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Department of English

B.A., B.Sc., B.Com.

Semester – I English Study Material

Unit - 1

Root words

EXERCISES

I. Identify the roots of each of the following words.

Genetic

Ans : gene

Paragraph

Ans : graph

Predict

Ans : dict

Uncountable

Ans : count

Airport

Ans : port

Dictator

Ans : dic

Admit

Ans : mit

Photon

Ans : photo

telemetry

Ans : metry

II. Write down at least two words formed using each of the given roots. The meanings of the roots are given in brackets.

Phone (sound)

Ans : Phonology, telephone

pater (father)

Ans : paternal; paternity

Voc (to call)

Ans : Vocal, Vocabulary

temp (time)

Ans: temporary; temporal

mono (one)

Ans : monopoly, monotony

act (to move or do)

Ans : overact , activate

alter (other)

Ans : alterable; alteration

aqua (water)

And : aquarium, aquatic

multi (many)

Ans : multimedia, multiple

therm (heat)

Ans : thermometer

cent (hundred)

Ans : century, centenary

astra (star)

Ans : astrology

III. Pick out five words from the poem 'In the bazaars of Hyderabad' or from the story 'The eyes are not here. Transform each of the words you have chosen into a different word by changing a root.

For example, word: telephone tele (meaning 'far') + phone (meaning 'sound')

Change the root phone to pathy (meaning 'feeling'). New word formed: telepathy.

Ans :

display → dis + play discover (play replaced by cover)

darkness → dark + ness → cleanliness (dark-replaced by clean)

sensitive → sens + itive → restrictive (sense- replaced by restrict)

remove → re + move → recover (move replaced by cover)

return → re + turn → replace (turn - replaced by place)

Nouns

EXERCISES

Identify the nouns in the following passages. Also say whether each noun is a proper or a common noun, and if they are countable or uncountable.

1. Our sun is, in fact, a rather unimportant member of a huge system of stars, or galaxy, consisting of at least a hundred thousand million stars. We can see a part of this galaxy stretching across the sky as a pale white band of stars called the Milky Way. In India it is sometimes called the heavenly Ganga.

Ans : sun - proper noun

member - common; countable

system - common; countable

Stars - common; countable

Galaxy - common; countable

hundred /s thousand / million - numbers / nouns / countable

part - noun; countable

sky - Common

band - countable

Milky Way – proper

India – proper

Ganga - proper

2. In the Bazaars of Hyderabad' is a popular lyric by Sarojini Naidu which romanticises the common man's pursuits and aspirations. The setting here is the crowded marketplace of Hyderabad, and the poem seems to be a dialogue between the customers and the vendors of the bazaar. The poem invokes the rich colours, smells, sounds and tastes of a rich and varied cultural milieu. The poem also has a political backdrop. During the freedom struggle, the Congress launched the Swadeshi movement, urging Indians to boycott cheaply manufactured British products and to rely on Indian bazaars. The colonial administration had banned the publication of Indian newspapers and Naidu cleverly used her poems to propagate these ideas.

Ans : Bazaars - common; countable

Hyderabad - proper Noun

lyric - common; countable

Sarojini Naidu - proper Noun

man - common; countable.

Market place - countable

poem - countable

dialogue - countable

customers – countable, common

vendors - common; countable

colours – countable

smells - countable

sounds - countable

tastes - countable

backdrop - countable

struggle – common, countable

Congress - proper

Swadeshi - proper

Movement - common; countable

Indians - common; countable

products - countable

administration - uncountable

newspapers - common; countable

ideas - countable

3. In class today, we read the touching story of a conversation between a blind narrator and a girl he met during a train journey. The twist at the end successfully conveyed the irony of the situation to the reader-both the narrator and his co-passenger had lost their sight, but were able to successfully mislead each other!

Ans :

class - countable

story - common; countable

conversation - countable

narrator - common; countable

girl - common; countable

train - common; countable

journey – countable

twist - countable

end - common

irony - countable

situation - countable

reader common; countable

co-passenger -common; countable

sight - uncountable

Quantify the following uncountable nouns to make them countable. For example, jam -> a jar of jam.

1.coffee

2.bread

3.wood

4.money

1. a cup of coffee

2. a slice of bread

3. a log of wood

4. a sum of money

5. information

6. butter

7. chocolate

8. juice

5. a bit/piece of information

6. a tin of butter

7. A bar of chocolate

8. a glass of juice

9.glue

10. toothpaste

11. petrol

12. detergent

9. a tube of glue

10. a tube of tooth-paste

11. a can of petrol

12. a cake / bar of detergent

13.chips

14.cable

15.luggage

16. Sugar

13. a packet of chips

14. a bundle of cable

15. a bag of luggage

16. a bag of sugar

Unit – 2

Prefix and suffix

For each sentence below, study the word that is printed in green. Try to identify the root word along with any prefix and/or suffix that is/are attached to it.

1. Salman watched a **preview** of the movie.
2. Don't be so **childish**!
3. The magician made the pigeon **disappear**.
4. Ayub supervised the **correction** of the answer scripts.
5. Radhika asked the actress for her **autograph**.
6. Vaishnavi is always **methodical** in her work.
7. The **biology** lab has a **microscope**.
8. Good temper goes hand in hand with **happiness** and **contentment**.
9. The airport grounded flights due to low **visibility**.
10. I stood on a balcony **overlooking** the park.
11. Himesh's story was **unbelievable**.
12. Chandan **removed** the item from the box.
13. One should not dress **informally** in office.
14. Tata Motors **manufactures** cars.
15. He **contradicts** everything she says.
16. Rithika has a **postgraduate** degree.
17. I am reading a **biography**.
18. Sylvia says she can **predict** the future.

Answers

1. preview → pre (prefix) • view (root)
2. childish → child (root) - ish (suffix)
3. disappear → dis (prefix) - appear (root)
4. correction → correct (root) • ion (suffix)
5. autograph → auto (prefix) • graph (root)
6. methodical → method (root) ical (suffix)
7. biology → bio (root) - logy (suffix): microscope → micro (prefix) scope (root)
- 8 happiness → happy (root) • -ness (suffix) contentment → content (root) ment (suffix)

9. airport → air (prefix) port (root); visibility → vision (root) ible (suffix - 1) . ity (suffix- 2)
10. overlooking → over (prefix) - look (root) ing (suffix)
11. unbelievable → un (prefix) believe (root) able (suffix)
12. removed → re (prefix) move (root) d (suffix)
- 13 informally → in (prefix) form (root)al (suffix 1). ly (suffix-2)
14. manufactures → manu (prefix) + fact (root) + -ure (suffix - 1) + -s (suffix - 2)
15. contradicts → contra (prefix) + dict (root) + s (suffix)
16. postgraduate → post (prefix) + grad (root) + ate (suffix)
17. biography → bio (root) + graph (suffix-1) + -y (suffix-2)
18. predict → pre (prefix) + -dict (root)

Fill in the blanks by modifying the words in the brackets as instructed.

1. He wants to me on Facebook. (prefix + friend)
2. She her strength. (prefix + estimate)
3. Our team won the hockey (champion +suffix)
4. It is to kill endangered animals. (prefix + legal)
5. She was given a of sweets. (hand + suffix)
6. You need a of hard work and determination to succeed. (combine + suffix)

Answer's

1. *Befriends*
2. *Overestimates*
3. *Championship*
4. *Illegal*
5. *Handful*
6. *Combination*

Split up the following words from Gardiner's essay 'On saying please' into their component prefixes, roots and suffixes. You will find clues to the answers in the Glossary section after the essay, in the list of roots in Unit 1, and in the tables of prefixes and suffixes in this chapter.

- 1.inexhaustible
- 2.intercourse
- 3.attune
- 4.disagreeable
- 5.benediction
- 6.enjoin
- 7.uncivil

8. Decalogue

9. Resentment

Answers

	<u>Prefix</u>	<u>Root</u>	<u>Suffix</u>
1. Inexhaustible	→ in	exhaust	ible
2. intercourse	→ inter	course	----
3. attune	→ at	tune	----
4. disagreeable	→ dis	agree	able
5. benediction	→ bene	dict	ion
6. enjoin	→ en	join	----
7. uncivil	→ un	civil	----
8. Decalogue	→ deca	logue	-----
9. Resentment	→ -----	resent	ment

Pronouns

EXERCISES

Identify the pronouns in the following passages. Also say which nouns/noun phrases they refer to.

1. I have missed him from my bus route of late; but I hope that only means he has carried his sunshine on to another road. It cannot be too widely diffused in a rather drab world.

Ans : **I - (the speaker/writer)**
him - the bus conductor
my - not pronoun, POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVE
he - the bus conductor his - POSSESSIVE ADJECTIVE
it - sunshine

2. My sensitive toe was trampled on rather heavily as I sat reading on top of a bus. I looked up with some anger and saw my friend, the cheerful conductor. Sorry, sir, he said, I know these are heavy boots. I got them because my feet get trod on so much, and now I'm treading on yours'

Ans : **My - Possessive Adjective**
I - speaker my - Possessive Adjective
he - bus conductor
I - bus conductor
these - shoes
I - bus conductor
them - shoes
my - Possessive Adjective
I - bus conductor
yours - speaker's

3. If you can fill the unforgiving minute With sixty seconds' worth of distance run, Yours is the Earth and everything that's in it, And-which is more-you'll be a Man, my son!

Ans : **you - son (in the poem 'If') (reader)**
yours - son's/ reader's
it - the earth
which - being MAN
my - Possessive Adjective

Fill in the blanks with suitable pronouns.

1. If anyone asks, tell _____ I will be back tomorrow.
2. Fatima said that _____ and her sister work together.
3. Rohan wants to do it _____
4. The camera I wanted for so long is finally _____
5. There is no 'us' and '_____'. _____ are all in it together.
6. They cooked the meat in _____ own juices.

Ans :

1. **Them**
2. **She**
3. **Himself**
4. **Mine**
5. **Ours , we**
6. **Their**

Choose the correct pronoun from the options given in brackets.

1. It is up to [**we / us**] to manage [**our / ours**] time well.
2. Shakeel, Hari and [**she / her**] rode [**them / their / themselves**] bikes all the way home.
3. Whom can [**I/ me**] trust, if not [**she / her**]?
4. [**Me / I**] looked at [**I / me / myself**] in the mirror. [**Myself / my / mine**] reflection stared back at [**I/ me / myself / itself**].
5. Neither Ravi nor Rishi has done [**him / their / his**] homework. The teacher has punished [**him / they / them**].

Answer's

1. Us, our
2. Their
3. I, her
4. I, myself, My, me
5. His, them

Unit-3

Homonyms, Homographs, Homophones

Homonyms are words that have the same spelling and the same pronunciation, but different meanings.

I wanted to **lie**. **lie** = say something that is not true

I wanted to **lie** down. **lie** = assume a reclining position

EXERCISES

Each set of sentences in Column X has homonyms. Match every sentence of each set in Column X with the corresponding meaning in Column Y of the homonym in the sentence. One has been done for you.

Set	X	Y
A	(1) You mustn't always <i>bank</i> on him. (2) She withdrew money from the <i>bank</i> . (3) I sat on the <i>bank</i> and watched boats sail by.	(a) financial institution (b) sloping land beside a water body (c) rely on
B	(1) He was <i>fair</i> -skinned. (2) It wasn't a <i>fair</i> deal. (3) We visited the <i>fair</i> . (4) Her performance was <i>fair</i> .	(a) travelling show or exhibition (b) slightly above average quality (c) free from bias or deception (d) lightly coloured
C	(1) It <i>suit</i> my needs. (2) I wore my best <i>suit</i> . (3) I brought a <i>suit</i> against him.	(a) set of garments (b) legal proceedings (c) be acceptable to
D	(1) The map was not to <i>scale</i> . (2) The thief could easily <i>scale</i> the wall. (3) The patient stood on the <i>scale</i> . (4) They were ranked on a <i>scale</i> of 10.	(a) get on top of (b) ratio between actual size and its image (c) standard of reference (d) weighing instrument
E	(1) We need someone to <i>lead</i> the team. (2) The police are following a <i>lead</i> . (3) She lost her <i>lead</i> in the final round.	(a) advantage held by a competitor (b) clue pointing to possible solution (c) be in charge of

Answers

- A. 1. c, 2. a , 3. B
- B. 1.d, 2.c,3.a, 4.b
- C. 1.c, 2.a, 3.b
- D. 1.b,2.a.3.d,4.c
- E. 1.c,2.b,3.a

Fill in the blanks in each set of sentences with a single homonym.

For example: A snake _____ him.

Add a _____ of salt. Answer: bit

1. She wrote a new _____.
The children went to _____ in the park.
2. I was asked to _____ a few lines of verse,
The sheep are not in their _____
She uses a brush _____ for calligraphy.
3. The _____ tree is found in temperate regions.
Let' _____ up the house before the guests arrive.
4. We didn't realise the _____ of the pandemic.
The symphony is in the _____ of C major.
You need to _____ the fish before cooking it.
5. _____ out for fraudulent calls and e-mails.
She got me an expensive _____ for my birthday.

Answers

1. **Play**
2. **Pen**
3. **Spruce**
4. **Process**
5. **Watch**

Homographs are words that have the same spelling, but different pronunciations and meanings.

The **wind** is strong tonight. **wind** (rhymes with 'pinned') = moving air

I forgot to **wind** my watch. **wind** (rhymes with 'find') = twist or coil something

EXERCISE

For each set, match both sentences in Column X with the corresponding meaning in Column Y of the homograph in the sentence.

Set	X	Y
A	(1) The mayor will <i>present</i> the award. (2) She gave me a <i>present</i> for Diwali.	(a) something given as a gift (b) to give, especially an award
B	(1) You missed the train by a <i>minute</i> . (2) The chances of success are <i>minute</i> .	(a) immeasurably small (b) unit of time
C	(1) I watched the match <i>live</i> . (2) I <i>live</i> in Hyderabad.	(a) to inhabit (b) broadcast transmitted at the time of occurrence
D	(1) She did not <i>bow</i> before the queen. (2) The archer picked up his <i>bow</i> .	(a) to lower one's head in respect (b) weapon for shooting arrows
E	(1) Pick up the <i>object</i> . (2) I did not <i>object</i> to her demand.	(a) to express disapproval or disagreement (b) a material thing
F	(1) She did not shed a single <i>tear</i> . (2) Do not <i>tear</i> the paper.	(a) to separate by force (b) liquid produced by the eye when one cries
G	(1) The pipe was made of <i>lead</i> . (2) This will <i>lead</i> to success.	(a) a type of metal (b) result in
H	(1) My <i>wound</i> has not yet healed. (2) I <i>wound</i> the tape.	(a) injury (b) to arrange or coil around
I	(1) She asked me to <i>close</i> the window. (2) He stood <i>close</i> to the window.	(a) very near (b) to shut

Answers

- | | | |
|------------|------------|------------|
| A. 1.b,2.a | B. 1.b,2.a | C. 1.b,2.a |
| D. 1.a,2.b | E. 1.b,2.a | F. 1.b,2.a |
| G. 1.a,2.b | H. 1.a,2.b | I. 1.b,2.a |

iii) **Homophones** are words that have the same pronunciation, but different spellings and different meanings

Do not waste paper. waste = spend thoughtlessly

She tied a sash around her waist, waist = part of the body between ribs and hips

EXERCISES

Fill in the blanks with the correct homophones from the options given in the box below.

road, rode

banned, band

principal, principle

their, there, they're

to, two, too

board, bored

1. I am ____ of ____ games.
2. She ____ her bike down the ____
3. Our ____ is a lady of great ____
4. ____ in ____ garden over ____
5. Did you buy ____ tickets ____ the show, ____?
6. Arjun's ____ was ____ from playing in the school.

Answers

1. **Bored : board**
2. **Rode : road**
3. **Principal : principle**
4. **They're : their ... there**
5. **Two : to, too**
6. **Band : banned**

Fill in the blanks with the correct homophone from the options given in the brackets.

1. I bought a ____ of gloves. (**pare,pair,pear**)
2. The king's ____ did not last very long. (**rein, rain, reign**)
3. If you park here, the police will ____ your car away. (**tow, toe**)
4. The lioness picked up the ____ of her prey. (**sent, scent, cent**)

5. She wanted to _____ her favourite outfit. (**wear, ware**)

Answers

1. **Pair**
2. **Reign**
3. **Tow**
4. **Scent**
5. **Wear**

Show the difference between the words in the given sets of homophones by using them in sentences of your own.

aisle, isle

four, fore

paws, pause

past, passed

break, brake

heal, heel

pane, pain

sell, cell

Answers

1. aisle (n) (- The aisle in this theatre is very wide. aisle - a passage between rows of seats)
Isle (n) - The isle near Mumbai is very popular for its variety of flora and fauna. (isle - island)
2. pane (n) → This pane of glass is of export quality and is, therefore, very expensive.
pain (n) - The boy was suffering from a severe stomach pain, and a doctor was sent for.
3. break (v/n) - Let's take a short break (n-interval) from this tiring work. You can't break (v make into pieces) that glass; that is unbreakable.
brake (n) → The present inflation is a brake (that which slows down or stops) on our economic growth.
4. heal (v) : People believe these herbs heal (cure) all wounds.
heel (n) : Look at her heel! (the back and lower part of the foot) How strange the shape is !
5. four (n) : Give me four bars of soap.
fore : Here is her painting with a beautiful foreground.
6. sell (v): They sell (give goods and take money) toys of all types.
cell (n) : This cell is of high power and long lasting.
7. paws (n-plural) : The tigers hold their prey in their paws.
pause (n/v/adj): Here is the pause button. Press it when needed.
8. past (adj; noun) : Don't brood over your past : Experience the present.
passed (v) : She has passed on the information to all her colleagues.

Adjectives

EXERCISES

Complete the exchanges below with single words or groups of words chosen from below.

lovely tiny pink old brass rusty and chipped long and frilly blue silk dress short middle-aged
famous

1. A: Do you know the _____ man sitting by the window?

Ans: short middle-aged

B : I do, He is a _____ artist.

Ans : famous

2. A:I love these _____ flowers.

Ans : tiny pink

B: Yes, they're _____.

Ans : lovely

3. A: Is this _____ Deepa's?

Ans : blue silk dress

B: No, I don't think so, Hers is _____

Ans : long and frilly

4. A: We saw an _____ coin in the shop window.

Ans :old brass

B: Was it _____?

Ans : rusty and chipped

Fill in the blanks in the following sentences with the right form of the adjectives in brackets.

1. What kind of food do you like the _____?(little)
2. Mother is a _____ singer than I am.(good)
3. Rahul is a _____ boy (kind)
4. This task is _____ than all others.(urgent)
5. He thinks his car is as _____ as yours.(fast)
6. The man was _____ than his father.(noble)
7. Savita is the _____ of all my friends.(childish)
8. His house is _____ from the college than hers.(far)
9. It is _____ to stay out in the open than indoors when there is an earthquake.(safe)

10. Of all the boxes in the van, the black steel one is the _____ (heavy).

Answers:

- | | | | | |
|----------|-----------------|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| 1.least | 2.better | 3.kind | 4.more urgent | 5.fast |
| 6.nobler | 7.most childish | 8.farther | 9.safer | 10.heaviest |

III. Rewrite the following sentences using the words in brackets in place of the words in italics.

Make sure that the meaning of your re-written sentence remains the same as that of the original sentence given to you. See the example below for reference.

Example:

Lead is the heaviest of all metals.

Use heavier: Lead is heavier than all other metals.

Use heavy: No other metal is as heavy as Lead.

1. Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world. (higher)
2. Suman is quicker than anyone in the group. (quickest)
3. Pune is closer to my village than Nagpur is. (close)
4. Mother is not as tall as her sister. (taller)
5. No player in the team is as talented as Prabhakar. (most talented)
6. Asha's house is farther from the city than all ours. (far)
7. Nitin's watch is less expensive than everyone else's. (least expensive)
8. Of all his children, Sudha is closest to her father. (closer)
9. Maharashtra is one of the largest states in the country. (large)
10. Kamala has fewer chocolates than all her friends. (fewest)

Answers:

1. Mount Everest is higher than any other peak in the world. No other peak in the world is as high as Mount Everest.

2. Suman is the quickest one in the group. No other person in the group is so quick as Suman.

3. Nagpur is not so close to our village as Pune is.

4. Mother's sister is taller than mother.

5. Prabhakar is the most talented player in the team. Prabhakar is more talented than any other player in the team.

6. All our houses are not so far from the city as Asha's house. Asha's house is the farthest from the city of all ours.

7. Nitin's watch is the least expensive of all ours. No other person's watch is as less expensive as Nitin's.

8. Sudha is closer to her father than any other of his children. No other child is as close to their father as Sudha.

9. Very few states in the country are as large as Maharashtra. Maharashtra is larger than many other states in the country.
10. Kamala has the fewest chocolates of all her friends. No other friend has as few chocolates as Kamala.

Fill in the blanks choosing the correct adjective from the list below. Each word can be used only once.

several what every heavy good few next same great

1. The ship sustained _____ damage.
2. I have called _____ times.
3. _____ dog has its day.
4. _____ time is it?
5. Abdul won the _____ prize.
6. The man fell down from a _____ height.
7. _____ wine needs no bush.
8. Don't say the _____ thing twice over.
9. He is a man of _____ words.
10. My uncle lives in the _____ house.

Answers

1. heavy 2. several 3. Every 4. What 5. second 6. great 7. Good 8. same 9. few 10. Next

Fill in the blanks with the comparative and superlative forms of the adjectives given in the brackets.

1. My bungalow is _____ than hers. My bungalow is the _____ in my colony. (large).
2. I am the _____ runner in my school. But my sister can run _____ than me. (fast)
3. Not only is her handwriting _____ now, it is in fact the _____ in her class. (good)
4. This task is _____ to me. It is the _____ task I'll do this week. (important)
5. I thought the green ones would cost the _____ but the red ones cost _____ (little)

Answers :

1. larger, largest 2. fastest, faster 3. better, best 4. more important, most important 5. least less

Unit – 4

Collocation

A collocation is a combination of words that are commonly used together. Look at the following sentences:
She has a firm handshake
He paid a visit to his grandmother.
These language chunks (firm handshake, pay a visit) sound natural in English due to long, established usage.

Knowing which words usually go together is an important part of being a competent user of the language. It sounds odd if you were to say hard handshake or give a visit. Once learnt, most collocations are easy to remember.

Unfortunately, there are no rules you can follow to arrive at the right combinations. Some can be looked up in dictionaries. For the majority, however, you will slowly figure out the right collocations by using the language-by reading widely, by listening to people, by speaking the language, and through self-correction.

EXERCISES

Choose the correct collocation in each of the given pairs.

- | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------|
| 1. honest apology | sincere apology |
| 2. warm welcome | profuse welcome |
| 3. complete a promise | fulfil a promise |
| 4. do a mistake | make a mistake |
| 5. sow benefits | reap benefits |
| 6. make a difference | bring a difference |
| 7. have sympathy for | pay sympathy to |
| 8. gossip writer | gossip columnist |
| 9. do your duty | work your duty |
| 10. speak fluent English | speak easy English |
| 11. press an icon | click on an icon |
| 12. have a conversation | make a conversation |
| 13. have conversation with | make conversation |

14. glare at glare towards
15. play a part with do a part

Answers:

1. *a sincere apology*
2. *a warm welcome*
3. *fulfil a promise*
4. *make a mistake*
5. *reap benefits*
6. *make a difference*
7. *have sympathy for*
8. *gossip columnist*
9. *do your duty*
10. *speak fluent English*
11. *click on an icon*
12. *have a conversation* (Note : 'Make conversation' is used)
13. *have a conversation with*
14. *glare at*
15. *play a part*

Match the words on the left with those on the right with which they form collocations.

annual	chair	middle	close	a conclusion	a deal	turnover
draw	launch	make	sales	forces	staff	figures a meeting
market lay off				a profit	management	a product

Answers :

1. *annual turnover*
2. *chair a meeting*
3. *middle management*
4. *close a deal*
5. *draw a conclusion*
6. *launch a product*
7. *make a profit*
8. *sales figures*
9. *market forces*
10. *lay off staff*

Fill in the blanks by choosing from the collocations given below. Each collocation can be used just once, (Some of these form idiomatic expressions: look up their meanings if you need hints.)

save time	make time	stall for time	bang on time
about time	rough times	buy time	pressed for time
spare time	record time	in time	precious time
tell time	time to kill	set time	take time off
keep time	great time	hard time	run out of time

1. Kaif isn't late for the party. He came exactly at 7 pm-he is _____.
2. We couldn't take up another assignment as we were, _____.
3. My work hours are flexible. I don't need to begin at a _____.
4. John asked his boss, 'I know you're busy, but can you _____ for me this week? I need to discuss something with you!'
- 5 Tsering was so eager to finish that he got done in _____.

6. We're already very late. If we take this route we shall _____.
7. I can't spend my _____ on trivial pursuits.
8. You're going to have a _____ in Singapore!
9. We need to _____ to thoroughly discuss the matter before replying to them.
10. I'm sorry I cannot attend the call now. I've _____ and I have to rush.
11. We got there just _____! They were about to close the gates.
12. He gave me a _____ about missing the deadline.
13. Jyothi wasn't ready for the presentation. She tried to _____ by requesting Dolma to go before her.
14. My computer has been out of order for two weeks. I think it's _____ I repair it.
15. Vishnu has been through some _____.
16. My music teacher helps me _____ when I play the drums.
17. This weekend I shall _____ from work to meet my school friends.
18. We have _____ before the train arrives.
19. Lama spends all his _____ helping others.
20. I taught my little niece to _____ with an analogue clock.

Answers : 1. *in time*

2. *pressed for time*

3. *set time*

4. *make time*

5. *record time*

6. *save time*

7. *precious time*

8. *great time*

9. *buy time*

10. *run out of time*

11. *bang on time*

12. *hard time*

13. *stall for time*

14. *about time*

15. *hard time / tough time / rough time*

16. *keep time*

19. *spare time*

17. *take time off*

18. *time to kill*

20. *tell time*

Articles

Fill in the blanks in the sentences below with a, an or the. In case more than one article can be used, use the one you think would be more appropriate than the other(s). If the blank space does not need an article, indicate this with an X.

1. _____ peacock is in danger of extinction.
2. Could you get me _____ kilogram of tea, please.
3. There is _____ European and _____ Ethiopian among the tourists.
4. _____ Sally I know lives in Bhubaneswar.
5. Sumita found _____ wallet on her way home. She took _____ wallet to the police station.
6. We must work to save _____ tigers from becoming extinct. tiger is an important part of the ecosystem.
7. Have you had _____ breakfast?
8. There's no _____ school today. _____ School is being used as _____ polling station.
9. It is _____ awe-inspiring sight to see _____ Brahmaputra in spate.
10. This is a painting of _____ Western Ghats, and that is a photograph of _____ Mahabaleshwar peak.
11. Mary will go to _____ school when she is three.
12. Our library has three copies of _____ Mahabharata.

Answer

- 1. The**
- 2. a**
- 3. a.,an**
- 4. The**

5. a .the
6. No Article, The
7. No Article
8. No Article, The, a
9. an, the
10. the, No Article
11. No Article
12. the

Fill in the blanks with indefinite articles where necessary.

1. She doesn't own _____ car.
2. He came from _____ humble beginnings.
3. I saw _____ bears at the zoo.
4. He asked for _____ milk.
5. She didn't get _____ invitation.
6. I saw _____ eagle fly by.
7. She was _____ English teacher. She joined _____ union.
8. He bought _____ milk, _____ butter, and _____ loaf of bread.
9. The table is made of _____ wood.
10. Abdul was _____ honest man.

Answer

1. a
2. No Article
3. No Article
4. No Article
5. an
6. an
7. an, a.
8. No Article, No Article, a
9. No Article
10. an

Insert articles wherever necessary. .

1. There is book in my backpack. Book is very heavy. .
2. Do you know where I left car keys?
3. I enjoy reading detective novels, especially ones by famous author Arthur Conan Doyle
4. French drink wine, while Americans drink beer.
5. Group of MBA students from university of Mumbai visited Harvard University in United States.
6. Bible was first book to be printed by Gutenberg in fifteenth century,
7. I am fond of music of Mozart. My grandfather owns antique piano.
8. Cloth is sold by metre. Metre of this fabric cost me moon. 9.
9. Sun is at highest point in sky at noon. 10.
10. After humans, chimpanzee is most intelligent among animals.

Answer

1. There is a book in my backpack. The book is very heavy.
2. Do you know where I left the car keys ?
3. I enjoy reading detective novels, especially the ones by the famous author Arthur Conan Doyle.
4. The French drink wine, while Americans drink beer.
5. Group of MBA students from the University of Mumbai visited Harvard University in the United States.
6. The Bible was the first book to be printed by Gutenberg in the fifteenth century.
7. I am fond of the music of Mozart. My grandfather owns an antique piano.
8. (The) cloth is sold by metre. A metre of this fabric cost me the moon.
9. The sun is at the highest point in the sky at noon.
10. After humans, the chimpanzee is the most intelligent among animals.

Correct the following sentences by using the right articles (or by removing articles where not required).

1. All applicants must possess an university degree.
2. I am studying for a MA in history.
3. He had spelt the word with a 's' instead of a 'c'.
4. I always use a HB pencil.
5. In the class, the children were having arithmetic lesson.
6. My brother is electrical engineer.
7. The war lasted almost hundred years.
8. I always get headache if I don't wear my glasses.
9. Swiss are very fussy about hygiene.
10. His lawyer produced an important new evidence.
11. Give it to cat.
12. Ann is doctor.
13. Our plants need a water.
14. We had a breakfast in the hotel restaurant.
15. We must try harder to stop these people from destroying the nature.
16. I don't like driving in a heavy traffic.
17. The petrol is expensive.
18. They have the really bad roads here.

Answers :

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18. They have really bad roads here.

Some of the following sentences may have errors relating to the use of articles. Rewrite the incorrect sentences correctly.

1. The oranges and lemons are citrus fruits.
2. Asif is going to visit the Oxford University.
3. The government needs to enforce pollution laws. Governments around the world need to cooperate in the fight against the pollution.
4. The elephants and the lions are found in India.
5. Have you been to Nilgiri hills?
6. The history is not really Faiza's favourite subject, but she finds the history of Greeks fascinating.
7. You can take Visaka Express to Mumbai.
8. The children have been sent to the bed.
9. English language is full of the confusing rules. English also has many strange idioms.
10. Have you ever wanted to climb the Mt Everest?
11. Gold you buy here is of the excellent quality.
12. A TV critic comments on the plot, the acting, and other aspects of a TV show.
13. Manoj heard a old tale about an unicorn.
14. Philosophy discussed in this book is very difficult to understand.
15. UK laws don't apply to the UAE except at UK embassy.

Answers:

1. Oranges and lemons are citrus fruits.
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15. **The** UK laws don't to the UAE except at **the** UK embassy.