

TNPSC – VAO

GENERAL ENGLISH – 2014

1. Identify the author with the story
- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>(a) Susannah Hickling</p> <p>(b) Rex Coker</p> <p>(c) Bonnie Chamberlin</p> <p>(d) Rob Reilly</p> | <p>1.The Face of Judas Iscariot</p> <p>2.The Piano</p> <p>3.Swept Away</p> <p>4.A Close Encounter</p> |
|--|---|
-
- | | | | | |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) |
| (A) | 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| (B) | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
| (C) | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| (D) | 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
-
2. Match the name of the authors in Column A with their work in Column B and select the correct answer from the code
- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Column A</p> <p>(a) Oscar Wilde</p> <p>(b) O’ Henry</p> <p>(c) Pearl S. Buck</p> <p>(d) Saki</p> | <p>Column B</p> <p>1. The Refugee</p> <p>2. The Open Window</p> <p>3. The Selfish Giant</p> <p>4. The Last Leaf</p> |
|--|--|
-
- | | | | | |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) |
| (A) | 3 | 1 | 2 | 4 |
| (B) | 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| (C) | 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 |
| (D) | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
-
3. When you pray he said you transcend your body and become a part of the cosmos, which knows no division of wealth, age, caste and creed. Identify the speaker
- (A) Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
- (B) Kalam’s Father**
- (C) Kalam’s Teacher
- (D) Kalam’s Mother
-
4. Choose the correct meaning of the words under Column B and select the code containing the answer
- | | |
|--|--|
| <p>Column A</p> <p>(a) rumour</p> <p>(b) pelted</p> <p>(c) regime</p> <p>(d) oily</p> | <p>Column B</p> <p>1. hit</p> <p>2. false story</p> <p>3. flattering</p> <p>4. Rule</p> |
|--|--|
-
- | | | | | |
|------------|----------|----------|----------|----------|
| | (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) |
| (A) | 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
| (B) | 2 | 3 | 4 | 1 |
| (C) | 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 |
| (D) | 1 | 3 | 4 | 2 |
-
5. Kesavan Nair said he would never perpetrate that adharma. Kutty Mappila who was listening to it all, said, half soliloquising....
- The word soliloquising means
- (A) speaking to others
- (B) speaking to oneself**
- (C) speaking to somebody
- (D) not speaking to anyone
-
6. And in his mantle muffling up his face. Here the word mantle indicates
- (A) Cloak
- (B) Clock
- (C) Mettle
- (D) Metal
-
7. But must I confess how I liked him, How glad I was he had come like a guest in quiet, to drink at my water trough. The above lines are from the poem
- (A) The man he killed
- (B) Snake**
- (C) A Psalm of life
- (D) Be The Best

TNPSC – VAO

GENERAL ENGLISH – 2014

8. Match the characters under Column A with the relevant titles under Column B and select the correct code
- | Column A | | Column B | | | |
|------------------|----------|------------------------|----------|--|--|
| (a) Laxmi | | 1. The Helping Hand | | | |
| (b) Gunga Ram | | 2. To The Land of Snow | | | |
| (c) Kesavan Nair | | 3. The Mark of Vishnu | | | |
| (d) Lady Anstey | | 4. The Farmer | | | |
| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | | |
| (A) 2 | 2 | 4 | 1 | | |
| (B) 3 | 2 | 4 | 1 | | |
| (C) 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | | |
| (D) 1 | 3 | 2 | 1 | | |
9. Match the titles of the poems under Column A with their relevant poets under Column B and select the correct code
- | Column A | | Column B | | | |
|------------------------|----------|--------------------------|----------|--|--|
| (a) Migrant Bird | | 1. Stephen Vincent Benet | | | |
| (b) Be The Best | | 2. Famida Y. Basheer | | | |
| (c) The Flying Wonder | | 3. John Masefield | | | |
| (d) Laugh and be Merry | | 4. Douglas Malloch | | | |
| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) | | |
| (B) 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 | | |
| (C) 2 | 1 | 3 | 4 | | |
| (D) 4 | 2 | 3 | 1 | | |
10. Find out the odd pair from those given below
- | | | |
|-----------------------|---|--------------------|
| (a) Johnsy | - | The Last Leaf |
| (b) Phatik | - | Holiday |
| (c) Ivan | - | The Lottery Ticket |
| (d) Kaanchanai | - | Reflowering |
11. Which of the following stories is not written by an Indian writer?
- (A) Reflowering (B) Holiday
(C) Kaanchanai (D) **The Necklace**
12. Pick out the poem which is not written by Robert Frost.
- (A) Going For Water
(B) **Laugh and be Merry**
(C) The Road Not Taken
(D) Stopping by the woods on a Snowy Evening
13. Find out the odd pair from those given below :
- (A) The Wooden Bowl - Leo Tolstoy
(B) The Piano Lesson - Rob Reilly
(C) Reflowering - Sundara Ramaswamy
(D) **Is Life, But A Dream? - Lewis Barry**
14. "Man's little Day in haste we spend". This line is from the poem written by
- (A) William Shakespeare
(B) **Lewis Carroll**
(C) Thomas Hardy
(D) Walt Whitman
15. Fill in the blanks choosing the correct option :
- The woman writer who has won both the Pulitzer prize and the Nobel prize is
- (A) Annie Louisa Walker
(B) Jane Austen
(C) **Pearl S. Buck**
(D) Kamala Das
16. Find out the poetic collection that does not include the poems of H.W. Longfellow :
- (A) Voices of the Night (B) Ballads
(C) **Lyrical Ballads** (D) Evangeline

TNPSC – VAO

GENERAL ENGLISH – 2014

17. Fill in the blank with the right participle. Choosing from the given options.
_____ by hunger, he stole a piece of bread.
(A) Driving (B) **Driven**
(C) To Drive (D) Drove
18. Pick out the sentence that contains a gerund:
(A) **Swimming is a good exercise**
(B) After finishing the work, he went on a vacation
(C) Hearing the noise, the boy woke up
(D) Having rested, we continued our journey
19. Where is the Shop Assistant?
Replace the underlined British word with its American equivalent.
(A) **Sales Clerk**
(B) Sales Boy
(C) Assistant Manager
(D) Assistant Clerk
20. A mirror of his changing moods
Now sure, now steeped in thought.
Who does the word "his" refer to?
(A) the Poet
(B) **the Shilpi**
(C) the Tourist
(D) the Dramatist
21. Identify the sentence that contains an adverb.
(A) **Praveen writes neatly**
(B) French is an easy language
(C) The tallest building is on fire
(D) He looks as stupid as an owl
22. Fill in the blank with the option containing an infinitive :
She refused _____ 'no' for an answer
(A) take (B) taking (C) **to take** (D) took
23. Betrays me back, till the heart of me weeps to belong
To the old Sunday evenings at home,
Who does the word 'me' refer to?
(A) **The Poet D.H. Lawrence**
(B) The Poet H.W. Longfellow
(C) Archibald Lampman
(D) Douglas Malloch
24. We ran as if to meet the moon.
Identify the figure of speech.
(A) **Hyperbole**
(B) Anaphora
(C) Ellipsis
(D) Simile
25. We pierce your bosom with swords and spears
And you dress our wounds with oil and balsom.
What does the word 'you' refer to?
(A) Water
(B) **Earth**
(C) Trees
(D) Man
26. Fill in the blank with the right word :
Nehru loved all _____
(A) Child
(B) Childs
(C) **Children**
(D) Chilrens
27. Identify the sentence which has an error.
(A) The issue is an alarming one
(B) **Kolkata is the populous city**
(C) The doctor examined the patient carefully
(D) Sachin is a well-known cricketer

TNPSC – VAO

GENERAL ENGLISH – 2014

28. Select the correct sentence from the following :
- (A) The patient has been discharged in hospital
- (B) The patient has been discharged from the hospital**
- (C) The patients has been discharged from hospital
- (D) The patient has been discharged from hospital
29. Identify the sentence which is correct
- (A) Gunga Ram was not at home**
- (B) Gunga Ram was not in home
- (C) Gunga Ram was not on home
- (D) Gunga Ram was not into home
30. Which of the following options has a sentence with the verb in the active voice?
- (A) The letter has just been posted
- (B) The bird was killed by a cruel boy
- (C) The cat drank all the milk**
- (D) He is loved by all
31. Identify the poetic line that differs in figure of speech, from the other lines.
- (A) In the world's broad field of battle**
- (B) Writhed like lightning and was gone
- (C) As humble plants by country hedgerows growing
- (D) In solitary confinement as complete as any gaol
32. With the teacups circling round me like the planets round the sun.
Why are the teacups circling?
- (A) Because of heavy gravitational force
- (B) Because of lack of gravitational force**
- (C) Because the speaker is dancing in circles
- (D) Because the teacups fell off the hand
33. Love's not Time's fool, though rosy lips and cheeks
Within his bending sickle's compass come;
In which poem do these lines occur?
- (A) Is life, But a Dream?
- (B) Be The Best
- (C) O Captain! My Captain!
- (D) Sonnet No. 116**
34. In which poem do the following lines occur?
There's something for all of us here.
There's big work to do and there's lesser to do
- (A) Travel Plant
- (B) Be The Best**
- (C) No Men Are Foreign
- (D) Manliness
35. He knows what rules are necessary and the rules are made to be enforced. It would be wrong of me to override his rules and decisions of this kind.
Who does "me" refer to in the lesson "The One Minute Apology"?
- (A) The Colonel
- (B) Edwin Stanton
- (C) Abraham Lincoln**
- (D) Scott
36. Match the titles with the lines :
- | | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| (a) Piano | (1) We heard, we knew we heard the brook. |
| (b) Migrant Bird | (2) Softly in the dusk a woman is singing to me. |
| (c) Going For Water | (3) Their wind comes in our faces. |
| (d) The cry of the children | (4) The globe's my world. |

TNPSC – VAO

GENERAL ENGLISH – 2014

- (a) (b) (c) (d)
- (A) 2 1 4 3
 (B) 1 3 2 4
(C) 2 4 1 3
 (D) 4 2 3 1
37. Which of the following is not a poem?
 (A) The cry of the children
 (B) Earth
 (C) Snake
(D) The Last Leaf
38. Identify the poet in whose poem these lines occur?
 Had he and I but met
 By some old ancient inn.
(A) Thomas Hardy
 (B) H.W. Longfellow
 (C) Norman Nicholson
 (D) Walt Whitman
39. Whose autobiography is this?
 “The story of my experiments with truth”.
 (A) Jawaharlal Nehru
(B) Mahatma Gandhi
 (C) Kasturba Gandhi
 (D) Indira Gandhi
40. Replace the underlined British word with its American equivalent
 It is dark. Get me a torch
 (A) torch light
 (B) long light
(C) flashlight
 (D) stop light
41. Which of these titles is a poem?
 (A) When Catastrophe Strikes
 (B) Bon Voyage
(C) The Man He Killed
 (D) A Golden Path
42. Match the following poetic lines under Column A with the relevant titles under Column B and select the correct code :
- | Column A | | Column B | |
|---------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
| (a) A bird has feathers, it is true | | 1. With A friend | |
| (b) Save the sad story of your misery | | 2. The Flying Wonder | |
| (c) And share my umbrella in the rain | | 3. The Apology | |
| (d) I go to the God of wood | | 4. To India - My Native Land | |
- (a) (b) (c) (d)
- (A) 2 4 3 1
(B) 2 4 1 3
 (C) 1 2 3 4
 (D) 2 3 4 1
43. Pick out the poetic line which is not written by Walt Whitman?
 (A) Walk the deck my captain lies
 (B) Till the bridge you will need be form'd
(C) Ready to run to hiding new
 (D) Rise up for you the flag is flung
44. Match the characters under Column A with the relevant Titles under Column B and select the correct code
- | Column A | | Column B | |
|----------------------|--|-------------------------------|--|
| (a) Monsieur sauvage | | 1. The Necklace | |
| (b) Framton Nuttel | | 2. Two Friends | |
| (c) Mme. Forestier | | 3. How The Camel Got Its Hump | |
| (d) Djinn | | 4. The Open Window | |
- (a) (b) (c) (d)
- (A) 4 2 1 3
(B) 2 4 1 3
 (C) 2 4 3 1
 (D) 4 2 3 1

TNPSC – VAO

GENERAL ENGLISH – 2014

45. Match the following poetic lines under Column A with the relevant titles under Column B and select the correct code

| Column A | Column B |
|---|------------------------------|
| (a) And stopped and drank a little more | 1. O Captain! My Captain! |
| (b) And the word will be God in Man | 2. The cry of the children |
| (c) Fallen cold and dead | 3. Snake |
| (d) And the walls turn in their places | 4. English words |

| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| (A) 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| (B) 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| (C) 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| (D) 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |

| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| (A) 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| (B) 3 | 4 | 1 | 2 |
| (C) 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| (D) 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 |

49. Match the lines under Column A with the poets under Column B

| Column A | Column B |
|---|--------------------------|
| (a) For learning how to rule the air | 1. Lewis carroll |
| (b) Athwart Time's dark resistless stream | 2. Stephen Vincent Benet |
| (c) If you can't be a sun, be a star | 3. Walt Whitman |
| (d) But I, with mournful tread | 4. Douglas Malloch |

46. Fill in the blanks choosing the correct option:

The animal that is not mentioned in the story 'How The Camel Got Its Hump' is

- (A) Dog (B) Ox
(C) Cat (D) Horse

| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| (A) 4 | 2 | 1 | 3 |
| (B) 3 | 2 | 1 | 4 |
| (C) 2 | 4 | 1 | 3 |
| (D) 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |

47. This was the most unkindest cut of all. Identify the speaker

- (A) Mark Antony** (B) Brutus
(C) Cassius (D) Calphurnin

50. Which of the following is not a poem?

- (A) Be The Best
(B) O Captain! My Captain!
(C) Is Life, But a Dream?
(D) Two Friends

48. Match the lines under Column A with poets under Column B and select the correct option from the codes given below

| Column A | Column B |
|---|--------------------|
| (a) In a wonderland they lie | 1. H.W. Longfellow |
| (b) There's some thing for all of us here | 2. Thomas Hardy |
| (c) Yes quaint and curious war is | 3. Douglas Malloch |
| (d) Not enjoyment and not sorrow | 4. Lewis Carroll |

51. The rhyme scheme of the following line is

- Let us, be up and doing
With a heart for any fate ;
Still achieving, still pursuing
Learn to labour and to wait.
- (A) a a a b **(B) a b a b**
(C) a b b b (D) a b c a

TNPSC – VAO

GENERAL ENGLISH – 2014

52. Was it perversity that I longed to talk to him?
What is the meaning of the word perversity?
(A) acceptable behaviour
(B) good behaviour
(C) unacceptable behaviour
(D) bad behaviour
53. Match the poems with the poets
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|
| (a) The Piano | 1. Khalil Gibran |
| (b) The cry of the children | 2. Robert Frost |
| (c) Going for water | 3. D.H. Lawrence |
| (d) Earth | 4. Elizabeth Barrett Browning |
- | | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) |
| (A) 3 | 4 | 2 | 1 |
| (B) 4 | 3 | 1 | 2 |
| (C) 3 | 2 | 4 | 1 |
| (D) 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
54. Match the names of the authors under Column A with their works under Column B and select the correct code.
- | Column A | Column B |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| (a) The Gift of the Magi | 1. Pudumaippittan |
| (b) Kaanchanai | 2. Oscar Wilde |
| (c) The Selfish Giant | 3. James Harriot |
| (d) Every Living Thing | 4. 'O Henry |
- | | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|----------|
| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) |
| (A) 4 | 3 | 2 | 1 |
| (B) 1 | 4 | 2 | 3 |
| (C) 4 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| (D) 2 | 1 | 4 | 3 |
55. Who among the following writers is not a dramatist?
(A) Oscar Wilde
(B) William Shakespeare
(C) Charles Babbage
(D) Rabindranath Tagore
56. Choose the correct option :
In which century did Shakespeare live?
(A) 16th Century
(B) 15th Century
(C) 14th Century
(D) 18th Century
57. Name the poem in which the following line occurs :
“It is the human earth that we defile”.
(A) No Men Are Foreign
(B) Be The Best
(C) Shilpi
(D) Women’s Rights
58. Identify the figure of speech in the following poetic line.
And hymns in the cosy parlour, the tinkling piano our guide
(A) Oxymoron
(B) Onomatopoeia
(C) Hyperbole
(D) Simile
59. In which poem do these lines occur?
All are turning, all the day, and we with all -
And all day, the iron wheels are droning.
(A) Going for Water
(B) Migrant Bird
(C) The Cry of the Children
(D) Piano
60. Pick out the line which occurs in the poem “A Tiger in the Zoo”.
(A) I won’t look down
(B) He hears the last voice at night
(C) O the bleeding drops O red!
(D) I hastened motionless and still

TNPSC – VAO

GENERAL ENGLISH – 2014

61. Replace the underlined British word with its American equivalent
The hike in the price of Petrol is resented.
(A) fuel (B) **gasoline**
(C) energy (D) petrol
62. Be not like dumb, driven cattle!
Be a hero in the strife!
Who is the author of these poetic lines?
(A) **H.W. Longfellow**
(B) Robert Frost
(C) Rudyard Kipling
(D) Walt Whitman
63. Fill in the blanks with suitable articles, choosing the right option from those given below :
- We are camped at Ragash Kund, _____ little pond with _____ Shepherd's Cave on _____ grassy meadow above _____ glacier.
- | | | | |
|--------------|----------|----------|------------|
| (a) | (b) | (c) | (d) |
| (A) the | the | a | a |
| (B) a | the | a | the |
| (C) the | a | the | a |
| (D) a | a | a | the |
64. In the world's broad field of battle,
In the bivouac of life.
What is the meaning of the phrase "Bivouac of life" ?
(A) **A simple temporary stay in this world**
(B) A permanent peaceful life in this world
(C) A pitiable life in this world
(D) A grand palace in this world
65. 'O Ye wheelds'
'Stop! be silent for today'.
Identify the speaker of these lines
(A) **The children working in mines**
(B) The children working in their houses
(C) The children playing in the street
(D) School-going children
66. That was in May, In November a cold, unseen stranger, whom the doctors called Pneumonia, stalked about the colony, touching one here and there with icy fingers. Here Pneumonia stands for _____
(A) a rude person
(B) a kind person
(C) **a deadly person**
(D) a good person
67. The next step is to develop proper self-concept. What you think about yourself is very important?
'Self-concept' is _____
(A) What you think about your colleagues?
(B) What you think about others?
(C) **What you think about yourself?**
(D) What others think about you?
68. Select the correct tense of the verb underlined.
The sun rises in the east
(A) **Simple present tense**
(B) Present continuous tense
(C) Present perfect tense
(D) Present perfect continuous tense
69. Fill in the blank with the correct question tag :
The lessons are quite interesting, _____ ?
(A) are it? (B) **aren't they?**
(C) isn't they? (D) don't they?

TNPSC – VAO

GENERAL ENGLISH – 2014

70. Fill in the blank with the right preposition :
My uncle will visit me _____
May.
(A) on (B) at (C) with **(D) in**
71. Match the underlined words under Column 'A' with their grammatical function under Column 'B' and select the correct code.
- | Column A | Column B |
|---|--------------|
| (a) <u>Equal</u> status to women is a far cry | 1. Adverb |
| (b) The two live the same <u>life</u> | 2. Adjective |
| (c) Let us <u>hope</u> for the best | 3. Noun |
| (d) She sings <u>well</u> | 4. Verb |
| (a) (b) (c) (d) | |
| (A) 2 1 3 4 | |
| (B) 3 1 2 4 | |
| (C) 2 3 4 1 | |
| (D) 4 1 2 3 | |
72. "There is no power in the tongue of man to alter me. I stay here on my bond". Which character in the play, "Merchant of Venice" utters these words?
(A) Antonio (B) Bassanio
(C) Portia **(D) Shylock**
73. Fill in the blank :
In one corner was a blank canvas on an easel that had been waiting there for _____ years to receive the first line of master piece.
(A) Ten years
(B) Twenty years
(C) Forty years
(D) Twenty five years
74. "Neighbour gave prizes for the best back stabber and double crosser of the week, and most passionate hater".
Pick out a suitable word from the extract which means 'one who hits from behind'
(A) Passionate hater
(B) Double crosser
(C) Back stabber
(D) Neighbourhoods
75. Whose Autobiography is 'Wings of fire'?
(A) Mahatma Gandhi
(B) Jawaharlal Nehru
(C) Dr. Johnson
(D) Dr. A.P.J. Abdul Kalam
76. Replace the underlined British word with its American equivalent.
This lift is meant for VIP's.
(A) lift
(B) escalator
(C) elevator
(D) stair case
77. Identify the figure of speech in the given poetic line.
A mother like the mom you were to me.
(A) Simile
(B) Metaphor
(C) Ellipsis
(D) Allusion
78. Replace the underlined British word with its American equivalent.
Children like Sweets.
(A) Cookies
(B) Candies
(C) Crisps
(D) Sweets

TNPSC – VAO

GENERAL ENGLISH – 2014

79. Replace the underlined British word with its American equivalent.

This is a handbag made of leather.

- (A) bag
- (B) pouch
- (C) purse**
- (D) wallet

80. Replace the underlined British word with its American equivalent

The lorry met with an accident.

- (A) van
- (B) truck**
- (C) cab
- (D) car

