

English

# BIHAR PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION BPSC

Question paper  
and  
solutions



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# Question Booklet



Paper—II

## GENERAL ENGLISH

Time Allowed : 3 Hours

( Objective )

Maximum Marks : 100

Read the following instructions carefully before you begin to answer the questions.

### IMPORTANT INSTRUCTIONS

1. This Question Booklet contains 100 questions in all.
2. All questions carry equal marks.
3. Attempt all questions.
4. Immediately after commencement of the examination, you should check up your Question Booklet and ensure that the Question Booklet Series is printed on the top right-hand corner of the Booklet. The Booklet contains 11 printed pages and no page or question is missing or unprinted or torn or repeated. If you find any defect in this Booklet, get it replaced immediately by a complete Booklet of the same series.
5. You must write your Roll Number in the space provided on the top of this page. Do not write anything else on the Question Booklet.
6. An Answer Sheet will be supplied to you separately by the Invigilator to mark the answers. You must write your Name, Roll No. and other particulars on the first page of the Answer Sheet provided, failing which your Answer Sheet will not be evaluated.
7. You will encode your Roll Number and the Question Booklet Series A, B, C or D as it is printed on the top right-hand corner of this Question Booklet with Black/Blue ballpoint pen in the space provided on Page-2 of your Answer Sheet. If you do not encode or fail to encode the correct series of your Question Booklet, your Answer Sheet will not be evaluated correctly.
8. Questions and their responses are printed in English only in this Booklet. Each question comprises four responses—(A), (B), (C) and (D). You are to select ONLY ONE correct response and mark in your Answer Sheet. In case you feel that there are more than one correct response, mark the response which you consider the best. In any case, choose ONLY ONE response for each question. Your total marks will depend on the number of correct responses marked by you in the Answer Sheet.
9. In the Answer Sheet, there are four brackets—(A), (B), (C) and (D) against each question. To answer the questions you are to mark with Black/Blue ballpoint pen ONLY ONE bracket of your choice for each question. Select one response for each question in the Question Booklet and mark in the Answer Sheet. If you mark more than one answer for one question, the answer will be treated as wrong. Any erasure or change is not allowed.
10. You should not remove or tear off any sheet from the Question Booklet. You are not allowed to take this Question Booklet and the Answer Sheet out of the Examination Hall during the examination. After the examination has concluded, you must hand over your Answer Sheet to the Invigilator. Thereafter, you are permitted to take away the Question Booklet with you.
11. Failure to comply with any of the above instructions will render you liable to such action or penalty as the Commission may decide at their discretion.

SEAL

## SPOTTING ERRORS

**Directions** (Q. Nos. 1 to 20) : Read each of the following sentences to find out whether there is an error in any underlined part. No sentence has more than one error. If you feel there is no error in a sentence, signify a 'No error' response.

1. Hemant accused the guard for stealing. No error  
(A) (B) (C) (D)
2. I am accustomed to cold weather. No error  
(A) (B) (C) (D)
3. Raj was angry against his son. No error  
(A) (B) (C) (D)
4. I have no doubts for his ability. No error  
(A) (B) (C) (D)
5. He objects to be treated like this. No error  
(A) (B) (C) (D)
6. I am quite sure for her dedication. No error  
(A) (B) (C) (D)
7. Naveen has returned back to his home. No error  
(A) (B) (C) (D)
8. He has already pays for his mistake. No error  
(A) (B) (C) (D)
9. Shamita is quite capable to do this work. No error  
(A) (B) (C) (D)
10. Shayan leaves the office quite early yesterday. No error  
(A) (B) (C) (D)

11. She told (A) to me (B) to come at once. (C) No error (D)
12. She chose (A) to stay (B) there for a while. (C) No error (D)
13. Did you (A) called (B) the teacher? (C) No error (D)
14. There was a (A) huge rush of students (B) at the book fare. (C) No error (D)
15. No sooner had she arrived that (A) her friends (B) surprised her with a party. (C) No error (D)
16. All of our products (A) including the plates (B) is microwave safe. (C) No error (D)
17. She accepted the award (A) for the behalf (B) of her late father. (C) No error (D)
18. The cake would have looked (A) more better (B) if it were red. (C) No error (D)
19. One of (A) my friend (B) lives in Chennai. (C) No error (D)
20. She was (A) absorbed at (B) her work. (C) No error (D)

[P.T.O.]

## SENTENCE IMPROVEMENT

**Directions** (Q. Nos. 21 to 40) : Below each of the following sentences three possible substitutes are given for the underlined part. If one of them is better than the underlined part, indicate your response on the Answer-Sheet against the corresponding letter (A), (B) or (C). If none of the substitutes improves the sentence, indicate (D) as your response on the Answer-Sheet.

21. We took out our hats when we entered the warm room.  
(A) took off.  
(B) took away  
(C) put out  
(D) No improvement
22. Let us go to the mall today, shall we?  
(A) don't we  
(B) do we  
(C) do they  
(D) No improvement
23. It took me a while to understand what was matter.  
(A) what is matter  
(B) what has been matter  
(C) what the matter was  
(D) No improvement
24. Sheela is as tall as Reema.  
(A) as tall as much  
(B) as taller as  
(C) same tall  
(D) No improvement
25. Ranjan must has spilled the milk.  
(A) have spilled  
(B) had spilled  
(C) have been spilled  
(D) No improvement
26. She is having a lot of coins in her purse.  
(A) had been having  
(B) has  
(C) have  
(D) No improvement
27. I had enough of his arrogant behaviour.  
(A) have enough  
(B) have been enough  
(C) have had enough  
(D) No improvement
28. The train will leave by the time we reach the station. Hurry up.  
(A) left  
(B) will have left  
(C) will be leaving  
(D) No improvement
29. My mother is worried about my brother's grades and also I.  
(A) I am also  
(B) also me  
(C) so am I  
(D) No improvement
30. I am exhausted as I am working since morning.  
(A) was working  
(B) have been working  
(C) had been worked  
(D) No improvement

31. He did not know the lyrics to the song, I did not neither.
- (A) neither did I.  
(B) either did I  
(C) neither had I  
(D) No improvement
32. He told me that he had been waiting from four hours.
- (A) for four hours  
(B) about four hours  
(C) until four hours  
(D) No improvement
33. The greater the demand, higher the price.
- (A) highest  
(B) the high  
(C) the higher  
(D) No improvement
34. Eating fruits is benevolent to health.
- (A) beneficial  
(B) bounteous  
(C) beneficent  
(D) No improvement
35. He persuaded me to accompany him on a trip he was planning a month ago.
- (A) is planning  
(B) had planned  
(C) planned  
(D) No improvement
36. The audience was carried by the emotional speech.
- (A) got carried away  
(B) was carried off  
(C) was carried towards  
(D) No improvement
37. Didn't Aarav come to school yet?
- (A) Hadn't  
(B) Hasn't  
(C) Isn't  
(D) No improvement
38. A report has already been sent to the organization.
- (A) having already being  
(B) have already been  
(C) has already being  
(D) No improvement
39. At what time are we going to leave for school?
- (A) going to leave now  
(B) going to have left  
(C) going to be leaving  
(D) No improvement
40. Sheela has been playing for two hours when her parents came home.
- (A) had been playing  
(B) was playing  
(C) has played  
(D) No improvement

## VOCABULARY

**Directions** (Q. Nos. 41 to 50) : Below each of the following words (in capital letters) four possible substitutes are given. Choose the word which is nearest in meaning to the word given in capital letters and indicate your response on the Answer-Sheet.

41. CONCUR  
(A) Consider  
(B) Agree  
(C) Conceal  
(D) Disagree
42. QUANDARY  
(A) Quality  
(B) Dilemma  
(C) Chaos  
(D) Quantity.
43. AMBIT  
(A) Aura  
(B) Range  
(C) Ambience  
(D) Lunette
44. PENURIOUS  
(A) Lethal  
(B) Poor  
(C) Peevish  
(D) Prosaic
45. REVERE  
(A) Respect  
(B) Reverse  
(C) Recall  
(D) Remind
46. FORSAKE  
(A) Alarm  
(B) Abandon  
(C) Forgive  
(D) Forage
47. INCESSANT  
(A) Interesting  
(B) Continuous  
(C) Increasing  
(D) Calm
48. DEXTEROUS  
(A) Skilled  
(B) Hardworking  
(C) Difficult  
(D) Patient
49. BENIGN  
(A) Harmful  
(B) Harmless  
(C) Benumb  
(D) Brief
50. FELICITY  
(A) Fidelity  
(B) Faith  
(C) Joy  
(D) Trust

**Directions** (Q. Nos. 51 to 60) : Below each of the following words (in capital letters) four possible substitutes are given. Pick out the word that is most nearly opposite in meaning to the word given in capital letters and indicate your response on the Answer-Sheet.

51. DAFT

- (A) Sanity .
- (B) Sane
- (C) Silly
- (D) Stationary

52. COMMENCE

- (A) Ensure
- (B) End .
- (C) Envision
- (D) Endow

53. INNATE

- (A) Extra
- (B) Inborn .
- (C) External
- (D) Exarchate

54. DAUNT

- (A) Encourage
- (B) Dull
- (C) Effulgent .
- (D) Encompass

55. OBSTINATE

- (A) Obsolete
- (B) Complicated .
- (C) Compact
- (D) Compliant

56. TERSE

- (A) Verbose
- (B) Tense .
- (C) Hearse
- (D) Verve

57. ABET

- (A) Ferment .
- (B) Hinder
- (C) Hindsight
- (D) Foment

58. SEVER

- (A) Resolve
- (B) Join
- (C) Union
- (D) Part ,

59. EXODUS

- (A) Outflow
- (B) Influx
- (C) Infest
- (D) Outpour

60. FUTILE

- (A) Vain .
- (B) Effective
- (C) Efficacy
- (D) Success



## SELECTING WORDS

**Directions** (Q. Nos. 61 to 80) : Each of the following sentences is given with blank space(s) to be filled in with appropriate word(s). Four alternatives are suggested for each sentence. Choose the correct alternative.

61. I intend to work \_\_\_\_\_ late afternoon.  
(A) till  
(B) since  
(C) for  
(D) about
62. Neha was \_\_\_\_\_ too overdressed for a casual party.  
(A) far  
(B) few  
(C) some  
(D) much
63. I know \_\_\_\_\_ certain that Neelam has failed the test.  
(A) with  
(B) for  
(C) on  
(D) from
64. Conflicting opinions led to several fights \_\_\_\_\_ the group of six tourists.  
(A) between  
(B) among  
(C) over  
(D) for
65. We rowed the boat \_\_\_\_\_ the lake to reach the other side.  
(A) across  
(B) between  
(C) among  
(D) over
66. The screenplay of the movie has been \_\_\_\_\_ from a novel.  
(A) adapted  
(B) adopted  
(C) adepted  
(D) attained
67. The teacher did not approve \_\_\_\_\_ the assignment plan.  
(A) of  
(B) with  
(C) about  
(D) above
68. After the fraud was discovered, the manager along with the clerks \_\_\_\_\_ arrested.  
(A) were  
(B) was  
(C) will be  
(D) would be
69. The workers have called \_\_\_\_\_ the strike.  
(A) over  
(B) off  
(C) of  
(D) up
70. When will she hand \_\_\_\_\_ the keys to the apartment?  
(A) over  
(B) down  
(C) back  
(D) into

71. I like tea better \_\_\_\_\_ coffee.

- (A) then
- (B) than
- (C) over
- (D) above

72. She tossed the coin \_\_\_\_\_ the wishing well.

- (A) in
- (B) into
- (C) over
- (D) from

73. We \_\_\_\_\_ to the circus with our families last night.

- (A) went
- (B) are going
- (C) have gone
- (D) will be going

74. It is hard to come \_\_\_\_\_ terms with such a loss.

- (A) with
- (B) to
- (C) on
- (D) in

75. There is a cat \_\_\_\_\_ the table.

- (A) under
- (B) below
- (C) in
- (D) between

76. The train \_\_\_\_\_ at the station at 10:00 a.m. daily.

- (A) arrives
- (B) arrive
- (C) will arrive
- (D) came

77. The student try-outs for the game will \_\_\_\_\_ next week.

- (A) begin on
- (B) begin by
- (C) begun by
- (D) begin at

78. Only \_\_\_\_\_ students had turned up for the art show.

- (A) a few
- (B) few
- (C) little
- (D) a little

79. The birds had \_\_\_\_\_ away from the branch.

- (A) flew
- (B) flown
- (C) fly
- (D) flight

80. \_\_\_\_\_ best is yet to come.

- (A) A
- (B) An
- (C) Some
- (D) The

## PHRASES/IDIOMS

**Directions** (Q. Nos. 81 to 90) : Below each of the following underlined idioms or phrases four possible substitutes (words or group of words) are given. Select the one which is most nearly the same to the given idiom or phrase.

81. Eat humble pie  
(A) To admit that you were wrong.  
(B) Be disillusioned  
(C) Be humble  
(D) To deal with a humble person
82. Drive up the wall  
(A) To annoy someone.  
(B) To be a bad driver  
(C) To be a good driver  
(D) To cause a quarrel
83. Spitting image  
(A) An exact copy  
(B) A lesser version  
(C) Unclear image.  
(D) Reflection
84. Hit the hay  
(A) Feed the cattle  
(B) Go to sleep  
(C) Burn the hay  
(D) Lose the sheep
85. Long in the tooth  
(A) Old  
(B) Rotten  
(C) Sweet  
(D) Wise .
86. To have an axe to grind  
(A) A personal end to serve  
(B) To have no result  
(C) To work for both sides  
(D) To have a lot of work to do
87. A black sheep  
(A) An unlucky person  
(B) Disreputable member of a group  
(C) A lucky person  
(D) A person who is given no share
88. To smell a rat  
(A) To foresee misfortune  
(B) To suspect foul play  
(C) To see signs of plague  
(D) To be in a bad mood
89. At one's wit's end  
(A) Very clever  
(B) Very stupid  
(C) Perplexed.  
(D) Enlightened
90. To talk through one's hat  
(A) To talk nonsense  
(B) To talk indirectly  
(C) To talk to a powerful person  
(D) To keep quiet

**Directions** (Q. Nos. 91 to 100) : Below each of the following underlined definitions four possible substitutes (words) are given. Choose the correct word which may closely fit each definition.

91. Public shame or disgrace

- (A) Panoply
- (B) Ignominy
- (C) Desultory
- (D) Reparation

92. Refusal to accept

- (A) Repudiate
- (B) Abject
- (C) Adjunct
- (D) Recondite

93. A deceptive outward appearance

- (A) Impasse
- (B) Facade
- (C) Countenance
- (D) Gravitas

94. Not known to most people

- (A) Obsolete
- (B) Obscure
- (C) Obstinate
- (D) Obdurate

95. Strongly infatuated to something

- (A) Besotted
- (B) Virulent
- (C) Zealot
- (D) Perturbed

96. Very thin or weak

- (A) Emancipated
- (B) Emaciated
- (C) Emanated
- (D) Amateur

97. Come together to form a mass

- (A) Capsize
- (B) Concoct
- (C) Coalesce
- (D) Concur

98. Having an irritable disposition

- (A) Prudent
- (B) Peevish
- (C) Pestering
- (D) Palpable

99. A place of safety or refuge

- (A) Coup
- (B) Haven
- (C) Heaven
- (D) Abeyance

100. Rebuke severely

- (A) Chastise
- (B) Chaste
- (C) Chastity
- (D) Revere

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## ANSWERS KEY

- |                     |                     |                     |                     |                      |
|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------------|
| 1. <i>Ans. (c)</i>  | 21. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 41. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 61. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 81. <i>Ans. (a)</i>  |
| 2. <i>Ans. (d)</i>  | 22. <i>Ans. (d)</i> | 42. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 62. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 82. <i>Ans. (a)</i>  |
| 3. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  | 23. <i>Ans. (c)</i> | 43. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 63. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 83. <i>Ans. (a)</i>  |
| 4. <i>Ans. (c)</i>  | 24. <i>Ans. (d)</i> | 44. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 64. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 84. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  |
| 5. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  | 25. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 45. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 65. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 85. <i>Ans. (a)</i>  |
| 6. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  | 26. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 46. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 66. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 86. <i>Ans. (a)</i>  |
| 7. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  | 27. <i>Ans. (c)</i> | 47. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 67. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 87. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  |
| 8. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  | 28. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 48. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 68. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 88. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  |
| 9. <i>Ans. (c)</i>  | 29. <i>Ans. (c)</i> | 49. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 69. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 89. <i>Ans. (c)</i>  |
| 10. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 30. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 50. <i>Ans. (c)</i> | 70. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 90. <i>Ans. (a)</i>  |
| 11. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 31. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 51. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 71. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 91. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  |
| 12. <i>Ans. (d)</i> | 32. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 52. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 72. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 92. <i>Ans. (a)</i>  |
| 13. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 33. <i>Ans. (c)</i> | 53. <i>Ans. (c)</i> | 73. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 93. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  |
| 14. <i>Ans. (d)</i> | 34. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 54. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 74. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 94. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  |
| 15. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 35. <i>Ans. (c)</i> | 55. <i>Ans. (d)</i> | 75. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 95. <i>Ans. (a)</i>  |
| 16. <i>Ans. (c)</i> | 36. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 56. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 76. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 96. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  |
| 17. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 37. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 57. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 77. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 97. <i>Ans. (c)</i>  |
| 18. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 38. <i>Ans. (d)</i> | 58. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 78. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 98. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  |
| 19. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 39. <i>Ans. (d)</i> | 59. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 79. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 99. <i>Ans. (b)</i>  |
| 20. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 40. <i>Ans. (a)</i> | 60. <i>Ans. (b)</i> | 80. <i>Ans. (d)</i> | 100. <i>Ans. (a)</i> |