the conference _____ you complete the necessary registration formalities.

A. granted to

B. provided that

C. in case of

D. even if

45. Max: Our startup's success _____ overnight; we had to work very hard _____ achieving a breakthrough.

A. did not happen, before

B. has not happened, by

C. does not happen, when

D. had not happened, with

ACHIEVERS SECTION

For questions 46 and 47, choose the correct option to fill in the blank.

46. The author's _____ style of writing made each sentence feel like a carefully crafted gem, with no words wasted.

- A. nostrum
- B. bombastic
- C. lapidary
- D. prolix

47. The critic's review of the novel was so _____ that the author withdrew from public appearances altogether.

- A. captivating
- B. lacerating
- C. articulating
- D. invigorating

Choose the correct synonym of the given word.

48. Lambaste

- A. Objurgate
- B. Exculpate

- C. Adulate
- D. Expiate

Choose the correct antonym of the given word.

49. Intransigence

- A. Inveteracy
- B. Pertinacity
- C. Complaisance
- D. Defiance

Choose the correct option to complete the conversation.


50. Sam : It's always better to approach problems with a calm and composed mindset rather than _____.

- A. ram-raiding it
- B. calling the shots
- C. cracking a crib
- D. shooting from the hip



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