

**NATIONAL TALENT SEARCH EXAMINATION, 2015-  
16 (STATE LEVEL)  
(FOR STUDENTS STUDYING IN CLASS X)**

**English**

*Full Marks: 50*

*Total Time: 45 minutes*

**Instructions to Candidates**

Read the instructions carefully before you start answering the questions. Answers are to be given on a OMR Answer-Sheet provided.

1. In this Paper you are to answer 50 questions. Each question carries 1(one) mark. You are to answer all the questions.
2. Before you proceed to mark in the OMR Answer- Sheet find out the correct answer from the *four* alternatives (a), (b), (c) and (d) against each question in the Question Booklet. Darken the circle with a Black Ball Point Pen, to the corresponding correct answer to the item in the OMR Answer-Sheet.
  - (a) If more than one circle is encoded or darken against a particular answer, it will be treated as a wrong answer.
  - (b) There will be no penalty marks or negative marking for a wrong answer.
  - (c) You are to start recording answers with the 'start' instruction from the Officer-in-Charge of your room/hall.
  - (a) **You are to write your Name and Roll No. in the space provided with for this purpose on the OMR Answer-Sheet. You must encode your Roll no. in OMR Answer Sheet.**
  - (b) The OMR Answer-Sheet should be handed over to the Invigilator before leaving the Examination Hall. You may take away the used Question Booklet after completion of the examination.

Enrollment No. :  Batch : \_\_\_\_\_

Name : \_\_\_\_\_

Candidate's Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Invigilator's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

**Q. 1-5. Read the passage and answer the questions given below:**

It happened one day, about noon, going towards my boat, I was exceedingly surprised with the print of mans naked foot on the shore, which was very plain to be seen in the sand. I stood like one thunderstruck, or as it I had seen an apparition. I listened, I looked round me, I could hear nothing, nor see anything. I went up the shore, and down the shore, but it was all one, I could see no impression but that one. I went to it again to see if there were any more, and to observe if it might not be my fancy; but there was no room for that for there was exactly the very print of a foot—toe, heel and every part of a foot.

**Choose the correct answer from the options given below:**

1. On finding the foot-print on the shore, what did the author do?
  - (a) Did not pay much attention.
  - (b) Began to investigate its origin.
  - (c) Ran away in fear.
  - (d) Went to his boat.
  
2. Which one of the following expressions best describes the emotion evoked by the foot-print in the author?
  - (a) Curiosity
  - (b) Indifference
  - (c) Terror
  - (d) Surprise
  
3. How does the author convince himself that the foot-print is a real one?
  - (a) By finding the person who made it.
  - (b) Being told about it by a witness.
  - (c) By thinking about it for some time.
  - (d) By examining it carefully and noticing its details.
  
4. Which one of the following expressions best brings out the effect of the foot-print on the author?
  - (a) Stood like one thunder-struck
  - (b) Could hear nothing
  - (c) Went up the shore
  - (d) Looked round himself
  
5. The passage is full of short simple sentences. Their purpose is to
  - (a) facilitate easy understanding.
  - (b) give a plain narration.
  - (c) convey breathless excitement.
  - (d) imply the inability of the author to write in a better way.

**Q. 6-10. Read the following passage and answer the questions given after it:**

Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam was one who constantly worried about how technology can help the common man, the disabled, and the disadvantaged. Even as he was involved in applying technology to produce tools and devices for national defence, he asked “what else can they do” for the community at large. His interest and contributions in the health sector may be exemplified through two examples. When he realized that a coronary stent (a small extendable tube inserted in order to help smooth blood flow in heart patients) cost over Rs. 60,000, he decided to make a prototype, using the safe, biocompatible and long-lasting stent from the alloys used in missile technology. He worked with Dr. Somaraju in this project and they succeeded to make it. This Kalam-Raju stent proved to be a low cost, safe and effective stent; it is now used in several hundred patients with success. Similarly, noting that the calipers that polio-affected individuals use for locomotion are not only heavy but also expensive, he devised (along with Dr. Narendra Nath of Hyderabad) a far lighter one, made of a composite material used to make the nose cone of the Agni missile.

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**Choose the correct answer from the options given:**

6. Dr. Kalam took interest in the health sector because
- (a) he was involved in producing stent.
  - (b) he wanted to help the disadvantaged students.
  - (c) he wanted to use technology to help common man.
  - (d) he was involved in producing missiles.
7. Kalam's contribution to health sector proves why
- (a) he was called people's president.
  - (b) he wanted to be the president.
  - (c) he became a doctor.
  - (d) he worried about the diseased.
8. A coronary stent is required by patients suffering from
- (a) Kidney problem
  - (b) Heart problem
  - (c) Lungs problem
  - (d) Blood problem
9. The phrase 'at large' here means
- (a) in the main
  - (b) on the loose
  - (c) on average
  - (d) in general
10. Calipers is used by patients who have problem
- (a) in carrying heavy things.
  - (b) in moving from one place to another.
  - (c) in moving hands and feet.
  - (d) in moving any limb.

**Q. 11-15. Read the following passage and answer the questions given after it:**

J(oanne) K(athleen) Rowling claims that she was a compulsive storyteller from a young age. On a particularly long train journey from Manchester to London in the summer of 1990, the idea came to her for the story of a boy who finds out he is a wizard and is sent off to wizard school. The *Harry Potter* series— which begins with *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone* (1997) followed by *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets* (1998)—was conceived from the start as comprising seven novels, covering to the seven years Harry spends as a pupil at the Hogwarts school of Witchcraft and Wizardry and exploring, among their many themes, the development of identity during adolescence. On his 11th birthday, the orphaned Harry— whose life until then has been a litany of misery with his aunt, uncle and obnoxious cousin Dudley— discovers he is a wizard and is whisked off to a magical version of the traditional boarding school where he learns the craft of wizardry.

**Choose the correct answer from the options given:**

11. The story of Harry Potter was conceived by Rowling during
- (a) a train journey in winter.
  - (b) a train journey in summer.
  - (c) a tram journey in summer.
  - (d) a train journey in monsoon.
12. The second story of Harry Potter was published in the
- (a) eighth decade of nineteenth century.
  - (b) fourth decade of twentieth century.
  - (c) last decade of twentieth century.
  - (d) final decade of nineteenth century.
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13. What does the expression "litany of misery" signify?
- types of misery
  - traces of misery
  - list of misery
  - sufferings of misery
14. One of the themes explored in Harry Potter stories is
- development of a person's identity.
  - development of adolescent psychology.
  - development of identity of wizards.
  - development of identity of orphans.
15. Select which of the following statements is true?
- The Harry Potter series starts with *Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban*.
  - The second book on Harry Potter is *Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*.
  - The last book on Harry Potter is *Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone*.
  - Harry joined Hogwart school of Witchcraft and Wizardry at the age of 12.

**Q. 16-17. The following five sentences come from a paragraph. The first and the last sentences are given. Choose the order in which the three sentences (P,Q,R,) should appear to complete the paragraph:**

16. S1. It would be foolish to deny that the countryside has many attractions to offer.  
 S2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 S3 \_\_\_\_\_  
 S4 \_\_\_\_\_  
 S5 One soon gets tired of looking at the same old scenes and same creatures.

P - But, there is another side to the picture.

Q - The honesty and frankness of the country folk, too, is a refreshing change from the dishonesty and selfishness we find in so many urban people.

R - There are the lovely scenery, varied wildlife, and the clean, healthy air.

Choose from the options given below:

- RQP
  - PQR
  - RPQ
  - QPR
17. S1. 'As a matter of fact,' said the boy modestly, 'I'm a spaceman'.  
 S2 \_\_\_\_\_  
 S3 \_\_\_\_\_

- RQP
- QPR
- PQR
- RPQ

**Q. 18-19. These questions have the second sentence missing. Choose the appropriate sentence from the options given below:**

18. P - As a boy, Premchand had developed a voracious appetite for books. Q - \_\_\_\_\_  
 R - These were, by and large, stirring sagas of romance and adventure.

- (a) Premchand and a few of his friends would meet regularly and read aloud from their favourite books.
- (b) It was perhaps natural that a man, who loved books as much as Premchand did, should take to writing.
- (c) His first novel appeared in 1901 and his first short story in 1907.
- (d) He read all Urdu novels he could lay his hands on.

19. P- According to Megasthenes all the Indians were free and not one of them was a slave.

Q - \_\_\_\_\_

R - As a matter of fact slavery did exist, though in a form hardly noticeable to a Greek.

- (a) But in the light of Arthasastra we can never modify this statement.
- (b) But in the light of Arthasastra slavery cannot be defined.
- (c) But in the light of Arthasastra we have to accept this.
- (d) But in the light of the Arthasastra we have to modify this statement.

**Q. 20-29. Choose the word that best fills the blank from the four options given:**

20. People were \_\_\_\_\_ their lips over a tasty tidbit.

- (a) showing
- (b) licking
- (c) smacking
- (d) putting

21. The car \_\_\_\_\_ to a halt.

- (a) crashed
- (b) screeched
- (c) slammed
- (d) whirred

22. A \_\_\_\_\_ of deadly weapons was unearthed in the godown.

- (a) group
- (b) troop
- (c) stockpile
- (d) volley

23. The \_\_\_\_\_ is being prepared to ensure smooth running of the children's library.

- (a) list
- (b) itinerary
- (c) mass
- (d) catalogue

24. Great men often \_\_\_\_\_ a crusade against the grossness of society.

- (a) waged
- (b) fought
- (c) achieved
- (d) struggled

25. Our efforts were all in \_\_\_\_\_.

- (a) vain
- (b) volley
- (c) vein
- (d) vane

26. The \_\_\_\_\_ of the fort lasted for a month.

- (a) cease
  - (b) Seize
  - (c) cess
  - (d) siege
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27. The rector read out the \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) sum  
(b) psalm  
(c) some  
(d) prayer
28. He has no \_\_\_\_\_ for Mathematics.  
(a) attention  
(b) application  
(c) aptitude  
(d) abundance
29. The mosquito is a \_\_\_\_\_ to public health.  
(a) mentor  
(b) mirror  
(c) manager  
(d) menace

**Q. 30-35. Select the meaning of the given phrases/ idioms:**

30. through thick and thin  
(a) oppressively  
(b) just at the right moment  
(c) under all conditions  
(d) get oneself in trouble
31. at sea  
(a) perplexed  
(b) in ocean  
(c) riding  
(d) delighted
32. in black and white  
(a) in taking  
(b) in running  
(c) in keeping  
(d) in writing
33. smell a rat  
(a) a constant source of annoyance  
(b) not to be thought of  
(c) some cause of quarrel  
(d) have reason to suspect something
34. a wild goose chase  
(a) search in wilderness  
(b) a foolish and fruitless search  
(c) chasing a wild animal  
(d) never ending chase
35. hush money  
(a) grab  
(b) loot  
(c) recover  
(d) bribe
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**Q. 36-40. In the following passage there are some numbered blanks. Fill in the blanks by selecting the most appropriate word from the given options:**

Puerto Escondido is a tiny fishing village \_\_\_\_ 36 \_\_\_\_ a bay protected by \_\_\_\_ 37 \_\_\_\_ cliffs in the Mexican state of Oaxaca which rose to become an important shipping hub for the coffee plantation \_\_\_\_ 38 \_\_\_\_ around the nearby foothills in the 1920s. Being quite \_\_\_\_ 39 \_\_\_\_ due to its \_\_\_\_ 40 \_\_\_\_ and dense vegetation, it only opened up to the outside world with the building of a coastal highway in the 1960s.

36. (a) overcome  
(b) overlooking  
(c) overhauling  
(d) overseas
37. (a) jagged  
(b) stimulated  
(c) tilted  
(d) undulated
38. (a) situated  
(b) terminated  
(c) scattered  
(d) distributed
39. (a) rented  
(b) derived  
(c) congested  
(d) isolated
40. (a) remoteness  
(b) stillness  
(c) brightness  
(d) greenness

**Q. 41-43. Out of the given alternatives, choose the one which can be substituted for the given words:**

41. A place where money is made  
(a) bank  
(b) press  
(c) mint  
(d) treasury
42. A person leaving his native country to settle in another  
(a) immigrant  
(b) nomad  
(c) traveller  
(d) emigrant
43. One who knows many languages  
(a) linguist  
(b) polyglot  
(c) rhetorician  
(d) stylist
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**Q. 44-45. Select the word which means the opposite of the given word:**

44. Autonomous  
(a) magnanimous  
(b) operational  
(c) dependent  
(d) ambiguous
45. Sophisticated  
(a) rustic  
(b) rural  
(c) civil  
(d) domestic

**Q. 46-47. Select the word which is nearest in meaning to the given word:**

46. Candid  
(a) vague  
(b) frank  
(c) secretive  
(d) experienced
47. Malaise  
(a) sickness  
(b) curse  
(c) stagnation  
(d) spite

**Q. 48-50. Choose the appropriate phrasal verbs to complete the sentences:**

48. The ceremony \_\_\_\_\_ smoothly.  
(a) passed off  
(b) passed on  
(c) passed over  
(d) passed through
49. Let us \_\_\_\_\_ all formalities.  
(a) set up  
(b) set aside  
(c) set up  
(d) set upon
50. The auditor \_\_\_\_\_ the account.  
(a) looked at  
(b) looked up  
(c) looked through  
(d) looked on
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