UPSC / IFOS (MAIN)

GENERAL ENGLISH

12-YEAR PREVIOUS QUESTION PAPER ANALYSIS 2014 – 2025

Edition 2026

- Topic-wise Analysis
- Question Trends
- PYQ Mapping
- Writing & Grammar



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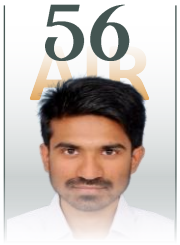
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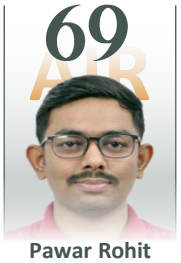
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UPSC / IFoS (MAIN)

GENERAL ENGLISH

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Analysis of public IFoS marksheets shows General English scores generally range between 121 and 179 out of 300, with most competitive candidates scoring in the 130 to 165 range.

- ***Top Tier (160+ marks):*** *Achieved by exceptional candidates (including the peak score of 179). Only a handful of candidates pass this benchmark each year. [1]*
- ***Median/Average Tier (135–155 marks):*** *The vast majority of successfully recommended candidates cluster heavily within this range. Scoring a 140 is considered a solid, competitive performance that keeps a candidate well in the running for a good rank. [1]*
- ***Lower Tier (115–130 marks):*** *The lower bound for selected candidates. Scores below 120 are rare among those who make the final merit list, as a poor English score requires exceptionally high marks in the core optional papers to compensate.*

QUESTION 1

ESSAY

Q1. Write an essay in about 800 – 1000 words on any ***one*** of the following : *100*

(a) Childhood in conflict zones

(b) Wildlife preservation and the development drive

(c) Freedom in the age of digital surveillance

(d) Impact of Artificial Intelligence on employment sector

Q1 Essay

Marks	Choice	Word limit (since 2017)	Topics in 12 years
100	Any one of 4	800 – 1000 words	48

Theme Distribution

Theme	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Total
Environment, Forests & Energy	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	2	–	1	1	1	13
Education	–	–	1	1	1	1	2	–	1	1	1	–	9
Science, Technology & Media	1	1	–	1	–	1	–	–	1	1	–	2	8
Economy & Demography	–	–	1	–	–	1	1	–	1	1	–	–	5
Women, Children & Society	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	4
Polity, Democracy & Secularism	1	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	3
Culture, Heritage & Sports	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	–	1	–	3
Ethics & Abstract	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	2
Health & Disaster	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	1
Total per year	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	4	48

What this section tests

- Ability to build a clear, organised argument on a familiar public issue — not specialist knowledge.
- Relevance to the exact wording of the topic (e.g., "Sports and Business", not "sports" in general).
- Simple, correct English and control over length (800 – 1000 words).

Key Trends (2014 – 2025)

- **Environment / forests** in 11 of 12 years (13 topics); only 2022 had none.
- **Education** in 8 of 12 years (9 topics): mass education → NEP → multidisciplinarity.
- **Rising since 2022:** Artificial Intelligence [2022] [2025], data privacy / surveillance [2023] [2025], demographic dividend [2022] [2023], sports [2022] [2024].
- **Faded:** direct party-politics / election topics (last seen 2016).

Theme-wise Regrouping

Environment, Forests & Energy — 13 topics

Wildlife preservation and the development drive	**Q1(b) | 2025**	**100 M**
Decreasing Forest Cover and its Impact on the Human Race	**Q1(a) | 2024**	**100 M**
Biodiversity and Human Existence	**Q1(a) | 2023**	**100 M**
Our Urban Survival Depends upon Efficient Waste Management	**Q1(a) | 2021**	**100 M**
Perils of Ecodegradation	**Q1(d) | 2021**	**100 M**
Depletion of Natural Resources : A Threat to Humanity	**Q1(a) | 2020**	**100 M**
Global Warming and Climate Change	**Q1(a) | 2019**	**100 M**
The Earth as Home	**Q1(b) | 2018**	**100 M**
Alternative sources of energy — The future of the world	**Q1(a) | 2017**	**100 M**
Globalization and the environment	**Q1(b) | 2017**	**100 M**
Forests as they used to be	**Q1(b) | 2016**	**100 M**
Deforestation : A big disaster	**Q1(d) | 2015**	**100 M**
Save the Earth Save Life	**Q1(a) | 2014**	**100 M**

Education — 9 topics

Need for Multidisciplinarity in Higher Education	**Q1(b) | 2024**	**100 M**
Life Skills Education should be an Essential Part of School Curriculum	**Q1(d) | 2023**	**100 M**
Liberal Education is not Antithetical to Technical Education	**Q1(c) | 2022**	**100 M**
Virtual Teaching and the Crisis of Primary Education	**Q1(c) | 2020**	**100 M**
New Education Policy and the Future of India's Youth	**Q1(d) | 2020**	**100 M**
Quality education as an indicator of social development	**Q1(c) | 2019**	**100 M**
Education as Social Justice	**Q1(a) | 2018**	**100 M**

Education or Economics — The more valuable asset ?	Q1(c) | 2017	100 M
Educating the masses—a challenge and an opportunity	Q1(c) | 2016	100 M

Science, Technology & Media — 8 topics

Freedom in the age of digital surveillance	Q1(c) | 2025	100 M
Impact of Artificial Intelligence on employment sector	Q1(d) | 2025	100 M
Data Privacy in the Digital Age	Q1(b) | 2023	100 M
Ethical Dilemmas and Artificial Intelligence	Q1(a) | 2022	100 M
The influence of the internet on youth	Q1(d) | 2019	100 M
India @ 70 : Technology for social justice	Q1(d) | 2017	100 M
Negative impact of advertising on public life, especially teenagers	Q1(c) | 2015	100 M
Communication : Face-to-Face or Facebook ?	Q1(b) | 2014	100 M

Economy & Demography — 5 topics

Today's Demographic Dividend is Tomorrow's Crisis of Elderly Population	Q1(c) | 2023	100 M
To Reap the Demographic Dividend, Investment in Human Capital is Crucial for India	Q1(d) | 2022	100 M
Impact of Agricultural Reforms on India's Economic Future	Q1(b) | 2020	100 M
What lies ahead for the Indian Economy ?	Q1(b) | 2019	100 M
The factors that have influenced industrialisation in India	Q1(a) | 2016	100 M

Women, Children & Society — 4 topics

Childhood in conflict zones	Q1(a) | 2025	100 M
Women's Safety at the Workplace	Q1(d) | 2024	100 M
Women should find their voice for security, progress and empowerment	Q1(b) | 2015	100 M
Are rural women more vulnerable to violence than their counterparts ?	Q1(c) | 2014	100 M

Polity, Democracy & Secularism — 3 topics

Is coalition politics the sign of a mature democracy?	Q1(d) | 2016	100 M
India has a long history of tolerant secularism	Q1(a) | 2015	100 M
The electorate rose above the caste factor in 2014 Lok Sabha Elections	Q1(d) | 2014	100 M

Culture, Heritage & Sports — 3 topics

Sports and Business	Q1(c) | 2024	100 M
The Revival of Traditional Indian Sports	Q1(b) | 2022	100 M
The Future of Heritage Buildings	Q1(c) | 2018	100 M

Ethics & Abstract — 2 topics

Paradox of Freedom and Responsibility	Q1(b) | 2021	100 M
Compassion as a Human Virtue	Q1(d) | 2018	100 M

Health & Disaster — 1 topic

COVID-19 : A Natural Calamity or a Man-Made Disaster	Q1(c) | 2021	100 M

Hornbill Tip

- **Do one thing** — prepare six theme banks: Environment & Forests, Education, Technology & AI, Economy & Demography, Women & Society, Ethics. Then in any year, minimum two topics will be there for you only.
- For IFoS aspirants, the environment / forest topic comes in the paper almost every year itself — so keep one ready-made framework handy (causes → impacts → laws and schemes → community role → way forward).
- Pick the topic on which your points are solid, not the one which is sounding very impressive. First do 10 minutes of planning, then only start writing.
- **Word budget:** introduction 100–120 words, body 650–750 words in 5–6 sub-themes of approx 120 words each, conclusion 80–100 words. Writing more than 1000 words is simply wastage of time — no extra marks will be given for it.
- **Strong opening:** start with a hook — some fact, quote or small anecdote — and clear the key terms of the topic in the first paragraph itself.
- **Multi-dimensional body:** cover all angles — social, economic, political, environmental, ethical and technological; wherever it fits naturally, do add a forest or ecology link.
- **One specific per argument:** back every point with data (ISFR, Census, NFHS), a scheme, a court judgment or a constitutional provision — only then the examiner will be convinced.
- **Balanced conclusion:** give both sides their due, take one clear stand and end with a forward-looking way ahead that connects back to your opening.
- **Keep checking length while writing: one idea per paragraph, with proper transitions; at around 10 words per line, 80–100 lines means 800–1000 words. Last 10 minutes, keep them for revision only**.

QUESTION 2

LETTER & REPORT

Q2. (a) Expand the idea given in the following proverb in a paragraph of about 200 words : 25

'Grey hair is a sign of age, not of wisdom.'

(b) Write a newspaper report on the rise of young Indian grandmasters in chess in recent years. (Do not write your name or address or give any information revealing your identity. Use only ABC/XYZ for all proper nouns) 25

Q2 Letter and Report

Marks	Choice	Word limit (since 2017)	Topics in 12 years
25 + 25	None	Not printed	24

Marks, task type and addressee — year by year

Year	(a) Task type	Marks	(a) Addressed to	(b) Task type	Marks	Anonymity note
2025	Proverb expansion (paragraph)	25	—	Newspaper report	25	ABC/XYZ
2024	Request letter	25	Minister of Education	Newspaper report	25	ABC/XYZ
2023	Request letter	25	Member of Parliament	Event / programme report	25	ABC/XYZ
2022	Request letter	25	MLA	Visit report	25	ABC/XYZ
2021	Complaint letter	25	Editor	Issue report	25	ABC or XYZ
2020	Complaint letter	25	Editor	Event / programme report	25	ABC or XYZ
2019	Complaint letter	25	Editor	Event / programme report	25	'XYZ'
2018	Complaint letter	25	Editor	Event / programme report	25	—
2017	Concern / opinion letter	25	Editor	Visit report	25	—
2016	Concern / opinion letter	25	Editor	Visit report	25	—
2015	Complaint letter	20	Wildlife Conservator	Issue report	30	—

Year	(a) Task type	Marks	(a) Addressed to	(b) Task type	Marks	Anonymity note
2014	Complaint letter	25	Wild Life Conservator	Issue report	25	—

Theme Distribution

Type	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Total
Complaint letter	1	1	–	–	1	1	1	1	–	–	–	–	6
Concern / opinion letter	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2
Request letter	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	1	–	3
Proverb expansion (paragraph)	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1
Issue report	1	1	–	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	3
Visit report	–	–	1	1	–	–	–	–	1	–	–	–	3
Event / programme report	–	–	–	–	1	1	1	–	–	1	–	–	4
Newspaper report	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	2
Total per year	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	2	24

section tests

- Correct format of a formal letter and a report (heading, date-line, salutation, subject, sign-off).
- Purpose and tone — complaint, request or concern — matched to the addressee.

Key Trends (2014 – 2025)

- **Letters:** Conservator (2014–15) → Editor (2016–21) → MLA / MP / Minister (2022–24): from complaint to formal request.
- **Reports:** visit and event reports dominate; "newspaper report" since 2024.
- **New in 2025:** proverb expansion replaced the letter.
- **Recurring content:** poaching [2014] [2024]; waste / garbage [2019] [2022]; health [2017] [2020] [2021] [2023].

Theme-wise Regrouping

Complaint letter — 6

Write a letter to the Editor of an English daily, complaining against the SHO of your locality for his refusal to lodge an FIR in case of a vehicle theft. (Kindly do not write your name or address anywhere in your answer. Use ABC or XYZ for your name or that of the newspaper.)	**Q2(a) | 2021**	**25 M**
Write a letter to the Editor of an English daily, reporting the growing incidence of rowdyism in your locality. (Kindly do not write your name or address anywhere in your answer. Use ABC or XYZ for your name or that of the newspaper.)	**Q2(a) | 2020**	**25 M**

Write a letter to the editor of an English newspaper complaining about the lack of basic amenities for the disposal of garbage in your locality. (Kindly do not write your name or address anywhere in your answer. You may use fictitious name such as 'XYZ' instead.)	**Q2(a) | 2019**	**25 M**
Write a letter to the Editor of a newspaper complaining about the errors in the language of news reporting.	**Q2(a) | 2018**	**25 M**
Write a letter to the Wildlife Conservator complaining against the cruelty that the animals in the zoo are often subjected to, suggesting ways of protecting them from teasing spectators and indifferent keepers.	**Q2(a) | 2015**	**25 M**
Write a letter to the Wild Life Conservator complaining against the supply of unhygienic food for animals of the zoo by XYZ Company.	**Q2(a) | 2014**	**25 M**

Concern / opinion letter — 2

Write a letter to the editor of a newspaper on the role of the youth in shaping the nation's future.	**Q2(a) | 2017**	**25 M**
Write a letter to the Editor of 'The Times of India' expressing your concern about the impact of the use of plastic bags on the environment.	**Q2(a) | 2016**	**25 M**

Request letter — 3

Write a letter to the Minister of Education requesting him or her to make adequate facilities available for online education in universities. (Do not write your name or address or give any information revealing your identity. Use only ABC/XYZ for all proper nouns).	**Q2(a) | 2024**	**25 M**
Write a letter to the Member of the Parliament of your constituency requesting him/her to set up a Sports Centre with coaching facilities for different sports in your area. (Do not write your name or address or any other information revealing your identity. Use only ABC/XYZ for your name and that of the MP and the constituency.)	**Q2(a) | 2023**	**25 M**
Write a letter to the MLA of your area requesting him/her to address the issue of waste management in your locality. (Do not write your name or address or any other information revealing identity. Use only ABC/XYZ for your name and that of the MLA and the constituency.)	**Q2(a) | 2022**	**25 M**

Proverb expansion (paragraph) — 1

Expand the idea given in the following proverb in a paragraph of about 200 words : ***'Grey hair is a sign of age, not of wisdom.'***	**Q2(a) | 2025**	**25 M**

Second Question

Issue report — 3

Write a report on the contribution of a local NGO in the area of mental health issues among adolescents and teenagers. (Please do not write your name or address anywhere in your answer. Use ABC or XYZ for your name or that of the NGO.)	**Q2(b) | 2021**	**25 M**
Write a report on the suicides of farmers due to crop failure caused by unexpected rainfall and drought in parts of the country.	**Q2(b) | 2015**	**30 M**

Write a report of the frequent incidents of poaching in the forest in your area and suggest measures to stop it.	Q2(b) | 2014	25 M

Visit report — 3

Write a report on the challenges of learning in the rural schools that you visited recently. (Do not write your name or address anywhere in the answer. Instead use ABC/XYZ for your name/name of the schools.)	Q2(b) | 2022	25 M
Write a report on your visit to an NGO which is working against drug abuse, describing the efforts to battle the problem.	Q2(b) | 2017	25 M
You have recently visited a night shelter in your town. Write a report describing the miserable plight of the poor and the homeless who live there, also making a few suggestions about how this night shelter could be improved.	Q2(b) | 2016	25 M

Event / programme report — 4

Write a report on the Health Awareness Camp organized by the Primary Health Care Centre of your locality. (Do not write your name or address or any other information revealing your identity. Use only ABC/XYZ for your name and the name of your locality.)	Q2(b) | 2023	25 M
Write a report on Covid awareness camp organized by your NGO for the benefit of citizens in general. (Please do not write your name or address anywhere in your answer. Use ABC or XYZ for your name or that of the NGO.)	Q2(b) | 2020	25 M
Write a report on a programme you organised in your institute on the theme "Renewable Energy Sources are the need of the hour". (Kindly do not write your name or address anywhere in your answer. You may use fictitious name such as 'XYZ' instead.)	Q2(b) | 2019	25 M
Write a report on a school programme you organized on the theme—"Good sense is ecological sense".	Q2(b) | 2018	25 M

Newspaper report — 2

Write a newspaper report on the rise of young Indian grandmasters in chess in recent years. (Do not write your name or address or give any information revealing your identity. Use only ABC/XYZ for all proper nouns)	Q2(b) | 2025	25 M
Write a newspaper report on the rising incidents of poaching in wildlife sanctuaries in India. (Do not write your name or address or give any information revealing your identity. Use only ABC/XYZ for all proper nouns).	Q2(b) | 2024	25 M

Hornbill Tip

Q2(a) — Letters and paragraph

Complaint letter

- Address the right authority (Editor / Wildlife Conservator); the subject line names the problem in one line.
- Body: state the problem with specifics — place, duration, who is affected — then give 2–3 concrete remedies.
- Keep the tone firm but polite; close with a clear request for action and "Yours faithfully, ABC".

Concern / opinion letter

- Open with why the issue matters now — one fact, report or recent event.
- Give your view in 2–3 points with one example each; end with a suggestion to readers or the authorities.

Request letter

- Addressee is an MLA / MP / Minister — use "Respected Sir/Madam" and keep the language respectful, not complaining.
- Justify the request: present gap, who benefits, and exactly what is asked (facility, funds, timeline).
- End with a courteous expression of hope for early action.

Proverb expansion (paragraph)

- First line: explain the proverb's meaning in plain words.
- Develop it with one example from life or history and one counter-view; conclude by restating the moral.
- Write one paragraph of about 200 words — no title, no letter format.

Hornbill Tip

Q2(b) — Reports

- Every report: title, by-line (By ABC), place and date; write in the past tense and third person; never reveal identity — use ABC/XYZ.

Issue report

- Structure: extent of the issue (data) → causes → impact → measures taken → recommendations.

Visit report

- Purpose and date of the visit → what you observed → people met → problems found → suggestions for improvement.

Event / programme report

- Organiser, date, venue, chief guest → activities in sequence → response and outcome → closing note.

Newspaper report

- Headline, by-line and dateline (place, date); lead paragraph answers the 5 Ws and 1 H.
- Then details in order of importance (inverted pyramid), a quote attributed to ABC/XYZ, and a short closing context.

QUESTION 3

Precis

Q3. Write a precis of the following passage in about 165 words, one-third of the original length. Do not give it any title. *50*

Places are synthetic compositions of meaning, social relations, and nature. These elements often combine into a nearly seamless web in our experience of place, but a theoretical understanding of place requires that they be kept analytically separate in order to understand how each component contributes to the functioning of place in relation to human projects. Their origins as human constructions are often hidden by the mere fact that places are "always there". It is during extreme and traumatic moments that their contingent nature becomes evident. To what kind of trauma does place

Q3 Précis

Marks	Passage length	Target	Title
50	**412-581 Words**	**About one-third**	**Never**

Theme Distribution

Year	Passage subject	Printed length	Target length	Other instruction
2025	Natural disasters, "place annihilation" and cultural trauma	498 words	**165 words (printed)**	—
2024	High-calorie drinks and health	510 words	**170 words (printed)**	—
2023	Art styles and society	456 words	one-third	—
2022	Air pollution and monuments (Taj Mahal, Belur)	413 words	one-third	—
2021	Worry, mental strain and hobbies	464 words	one-third	—
2020	Seed sector and Indian agriculture	581 words	one-third	—
2019	The habit of reading	501 words	one-third	—
2018	Management as human-resource administration	not printed	one-third	—
2017	"Three visions for India" (speech style)	412 words	one-third	Own words

Year	Passage subject	Printed length	Target length	Other instruction
2016	Uses of solar energy	464 words	one-third	State the number of words; Own words
2015	Universality of human rights	462 words	one-third	State the number of words; Own words
2014	Democracy and power-sharing in India	501 words	one-third	Own words

What this section tests

- Finding the central idea and the line of argument of an expository passage.
- Cutting examples, repetition and illustrations without losing meaning.
- Writing a compact, connected paragraph in your own words close to the target length.

Key Trends (2014 – 2025)

Area	Count	Years
Polity, Rights & Nation	**3**	[2017] [2015] [2014]
Health & Mind	**2**	[2024] [2021]
Environment & Energy	**2**	[2022] [2016]
Economy, Agriculture & Management	**2**	[2020] [2018]
Society & Disaster	**1**	[2025]
Art & Culture	**1**	[2023]
Education & Reading	**1**	[2019]

What the examiner wants

- Only the main points, in the same order and balance as the passage.
- Your own sentences — not lifted lines joined together.
- Length close to one-third (or the printed word target); no title; no personal comment.

Hornbill Tip

- Read twice; underline the one sentence that carries each paragraph; then write.
- Since 2023 the paper prints the exact target (152, 170, 165 words) — stay within ±10 words.
- Practise on editorials and essays of 450–550 words: the subject changes every year, the skill does not.

QUESTION 4

COMPREHENSION

Q4. Read the following passage and answer the questions given below in your own words : *10×5=50*

The process of urbanization (i.e., the evolution of towns) involves certain relationships between the unit of the town and the unit of the peasant society supporting it. A primary requisite is surplus food production. This involves an analysis in each case of how the surplus was transported to the urban centre — here again demography becomes crucial, apart from transport technology; and what

(a) What role does surplus food production play in the process of urbanization ?

(b) What does the author mean by the term 'trade' in the given passage ?

(c) What are the factors that contribute to the growth of a city ?

(d) Give the reasons responsible for the decline of a city.

(e) How is the history of a town reflected in its pattern of growth ?

Q4 Comprehension

Marks	Questions	Answer rule	Question in 12 years
10 x 5	5 Per passage	In your own words	60

Type Distribution

Type	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	Total
Direct factual	2	3	–	3	4	2	2	4	3	3	4	2	32
Meaning of a term / phrase	–	2	1	1	1	1	1	–	1	1	–	1	10
List / enumerate	3	–	–	1	–	–	–	1	1	–	–	2	8
Writer's reasoning / view	–	–	4	–	–	1	–	–	–	–	–	–	5

Personal opinion / implications	–	–	–	–	–	1	2	–	–	–	–	–	3
Inference	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	1	1	–	2
Total per year	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	5	60

What this section tests

- Locating the right part of the passage and answering exactly what is asked.
- Explaining a term or phrase as the writer uses it.
- Re-expressing the content in your own words, briefly and clearly.

Passage index — year by year

Year	Passage subject	Approx. length*	Special instruction
2025	Urbanisation — growth and decline of towns	550	In your own words
2024	**Bharatpur wetlands and bird hunting**	830	In your own words
2023	Rural–urban migration	640	In your own words
2022	Psychology, psychotherapy and psychoanalysis	580	—
2021	Taxation in ancient India (Arthaśāstra)	650	In your own words
2020	Westernisation, Indianisation, Gandhi and Nehru	460	In your own words
2019	Educational research; teachers and multi-grade classes	540	—
2018	**Trees as nature's pumps — wastewater, eucalyptus**	490	—
2017	Academic writing	260	—
2016	Building good towns	360	—
2015	**Development, "throwaway culture", deforestation in Kerala**	540	—
2014	**Safe water for all**	400	Passage titled "Safe Water for All"

Hornbill Tip

- Read the five questions first, then the passage — mark where each answer lies.
- For "What does the author mean by …" questions, give the meaning in the context of the passage, not the dictionary meaning.
- About 83% of questions are answerable straight from the text — this is a high-scoring section if language is kept simple.

QUESTION 5

GRAMMER

Q5 Grammar, Usage & Vocabulary

Marks	Sub-parts	Items In 12 years	Choice
50	6 Q	420	None

What this section tests

- Core usage rules: prepositions, tenses, agreement, uncountable nouns, articles.
- Vocabulary precision: commonly confused words and idioms used correctly in a sentence.
- Word formation and sentence transformation (voice and narration every year).

Theme-wise Regrouping

Q5. (a) Rewrite the following sentences after correcting the grammatical errors in each : *1×10=10*

(i) The chief guest gave out prizes to the meritorious students.

(ii) You love singing, aren't you ?

(iii) Last month, I bought a lot of furnitures for my new home.

(iv) The Indian wrestler knocked down her opponent from the contest.

(v) One should perform his duties.

(vi) Shubhman Gill has scored a century in his last innings.

(vii) Neither of them were invited to the party.

(viii) He insisted to leave immediately.

(ix) What beautiful image !

(x) India is heading fastly towards a phase of high economic growth.

Error correction — 120 sentences, grouped by error type

Error type	Count	Years
Prepositions (wrong, extra or missing)	19	'14 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22 '24 '25
Tenses	17	'14 '15 '16 '17 '19 '20 '21 '22 '24 '25
Word choice, collocation, phrasal verbs	15	'14 '15 '16 '18 '19 '20 '21 '23 '25
Nouns — number, uncountables, "one of the …"	13	'14 '15 '17 '18 '19 '20 '22 '23 '25
Subject–verb agreement	9	'14 '15 '17 '18 '21 '23 '24 '25
Word order / misplaced words	8	'16 '18 '19 '21 '22 '23 '24

Error type	Count	Years
Pronouns	7	'16 '18 '19 '21 '22 '24 '25
Articles	6	'14 '16 '17 '21 '23 '25
Comparison	6	'14 '15 '16 '19 '20 '23
Question tags	4	'14 '21 '22 '25
Conjunction pairs	4	'15 '16 '19 '20
Verb form (after do / did, hang)	3	'18 '20 '24
Redundancy	3	'18 '19 '24
Conditionals	3	'16 '17
Reported speech within a sentence	2	'14 '20
Negation	1	'23

Prepositions (wrong, extra or missing) — 19 sentences

He insisted to leave immediately. **Ans:** He insisted **on leaving** immediately. *[insist on + verb-ing]*	**Q5(a)(viii) | 2025**	**1 M**
What is the time on your watch ? **Ans:** What is the time **by** your watch? *[time is read by a watch]*	**Q5(a)(i) | 2024**	**1 M**
She walked home by foot. **Ans:** She walked home **on** foot. *[on foot (by car/bus/train)]*	**Q5(a)(vi) | 2024**	**1 M**
I cannot cope up with my studies. **Ans:** I cannot **cope with** my studies. *[drop 'up': cope with]*	**Q5(a)(ix) | 2024**	**1 M**
We arrived at a decision after discussing about all the aspects. **Ans:** We arrived at a decision after **discussing all** the aspects. *[discuss takes no preposition]*	**Q5(a)(i) | 2022**	**1 M**
The flood victims were provided shelter. **Ans:** The flood victims were provided **with** shelter. *[provide somebody with something]*	**Q5(a)(ii) | 2022**	**1 M**
She stays in the campus. **Ans:** She stays **on** the campus. *[on the campus]*	**Q5(a)(iv) | 2022**	**1 M**
I will reach to your office at 5 p.m. **Ans:** I will **reach your** office at 5 p.m. *[reach takes no 'to']*	**Q5(a)(x) | 2022**	**1 M**
He went to work despite of his illness. **Ans:** He went to work **despite** his illness. *[despite / in spite of — never 'despite of']*	**Q5(a)(ix) | 2021**	**1 M**
What is the time in your watch? **Ans:** What is the time **by** your watch? *[time is read by a watch]*	**Q5(a)(i) | 2020**	**1 M**
The man standing in a corner was trembling from cold. **Ans:** The man standing in a corner was trembling **with** cold. *[tremble with cold/fear]*	**Q5(a)(iii) | 2020**	**1 M**
Kolkata is at the bank of the river Hooghly. **Ans:** Kolkata is **on** the bank of the river Hooghly. *[on the bank of a river]*	**Q5(a)(ii) | 2019**	**1 M**
I kept the box besides me. **Ans:** I kept the box **beside** me. *[beside = next to; besides = in addition to]*	**Q5(a)(ii) | 2018**	**1 M**
The meeting will be held between 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. **Ans:** The meeting will be held between 10 a.m. **and** 5 p.m. *[between … and / from … to]*	**Q5(a)(ix) | 2018**	**1 M**

I can't bear with stress of modern life. **Ans:** I can't **bear the** stress of modern life. *[bear (tolerate) takes a direct object]*	**Q5(a)(i) | 2017**	**1 M**
I studied in history because I like it. **Ans:** I **studied history** because I like it. *[study a subject — no 'in']*	**Q5(a)(iii) | 2017**	**1 M**
We should always work to keep pollution over control. **Ans:** We should always work to keep pollution **under** control. *[under control]*	**Q5(a)(x) | 2017**	**1 M**
He prefers listening to music than reading books. **Ans:** He prefers listening to music **to** reading books. *[prefer X to Y, not 'than']*	**Q5(a)(vii) | 2016**	**1 M**
The Prime Minister lives in 7 Race Course Road. **Ans:** The Prime Minister lives **at** 7 Race Course Road. *[at + house number; in + street/city]*	**Q5(a)(vi) | 2014**	**1 M**

Tenses — 17 sentences

Shubhman Gill has scored a century in his last innings. **Ans:** Shubhman Gill **scored** a century in his last innings. *[definite past time → simple past]*	**Q5(a)(vi) | 2025**	**1 M**
I am preparing for competitive examinations for the last three years. **Ans:** I **have been preparing** for competitive examinations for the last three years. *[for/since + ongoing action → present perfect continuous]*	**Q5(a)(iii) | 2024**	**1 M**
I am having two brothers and a sister. **Ans:** I **have** two brothers and a sister. *['have' (possession) is not used in continuous]*	**Q5(a)(vii) | 2024**	**1 M**
We have built this house twenty years ago. **Ans:** We **built** this house twenty years ago. *['ago' → simple past]*	**Q5(a)(iii) | 2022**	**1 M**
Have you seen him yesterday ? **Ans:** **Did you see** him yesterday? *['yesterday' → simple past]*	**Q5(a)(vi) | 2021**	**1 M**
No matter what I will do, I can't make her happy. **Ans:** No matter what I **do**, I can't make her happy. *[no 'will' in a 'no matter what' clause]*	**Q5(a)(viii) | 2021**	**1 M**
He is sleeping for two hours. **Ans:** He **has been sleeping** for two hours. *[for + duration → present perfect continuous]*	**Q5(a)(x) | 2021**	**1 M**
I am understanding the lesson. **Ans:** I **understand** the lesson. *['understand' is stative — no continuous]*	**Q5(a)(ii) | 2020**	**1 M**
When I reached the station, the train left it. **Ans:** When I reached the station, the train **had left**. *[earlier of two past actions → past perfect]*	**Q5(a)(i) | 2019**	**1 M**
Yesterday I reach home very late. **Ans:** Yesterday I **reached** home very late. *['yesterday' → simple past]*	**Q5(a)(ii) | 2017**	**1 M**
She gone out for a walk barely an hour ago. **Ans:** She **went** out for a walk barely an hour ago. *['ago' → simple past]*	**Q5(a)(vi) | 2017**	**1 M**
I am sitting here for hours. **Ans:** I **have been sitting** here for hours. *[for hours → present perfect continuous]*	**Q5(a)(iii) | 2016**	**1 M**
How long is he wearing glasses? **Ans:** How long **has he been wearing** glasses? *[how long → present perfect continuous]*	**Q5(a)(i) | 2015**	**1 M**
The new bridge had been opened six months ago. **Ans:** The new bridge **was opened** six months ago. *['ago' → simple past (passive)]*	**Q5(a)(ii) | 2015**	**1 M**
His uncle did not arrive yet. **Ans:** His uncle **has not arrived** yet. *['yet' → present perfect]*	**Q5(a)(iv) | 2015**	**1 M**

The patient died before the doctor arrived. **Ans:** The patient **had died** before the doctor arrived. *[earlier of two past actions → past perfect]*	**Q5(a)(ix) | 2015**	**1 M**
I have seen the film last week. **Ans:** I **saw** the film last week. *['last week' → simple past]*	**Q5(a)(vii) | 2014**	**1 M**

Word choice, collocation, phrasal verbs — 15 sentences

The chief guest gave out prizes to the meritorious students. **Ans:** The chief guest gave **away** prizes to the meritorious students. *[give away prizes = distribute formally]*	**Q5(a)(i) | 2025**	**1 M**
The Indian wrestler knocked down her opponent from the contest. **Ans:** The Indian wrestler **knocked her opponent out of** the contest. *[knock someone out of a contest]*	**Q5(a)(iv) | 2025**	**1 M**
India is heading fastly towards a phase of high economic growth. **Ans:** India is heading **fast** towards a phase of high economic growth. *['fastly' is not a word; fast is both adjective and adverb]*	**Q5(a)(x) | 2025**	**1 M**
This novel is too interesting. **Ans:** This novel is **very** interesting. *[too = more than needed (negative sense)]*	**Q5(a)(ii) | 2023**	**1 M**
His hat was blown off by the strong air. **Ans:** His hat was blown off by the strong **wind**. *[moving air = wind]*	**Q5(a)(vi) | 2023**	**1 M**
It is nothing else than pride. **Ans:** It is nothing else **but** pride. *[nothing else but / nothing other than]*	**Q5(a)(ix) | 2023**	**1 M**
When I entered the compartment, I saw there was no place for me. **Ans:** When I entered the compartment, I saw there was no **room** for me. *[room = space; place = location]*	**Q5(a)(iv) | 2021**	**1 M**
It is a much interesting film. **Ans:** It is a **very** interesting film. *[very + positive adjective; much + comparative]*	**Q5(a)(iv) | 2020**	**1 M**
I saw your friend before two weeks. **Ans:** I saw your friend **two weeks ago**. *[ago for past time from now; before = earlier than a point]*	**Q5(a)(ix) | 2020**	**1 M**
After this he made no farther remarks. **Ans:** After this he made no **further** remarks. *[further = additional; farther = distance]*	**Q5(a)(x) | 2019**	**1 M**
I have no expert in the area so I cannot do the work. **Ans:** I **am** no expert in the area, so I cannot do the work. *[be no expert in]*	**Q5(a)(iii) | 2018**	**1 M**
The Indian coral reefs are world famous but less explored, studied and utilised. **Ans:** The Indian coral reefs are world famous but **little** explored, studied and utilised. *[little = hardly; 'less' needs a comparison]*	**Q5(a)(i) | 2016**	**1 M**
I'm afraid he did a mistake in the calculation. **Ans:** I'm afraid he **made** a mistake in the calculation. *[make a mistake]*	**Q5(a)(iii) | 2015**	**1 M**
The food that I dislike mostly is cabbage. **Ans:** The food that I dislike **most** is cabbage. *[most = to the greatest degree; mostly = mainly]*	**Q5(a)(iv) | 2014**	**1 M**
You have done a mistake. **Ans:** You have **made** a mistake. *[make a mistake]*	**Q5(a)(viii) | 2014**	**1 M**

Nouns — number, uncountables, "one of the …" — 13 sentences

Last month, I bought a lot of furnitures for my new home. **Ans:** Last month, I bought a lot of **furniture** for my new home. *['furniture' is uncountable — no plural]*	**Q5(a)(iii) | 2025**	**1 M**
I have many works to do. **Ans:** I have **a lot of work** to do. *['work' (task) is uncountable; 'works' = creations]*	**Q5(a)(iv) | 2023**	**1 M**
He takes pain over his work. **Ans:** He takes **pains** over his work. *[take pains = make great effort]*	**Q5(a)(v) | 2023**	**1 M**
Have you read each of the following instruction ? **Ans:** Have you read each of the following **instructions**? *[each of the + plural noun]*	**Q5(a)(vi) | 2022**	**1 M**
The student's bags were lost. **Ans:** The **students'** bags were lost. *[plural owners → s']*	**Q5(a)(ix) | 2022**	**1 M**
The coolie refused to carry her heavy luggages to the station. **Ans:** The coolie refused to carry her heavy **luggage** to the station. *['luggage' is uncountable]*	**Q5(a)(vi) | 2020**	**1 M**
She is one of the best author in the genre. **Ans:** She is one of the best **authors** in the genre. *[one of the + plural noun]*	**Q5(a)(iii) | 2019**	**1 M**
You should read from page no. 13 and 17. **Ans:** You should read **pages 13 and 17**. *[two pages → plural 'pages'; drop 'from … no.']*	**Q5(a)(vi) | 2019**	**1 M**
Colleges spend a lot of money on equipments. **Ans:** Colleges spend a lot of money on **equipment**. *['equipment' is uncountable]*	**Q5(a)(vii) | 2018**	**1 M**
He is one of the finest actor in Indian cinema. **Ans:** He is one of the finest **actors** in Indian cinema. *[one of the + plural noun]*	**Q5(a)(x) | 2018**	**1 M**
Newton is one of the esteem scientist in the world. **Ans:** Newton is one of the **most esteemed scientists** in the world. *[adjective 'esteemed' + plural after 'one of the']*	**Q5(a)(v) | 2017**	**1 M**
The sceneries of the Himalayas are unrivalled. **Ans:** The **scenery** of the Himalayas **is** unrivalled. *['scenery' is uncountable → singular verb]*	**Q5(a)(viii) | 2015**	**1 M**
One of his friend has been injured in an accident. **Ans:** One of his **friends** has been injured in an accident. *[one of + plural noun + singular verb]*	**Q5(a)(iii) | 2014**	**1 M**

Subject–verb agreement — 9 sentences

Neither of them were invited to the party. **Ans:** Neither of them **was** invited to the party. *[neither of → singular verb]*	**Q5(a)(vii) | 2025**	**1 M**
A pair of scissors are lying on the table. **Ans:** A pair of scissors **is** lying on the table. *[subject is 'a pair' → singular]*	**Q5(a)(v) | 2024**	**1 M**
Each of the two sisters were hardworking. **Ans:** Each of the two sisters **was** hardworking. *[each → singular verb]*	**Q5(a)(vii) | 2023**	**1 M**
Neither Ramesh nor Suresh are going to the market. **Ans:** Neither Ramesh nor Suresh **is** going to the market. *[neither … nor + singular subjects → singular verb]*	**Q5(a)(iii) | 2021**	**1 M**
There is too many people in the room. **Ans:** There **are** too many people in the room. *[verb agrees with 'people']*	**Q5(a)(i) | 2018**	**1 M**
The boxes of chocolates is very expensive. **Ans:** The boxes of chocolates **are** very expensive. *[subject 'boxes' is plural]*	**Q5(a)(vii) | 2017**	**1 M**

He asked the gardener whether either of the ladies were at home. **Ans:** He asked the gardener whether either of the ladies **was** at home. *[either of → singular verb]*	**Q5(a)(vi) | 2015**	**1 M**
Every nation and every government are engaged in an economic war. **Ans:** Every nation and every government **is** engaged in an economic war. *[every … and every … → singular verb]*	**Q5(a)(vii) | 2015**	**1 M**
The chief, with all his men, were massacred. **Ans:** The chief, with all his men, **was** massacred. *[a 'with' phrase does not change the subject]*	**Q5(a)(ii) | 2014**	**1 M**

Word order / misplaced words — 8 sentences

I even don't have a pink dress. **Ans:** I **don't even** have a pink dress. *['even' goes before the word it stresses]*	**Q5(a)(iv) | 2024**	**1 M**
They only work when they have no money. **Ans:** They work **only** when they have no money. *[place 'only' next to what it limits]*	**Q5(a)(x) | 2023**	**1 M**
Do you know where are you going ? **Ans:** Do you know where **you are** going? *[indirect question → statement order]*	**Q5(a)(vii) | 2022**	**1 M**
Summarize the two first chapters of this book. **Ans:** Summarize the **first two** chapters of this book. *[ordinal before number: first two]*	**Q5(a)(vii) | 2021**	**1 M**
At one time were houses where the large factory now stands. **Ans:** At one time **there were** houses where the large factory now stands. *[introduce existence with 'there were']*	**Q5(a)(v) | 2019**	**1 M**
Wanted armchairs for old people with folding legs. **Ans:** Wanted armchairs **with folding legs** for old people. *[keep the modifier next to its noun]*	**Q5(a)(vi) | 2018**	**1 M**
Among long rows of beans and peas, the gardener planted radishes and cabbages. **Ans:** **The gardener planted radishes and cabbages among long rows of beans and peas**. *[subject–verb–object, then place phrase]*	**Q5(a)(vi) | 2016**	**1 M**
You were ill yesterday? **Ans:** **Were you** ill yesterday? *[question → invert subject and verb]*	**Q5(a)(x) | 2016**	**1 M**

Pronouns — 7 sentences

One should perform his duties. **Ans:** One should perform **one's** duties. *[one … one's]*	**Q5(a)(v) | 2025**	**1 M**
Sam and me completed our graduation in 2020. **Ans:** Sam and **I** completed our graduation in 2020. *[subject → I]*	**Q5(a)(ii) | 2024**	**1 M**
Every girl must submit their identity card. **Ans:** Every girl must submit **her** identity card. *[every girl → her]*	**Q5(a)(viii) | 2022**	**1 M**
Every boy must look into their own book. **Ans:** Every boy must look into **his** own book. *[every boy → his]*	**Q5(a)(i) | 2021**	**1 M**
You can't buy all what you like. **Ans:** You can't buy all **that** you like. *[all that, not 'all what']*	**Q5(a)(ix) | 2019**	**1 M**
Let there be no misunderstanding between you and I. **Ans:** Let there be no misunderstanding between you and **me**. *[object after a preposition → me]*	**Q5(a)(iv) | 2018**	**1 M**
Before they are ripe, you should not eat mangoes. **Ans:** **You should not eat mangoes before they** are ripe. *[noun comes before its pronoun]*	**Q5(a)(ix) | 2016**	**1 M**

Articles — 6 sentences

What beautiful image ! **Ans:** What **a** beautiful image! *[what a + singular countable noun]*	**Q5(a)(ix) | 2025**	**1 M**
I replied to him in negative. **Ans:** I replied to him in **the** negative. *[fixed phrase: in the negative]*	**Q5(a)(iii) | 2023**	**1 M**
The magistrate issued order for his arrest. **Ans:** The magistrate issued **an** order for his arrest. *[singular countable noun needs an article]*	**Q5(a)(ii) | 2021**	**1 M**
The number of people going for a English movie is drastically in increase. **Ans:** The number of people going for **an** English movie is drastically **on the** increase. *['an' before a vowel sound; on the increase]*	**Q5(a)(ix) | 2017**	**1 M**
Like Himalayas, the Western Ghats play an important role in controlling and directing the monsoon. **Ans:** Like **the** Himalayas, the Western Ghats play an important role in controlling and directing the monsoon. *['the' before mountain ranges]*	**Q5(a)(ii) | 2016**	**1 M**
The apples are grown in many countries. **Ans:** **Apples** are grown in many countries. *[no 'the' for a plural noun used in general]*	**Q5(a)(i) | 2014**	**1 M**

Comparison — 6 sentences

Choose the least of the two evils. **Ans:** Choose the **lesser** of the two evils. *[two things → comparative]*	**Q5(a)(viii) | 2023**	**1 M**
More simple the business, the better off you are. **Ans:** **The simpler** the business, the better off you are. *[the + comparative …, the + comparative]*	**Q5(a)(vii) | 2020**	**1 M**
Ravi's mango is more sweeter than Rani's. **Ans:** Ravi's mango is **sweeter** than Rani's. *[no double comparative]*	**Q5(a)(viii) | 2019**	**1 M**
The higher the hill, wider the view. **Ans:** The higher the hill, **the** wider the view. *[the + comparative …, the + comparative]*	**Q5(a)(viii) | 2016**	**1 M**
A good curry is my most favourite meal. **Ans:** A good curry is my **favourite** meal. *['favourite' is already absolute — no 'most']*	**Q5(a)(v) | 2015**	**1 M**
I shall not stay long than I can help. **Ans:** I shall not stay **longer** than I can help. *[comparative before 'than']*	**Q5(a)(v) | 2014**	**1 M**

Question tags — 4 sentences

You love singing, aren't you ? **Ans:** You love singing, **don't** you? *[simple present positive → don't]*	**Q5(a)(ii) | 2025**	**1 M**
Let's go for a walk, do we ? **Ans:** Let's go for a walk, **shall** we? *[Let's … shall we?]*	**Q5(a)(v) | 2022**	**1 M**
You like playing, isn't it ? **Ans:** You like playing, **don't you**? *[tag repeats the subject pronoun]*	**Q5(a)(v) | 2021**	**1 M**
We have finished our work, have we ? **Ans:** We have finished our work, **haven't** we? *[positive statement → negative tag]*	**Q5(a)(ix) | 2014**	**1 M**

Conjunction pairs — 4 sentences

Although it was past mid-night, yet the shops were still open. **Ans:** Although it was past mid-night, the shops were still open. *[drop 'yet' — although takes no partner]*	**Q5(a)(v) | 2020**	**1 M**
Although it was raining, but we walked in the street. **Ans:** Although it was raining, we walked in the street. *[drop 'but' — although takes no partner]*	**Q5(a)(vii) | 2019**	**1 M**
He both stole my camera and cell phone. **Ans:** He stole **both** my camera and cell phone. *[both … and go before the paired items]*	**Q5(a)(v) | 2016**	**1 M**
Though he was busy but he talked to me. **Ans:** Though he was busy, he talked to me. *[drop 'but' — though takes no partner]*	**Q5(a)(x) | 2015**	**1 M**

Verb form (after do / did, hang) — 3 sentences

Does Sita speaks English ? **Ans:** Does Sita **speak** English? *[does + base form]*	**Q5(a)(viii) | 2024**	**1 M**
He hanged the picture on the wall. **Ans:** He **hung** the picture on the wall. *[hung = objects; hanged = execution]*	**Q5(a)(x) | 2020**	**1 M**
Did he played the first match? **Ans:** Did he **play** the first match? *[did + base form]*	**Q5(a)(v) | 2018**	**1 M**

Redundancy — 3 sentences

Please revert back as soon as possible. **Ans:** Please revert as soon as possible. *[drop 'back' — revert already means go back]*	**Q5(a)(x) | 2024**	**1 M**
Will you return back the book I lent you ? **Ans:** Will you return the book I lent you? *[drop 'back' — return already means give back]*	**Q5(a)(iv) | 2019**	**1 M**
I shall respond to your letter after I return back. **Ans:** I shall respond to your letter after I return. *[drop 'back' — return already means come back]*	**Q5(a)(viii) | 2018**	**1 M**

Conditionals — 3 sentences

Because of the rain, I would have been stuck in the traffic jam. **Ans:** Because of the rain, I **was** stuck in the traffic jam. *[actual past result → simple past; 'would have' needs a condition]*	**Q5(a)(iv) | 2017**	**1 M**
If you have reached the station on time you not miss the train. **Ans:** If you **had** reached the station on time, you **would not have missed** the train. *[third conditional: had + V3 … would have + V3]*	**Q5(a)(viii) | 2017**	**1 M**
Because of the storm, I would have been home before eight. **Ans:** **But for** the storm, I would have been home before eight. *[but for = if it had not been for]*	**Q5(a)(iv) | 2016**	**1 M**

Reported speech within a sentence — 2 sentences

The librarian asked which book did I want? **Ans:** The librarian asked which book **I wanted**. *[reported question → statement order, no '?']*	**Q5(a)(viii) | 2020**	**1 M**
He asked me what I want. **Ans:** He asked me what I **wanted**. *[past reporting verb → past tense]*	**Q5(a)(x) | 2014**	**1 M**

Negation — 1 sentence

I couldn't help not laughing at the joke. **Ans:** I couldn't help **laughing** at the joke. *[can't help + verb-ing; no double negative]*	**Q5(a)(i) | 2023**	**1 M**

Word formation — adjective forms, noun forms, gender

(b) Write the adjective forms of the following words : $1 \times 5 = 5$

(i) Mortality

(ii) Modification

(iii) Sensibility

(iv) Providence

(v) Prophecy

Adjective forms — 60 words

Mortality **Meaning:** Subject to death. **Ans:** **mortal**	**Q5 (i) | 2025**	**1 M**
Modification **Meaning:** Able to be changed. **Ans:** **modifiable**	**Q5 (ii) | 2025**	**1 M**
Sensibility **Meaning:** Wise; easily affected. **Ans:** **sensible** / **sensitive**	**Q5 (iii) | 2025**	**1 M**
Providence **Meaning:** Careful for the future; lucky, timely. **Ans:** **provident** / **providential**	**Q5 (iv) | 2025**	**1 M**
Prophecy **Meaning:** Foretelling the future. **Ans:** **prophetic**	**Q5 (v) | 2025**	**1 M**
Independence **Meaning:** Free from control. **Ans:** **independent**	**Q5 (i) | 2024**	**1 M**
Anxiety **Meaning:** Worried. **Ans:** **anxious**	**Q5 (ii) | 2024**	**1 M**
Frequency **Meaning:** Happening often. **Ans:** **frequent**	**Q5 (iii) | 2024**	**1 M**
Wind **Meaning:** With much wind. **Ans:** **windy**	**Q5 (iv) | 2024**	**1 M**
Promise **Meaning:** Showing future success. **Ans:** **promising**	**Q5 (v) | 2024**	**1 M**

Circumstance **Meaning:** Based on circumstances. **Ans: circumstantial**	**Q5 (i) | 2023**	**1 M**
Precaution **Meaning:** Done to prevent harm. **Ans: precautionary**	**Q5 (ii) | 2023**	**1 M**
Competence **Meaning:** Having the needed skill. **Ans: competent**	**Q5 (iii) | 2023**	**1 M**
Prosperity **Meaning:** Rich and successful. **Ans: prosperous**	**Q5 (iv) | 2023**	**1 M**
Second **Meaning:** Of lesser importance. **Ans: secondary**	**Q5 (v) | 2023**	**1 M**
Gold **Meaning:** Made of or like gold. **Ans: golden**	**Q5 (i) | 2022**	**1 M**
Health **Meaning:** In good health. **Ans: healthy**	**Q5 (ii) | 2022**	**1 M**
Talk **Meaning:** Fond of talking. **Ans: talkative**	**Q5 (iii) | 2022**	**1 M**
Mystery **Meaning:** Hard to explain. **Ans: mysterious**	**Q5 (iv) | 2022**	**1 M**
Ceremony **Meaning:** Used in ceremonies. **Ans: ceremonial**	**Q5 (v) | 2022**	**1 M**
achieve **Meaning:** Able to be achieved. **Ans: achievable**	**Q5 (i) | 2021**	**1 M**
amuse **Meaning:** Funny, entertaining. **Ans: amusing**	**Q5 (ii) | 2021**	**1 M**
commerce **Meaning:** Related to trade. **Ans: commercial**	**Q5 (iii) | 2021**	**1 M**
artist **Meaning:** Showing skill in art. **Ans: artistic**	**Q5 (iv) | 2021**	**1 M**
question **Meaning:** Doubtful. **Ans: questionable**	**Q5 (v) | 2021**	**1 M**
Fool **Meaning:** Silly, unwise. **Ans: foolish**	**Q5 (i) | 2020**	**1 M**

Venture **Meaning:** Willing to take risks. **Ans: venturesome**	**Q5 (ii) | 2020**	**1 M**
Sense **Meaning:** Showing good judgement. **Ans: sensible**	**Q5 (iii) | 2020**	**1 M**
Industry **Meaning:** Hard-working; related to industry. **Ans: industrious / industrial**	**Q5 (iv) | 2020**	**1 M**
Virtue **Meaning:** Morally good. **Ans: virtuous**	**Q5 (v) | 2020**	**1 M**
Accident **Meaning:** Happening by chance. **Ans: accidental**	**Q5 (i) | 2019**	**1 M**
Complacency **Meaning:** Self-satisfied, careless. **Ans: complacent**	**Q5 (ii) | 2019**	**1 M**
Attraction **Meaning:** Pleasing, charming. **Ans: attractive**	**Q5 (iii) | 2019**	**1 M**
Competency **Meaning:** Having the needed skill. **Ans: competent**	**Q5 (iv) | 2019**	**1 M**
Invention **Meaning:** Creative, original. **Ans: inventive**	**Q5 (v) | 2019**	**1 M**
Signify **Meaning:** Important, meaningful. **Ans: significant**	**Q5 (i) | 2018**	**1 M**
Cinema **Meaning:** Relating to films. **Ans: cinematic**	**Q5 (ii) | 2018**	**1 M**
Benevolence **Meaning:** Kind, generous. **Ans: benevolent**	**Q5 (iii) | 2018**	**1 M**
Vulgarity **Meaning:** Crude, in bad taste. **Ans: vulgar**	**Q5 (iv) | 2018**	**1 M**
Turbulence **Meaning:** Disturbed, violent. **Ans: turbulent**	**Q5 (v) | 2018**	**1 M**
Death **Meaning:** Causing death; not alive. **Ans: deadly / dead**	**Q5 (i) | 2017**	**1 M**
Need **Meaning:** Poor. **Ans: needy**	**Q5 (ii) | 2017**	**1 M**

Capability **Meaning:** Able. **Ans: capable**	**Q5 (iii) | 2017**	**1 M**
Obscurity **Meaning:** Unknown; unclear. **Ans: obscure**	**Q5 (iv) | 2017**	**1 M**
Renown **Meaning:** Famous. **Ans: renowned**	**Q5 (v) | 2017**	**1 M**
Sun **Meaning:** Bright with sunlight. **Ans: sunny**	**Q5 (i) | 2016**	**1 M**
Violence **Meaning:** Using force. **Ans: violent**	**Q5 (ii) | 2016**	**1 M**
Ability **Meaning:** Having the power to do. **Ans: able**	**Q5 (iii) | 2016**	**1 M**
Fame **Meaning:** Well known. **Ans: famous**	**Q5 (iv) | 2016**	**1 M**
Poverty **Meaning:** Having little money. **Ans: poor**	**Q5 (v) | 2016**	**1 M**
Devastate **Meaning:** Highly destructive. **Ans: devastating**	**Q5 (i) | 2015**	**1 M**
Economics **Meaning:** Of the economy; thrifty. **Ans: economic / economical**	**Q5 (ii) | 2015**	**1 M**
Flow **Meaning:** Moving smoothly. **Ans: flowing**	**Q5 (iii) | 2015**	**1 M**
Learn **Meaning:** Having much knowledge. **Ans: learned**	**Q5 (iv) | 2015**	**1 M**
Moron **Meaning:** Very stupid. **Ans: moronic**	**Q5 (v) | 2015**	**1 M**
nation **Meaning:** Of a nation. **Ans: national**	**Q5 (i) | 2014**	**1 M**
caution **Meaning:** Careful. **Ans: cautious**	**Q5 (ii) | 2014**	**1 M**
child **Meaning:** Immature; innocent. **Ans: childish / childlike**	**Q5 (iii) | 2014**	**1 M**

glue **Meaning:** Sticky. **Ans: gluey**	**Q5 (iv) | 2014**	**1 M**
move **Meaning:** Able to be moved. **Ans: movable**	**Q5 (v) | 2014**	**1 M**

Noun forms — 55 words

Wild **Meaning:** Untamed state; wild uninhabited land. **Ans: wildness / wilderness**	**Q5 (i) | 2024**	**1 M**
Appear **Meaning:** Act of coming into view; looks. **Ans: appearance**	**Q5 (ii) | 2024**	**1 M**
Tragic **Meaning:** A very sad event. **Ans: tragedy**	**Q5 (iii) | 2024**	**1 M**
Declare **Meaning:** Formal statement. **Ans: declaration**	**Q5 (iv) | 2024**	**1 M**
Realistic **Meaning:** Practical outlook; the actual state of things. **Ans: realism / reality**	**Q5 (v) | 2024**	**1 M**
Know **Meaning:** Information and understanding. **Ans: knowledge**	**Q5 (i) | 2023**	**1 M**
Rely **Meaning:** Dependence. **Ans: reliance**	**Q5 (ii) | 2023**	**1 M**
Fail **Meaning:** Lack of success. **Ans: failure**	**Q5 (iii) | 2023**	**1 M**
Inscribe **Meaning:** Words carved or written on something. **Ans: inscription**	**Q5 (iv) | 2023**	**1 M**
Sure **Meaning:** Guarantee; certainty. **Ans: surety / sureness**	**Q5 (v) | 2023**	**1 M**
Write **Meaning:** Written work; act of writing. **Ans: writing**	**Q5 (i) | 2022**	**1 M**
Occur **Meaning:** An event. **Ans: occurrence**	**Q5 (ii) | 2022**	**1 M**
Responsible **Meaning:** Duty. **Ans: responsibility**	**Q5 (iii) | 2022**	**1 M**

Jubilate **Meaning:** Great joy. **Ans: jubilation**	**Q5 (iv) | 2022**	**1 M**
Define **Meaning:** Exact meaning. **Ans: definition**	**Q5 (v) | 2022**	**1 M**
act **Meaning:** Something done. **Ans: action**	**Q5 (i) | 2021**	**1 M**
busy **Meaning:** Trade; occupation. **Ans: business**	**Q5 (ii) | 2021**	**1 M**
coward **Meaning:** Lack of courage. **Ans: cowardice**	**Q5 (iii) | 2021**	**1 M**
dangerous **Meaning:** Risk of harm. **Ans: danger**	**Q5 (iv) | 2021**	**1 M**
excite **Meaning:** Strong eager feeling. **Ans: excitement**	**Q5 (v) | 2021**	**1 M**
Recommend **Meaning:** Suggestion. **Ans: recommendation**	**Q5 (i) | 2020**	**1 M**
Decay **Meaning:** Rotting; decline. **Ans: decay**	**Q5 (ii) | 2020**	**1 M**
Imply **Meaning:** Suggested meaning; consequence. **Ans: implication**	**Q5 (iii) | 2020**	**1 M**
Fly **Meaning:** Act of flying. **Ans: flight**	**Q5 (iv) | 2020**	**1 M**
Disclose **Meaning:** Act of revealing. **Ans: disclosure**	**Q5 (v) | 2020**	**1 M**
Admire **Meaning:** Respect and approval. **Ans: admiration**	**Q5 (i) | 2019**	**1 M**
Accept **Meaning:** Act of agreeing to receive. **Ans: acceptance**	**Q5 (ii) | 2019**	**1 M**
Complicate **Meaning:** Difficulty. **Ans: complication**	**Q5 (iii) | 2019**	**1 M**
Invade **also asked 2015** **Meaning:** Attack on a territory. **Ans: invasion**	**Q5 (iv) | 2019**	**1 M**

Complain **Meaning:** Statement of dissatisfaction. **Ans: complaint**	**Q5 (v) | 2019**	**1 M**
Tenacious **Meaning:** Persistence. **Ans: tenacity**	**Q5 (i) | 2018**	**1 M**
Proficient **Meaning:** High skill. **Ans: proficiency**	**Q5 (ii) | 2018**	**1 M**
Irreverent **Meaning:** Lack of respect. **Ans: irreverence**	**Q5 (iii) | 2018**	**1 M**
Disturb **Meaning:** Interruption; disorder. **Ans: disturbance**	**Q5 (iv) | 2018**	**1 M**
Eloquent **Meaning:** Fluent, persuasive speech. **Ans: eloquence**	**Q5 (v) | 2018**	**1 M**
Beautiful **Meaning:** Quality of being beautiful. **Ans: beauty**	**Q5 (i) | 2017**	**1 M**
Collect **Meaning:** Group of things gathered. **Ans: collection**	**Q5 (ii) | 2017**	**1 M**
Gather **Meaning:** Assembly of people. **Ans: gathering**	**Q5 (iii) | 2017**	**1 M**
Swift **Meaning:** Speed. **Ans: swiftness**	**Q5 (iv) | 2017**	**1 M**
Accumulate **Meaning:** Gradual build-up. **Ans: accumulation**	**Q5 (v) | 2017**	**1 M**
Quick **Meaning:** Speed. **Ans: quickness**	**Q5 (i) | 2016**	**1 M**
Learn **Meaning:** Knowledge gained by study. **Ans: learning**	**Q5 (ii) | 2016**	**1 M**
Amass **Meaning:** Act of collecting in quantity. **Ans: amassment**	**Q5 (iii) | 2016**	**1 M**
Grand **Meaning:** Splendour. **Ans: grandeur**	**Q5 (iv) | 2016**	**1 M**
Hot **Meaning:** Warmth. **Ans: heat**	**Q5 (v) | 2016**	**1 M**

Pretend **Meaning:** False show. **Ans: pretence**	**Q5 (i) | 2015**	**1 M**
Phenomenal **Meaning:** An observable event. **Ans: phenomenon**	**Q5 (ii) | 2015**	**1 M**
Oriental **Meaning:** The East. **Ans: orient**	**Q5 (iii) | 2015**	**1 M**
Neutral **Meaning:** Not taking sides. **Ans: neutrality**	**Q5 (iv) | 2015**	**1 M**
Invade also asked 2019 **Meaning:** Attack on a territory. **Ans: invasion**	**Q5 (v) | 2015**	**1 M**
extract **Meaning:** Act of taking out. **Ans: extraction**	**Q5 (i) | 2014**	**1 M**
sad **Meaning:** Sorrow. **Ans: sadness**	**Q5 (ii) | 2014**	**1 M**
pray **Meaning:** Request to God. **Ans: prayer**	**Q5 (iii) | 2014**	**1 M**
undertake **Meaning:** A task or project. **Ans: undertaking**	**Q5 (iv) | 2014**	**1 M**
dark **Meaning:** Absence of light. **Ans: darkness**	**Q5 (v) | 2014**	**1 M**

Change the gender — 5 words (New in 2025 Be Alert)

Fox **Meaning:** Male fox (also used for the species). **Ans: vixen**	**Q5 (i) | 2025**	**1 M**
Nun **Meaning:** Woman in a religious order. **Ans: monk / friar**	**Q5 (ii) | 2025**	**1 M**
Sorceress **Meaning:** Woman who practises magic. **Ans: sorcerer**	**Q5 (iii) | 2025**	**1 M**
Stag **Meaning:** Adult male deer. **Ans: hind / doe**	**Q5 (iv) | 2025**	**1 M**
Abbot **Meaning:** Head of a monastery. **Ans: abbess**	**Q5 (v) | 2025**	**1 M**

Idioms / phrases — 60 items

(c) Make one sentence with each of the following idiomatic expressions bringing out their meanings clearly : 2×5=10

(i) Smell a rat

(ii) Hit the nail on the head

(iii) Split hairs

(iv) Keep one's head above water

(v) Let sleeping dogs lie

Smell a rat also asked 2020, 2015 **Meaning:** Suspect something is wrong. **Ans:** When the officer offered a bribe, the inspector began to **smell a rat**.	Q5(c)(i) | 2025	2 M
Hit the nail on the head also asked 2019 **Meaning:** Describe exactly what is right. **Ans:** The minister **hit the nail on the head** when he blamed poor planning for the floods.	Q5(c)(ii) | 2025	2 M
Split hairs **Meaning:** Argue over trivial details. **Ans:** Let us not **split hairs** over minor wording and finalise the report.	Q5(c)(iii) | 2025	2 M
Keep one's head above water **Meaning:** Just manage to survive, esp. financially. **Ans:** After the crop failure, the farmer struggled to **keep his head above water**.	Q5(c)(iv) | 2025	2 M
Let sleeping dogs lie **Meaning:** Do not revive an old problem. **Ans:** The old dispute is settled, so **let sleeping dogs lie**.	Q5(c)(v) | 2025	2 M
The last straw **Meaning:** Final problem that makes a situation unbearable. **Ans:** The third power cut in a day was **the last straw** for the residents.	Q5(e)(i) | 2024	2 M
On cloud nine **Meaning:** Extremely happy. **Ans:** She was **on cloud nine** after clearing the IFoS examination.	Q5(e)(ii) | 2024	2 M
A piece of cake **Meaning:** Very easy. **Ans:** For a trained guide, the jungle trek was **a piece of cake**.	Q5(e)(iii) | 2024	2 M
The best of both worlds also asked 2017 **Meaning:** Enjoy two advantages at once. **Ans:** Working from a hill station gives him **the best of both worlds**.	Q5(e)(iv) | 2024	2 M
Throw under the bus **Meaning:** Sacrifice someone for one's own benefit. **Ans:** The manager **threw his assistant under the bus** to save himself.	Q5(e)(v) | 2024	2 M
to cry over spilt milk **Meaning:** Regret what cannot be undone. **Ans:** You failed once; there is no use **crying over spilt milk**.	Q5(e)(i) | 2023	2 M

to read between the lines **Meaning:** Find the hidden meaning. **Ans:** A good officer must **read between the lines** of every report.	**Q5(e)(ii) | 2023**	**2 M**
black sheep **Meaning:** A disgrace to the family or group. **Ans:** He was the **black sheep** of an honest family.	**Q5(e)(iii) | 2023**	**2 M**
bird's eye view **Meaning:** A view from high above; a general overview. **Ans:** The watch-tower gives a **bird's eye view** of the sanctuary.	**Q5(e)(iv) | 2023**	**2 M**
a far cry **Meaning:** Very different from. **Ans:** City life is **a far cry** from the quiet of the forest.	**Q5(e)(v) | 2023**	**2 M**
Draw the line **Meaning:** Set a limit. **Ans:** I help my friends, but I **draw the line** at lying for them.	**Q5(c)(i) | 2022**	**2 M**
Bite the bullet **Meaning:** Face a painful situation bravely. **Ans:** He had to **bite the bullet** and accept the transfer.	**Q5(c)(ii) | 2022**	**2 M**
To turn over a new leaf **Meaning:** Start behaving better. **Ans:** After his release, he decided to **turn over a new leaf**.	**Q5(c)(iii) | 2022**	**2 M**
To pay off old scores **also asked 2015** **Meaning:** Take revenge for past wrongs. **Ans:** The villagers used the election to **pay off old scores**.	**Q5(c)(iv) | 2022**	**2 M**
Hand in glove **Meaning:** Working closely together, esp. in wrongdoing. **Ans:** The poachers were **hand in glove** with a corrupt official.	**Q5(c)(v) | 2022**	**2 M**
to feel under the weather **Meaning:** Feel slightly ill. **Ans:** She stayed home as she was **feeling under the weather**.	**Q5(c)(i) | 2021**	**2 M**
to pull oneself together **Meaning:** Regain self-control. **Ans:** After the loss, he **pulled himself together** and returned to work.	**Q5(c)(ii) | 2021**	**2 M**
to blow one's own trumpet **Meaning:** Boast about oneself. **Ans:** A modest worker never **blows his own trumpet**.	**Q5(c)(iii) | 2021**	**2 M**
to be a good Samaritan **Meaning:** Help a stranger in need. **Ans:** He **was a good Samaritan** and took the injured man to hospital.	**Q5(c)(iv) | 2021**	**2 M**
to pull wool over one's eyes **Meaning:** Deceive someone. **Ans:** The trader tried to **pull the wool over our eyes** with fake bills.	**Q5(c)(v) | 2021**	**2 M**
Fish out of water **Meaning:** Uncomfortable in an unfamiliar place. **Ans:** A villager feels like a **fish out of water** in a big city.	**Q5(c)(i) | 2020**	**2 M**
To kick the bucket **Meaning:** Die (informal). **Ans:** The old miser **kicked the bucket** without writing a will.	**Q5(c)(ii) | 2020**	**2 M**

A blessing in disguise **Meaning:** Something bad that turns out good. **Ans:** Losing that job proved **a blessing in disguise**.	**Q5(c)(iii) | 2020**	**2 M**
To smell a rat **also asked 2025, 2015** **Meaning:** Suspect something is wrong. **Ans:** The auditor **smelt a rat** when the accounts kept changing.	**Q5(c)(iv) | 2020**	**2 M**
To miss the bus **Meaning:** Lose an opportunity. **Ans:** Do not delay your application or you will **miss the bus**.	**Q5(c)(v) | 2020**	**2 M**
Let the cat out of the bag **also asked 2015** **Meaning:** Reveal a secret by mistake. **Ans:** He **let the cat out of the bag** about the surprise party.	**Q5(c)(i) | 2019**	**2 M**
Go for gold **Meaning:** Aim for the highest success. **Ans:** The athlete trained hard to **go for gold** at the Asian Games.	**Q5(c)(ii) | 2019**	**2 M**
A penny for your thoughts **Meaning:** Asking what someone is thinking. **Ans:** You look worried — **a penny for your thoughts**?	**Q5(c)(iii) | 2019**	**2 M**
Once in a blue moon **Meaning:** Very rarely. **Ans:** He visits his village only **once in a blue moon**.	**Q5(c)(iv) | 2019**	**2 M**
Hit the nail on the head **also asked 2025** **Meaning:** Describe exactly what is right. **Ans:** The teacher **hit the nail on the head** in identifying the cause of failure.	**Q5(c)(v) | 2019**	**2 M**
Being in somebody else's shoes **Meaning:** Imagining oneself in another's position. **Ans:** **Being in somebody else's shoes** helps us understand their problems.	**Q5(c)(i) | 2018**	**2 M**
See eye to eye **Meaning:** Agree fully. **Ans:** The two partners do not **see eye to eye** on expansion.	**Q5(c)(ii) | 2018**	**2 M**
Kangaroo court **Meaning:** An unofficial, unfair court. **Ans:** The villagers held a **kangaroo court** and punished the youth without proof.	**Q5(c)(iii) | 2018**	**2 M**
Between devil and the deep sea **also asked 2014** **Meaning:** Between two equally bad choices. **Ans:** Caught **between the devil and the deep sea**, he chose to resign.	**Q5(c)(iv) | 2018**	**2 M**
Catch red-handed **Meaning:** Catch in the act of wrongdoing. **Ans:** Forest guards **caught the smuggler red-handed** with sandalwood.	**Q5(c)(v) | 2018**	**2 M**
A hot potato **Meaning:** A controversial issue. **Ans:** Reservation in promotions is a political **hot potato**.	**Q5(c)(i) | 2017**	**2 M**
The ball is in your court **Meaning:** It is your turn to act. **Ans:** We have made our offer; now **the ball is in your court**.	**Q5(c)(ii) | 2017**	**2 M**
Best of both worlds **also asked 2024** **Meaning:** Enjoy two advantages at once. **Ans:** A job near home gives her **the best of both worlds**.	**Q5(c)(iii) | 2017**	**2 M**

Curiosity killed the cat **Meaning:** Being too inquisitive can be dangerous. **Ans:** Don't open other people's letters — **curiosity killed the cat**.	**Q5(c)(iv) | 2017**	**2 M**
Don't put all your eggs in one basket **Meaning:** Do not risk everything on one plan. **Ans:** Invest in several schemes; **don't put all your eggs in one basket**.	**Q5(c)(v) | 2017**	**2 M**
To play to the gallery **Meaning:** Act to win popular approval. **Ans:** Politicians often **play to the gallery** before elections.	**Q5(c)(i) | 2016**	**2 M**
A feather in one's cap **Meaning:** An achievement to be proud of. **Ans:** Winning the national award was **a feather in his cap**.	**Q5(c)(ii) | 2016**	**2 M**
The writing on the wall **Meaning:** Clear sign of coming failure. **Ans:** Falling sales were **the writing on the wall** for the company.	**Q5(c)(iii) | 2016**	**2 M**
To get on someone's nerves **Meaning:** Irritate someone. **Ans:** His constant complaints **get on my nerves**.	**Q5(c)(iv) | 2016**	**2 M**
To take the bull by the horns **Meaning:** Face a difficulty boldly. **Ans:** She **took the bull by the horns** and confronted the encroachers.	**Q5(c)(v) | 2016**	**2 M**
To leave somebody in the lurch **Meaning:** Abandon someone in difficulty. **Ans:** His partner **left him in the lurch** just before the deadline.	**Q5(c)(i) | 2015**	**2 M**
To pay off old scores **also asked 2022** **Meaning:** Take revenge for past wrongs. **Ans:** He spread rumours to **pay off old scores** with his rival.	**Q5(c)(ii) | 2015**	**2 M**
To let the cat out of the bag **also asked 2019** **Meaning:** Reveal a secret by mistake. **Ans:** The child **let the cat out of the bag** about the gift.	**Q5(c)(iii) | 2015**	**2 M**
To smell a rat **also asked 2025, 2020** **Meaning:** Suspect something is wrong. **Ans:** When the contractor refused an inspection, we **smelt a rat**.	**Q5(c)(iv) | 2015**	**2 M**
At daggers drawn **Meaning:** In bitter enmity. **Ans:** The two neighbours have been **at daggers drawn** over the boundary wall.	**Q5(c)(v) | 2015**	**2 M**
To run with the hare and hunt with the hound **Meaning:** Support both sides at once. **Ans:** You cannot **run with the hare and hunt with the hounds** in this dispute.	**Q5(c)(i) | 2014**	**2 M**
Between the devil and the deep sea **also asked 2018** **Meaning:** Between two equally bad choices. **Ans:** The farmer was **between the devil and the deep sea**: sell at a loss or let the crop rot.	**Q5(c)(ii) | 2014**	**2 M**
A wild goose chase **Meaning:** A hopeless search. **Ans:** Searching for the tiger without pugmarks was **a wild goose chase**.	**Q5(c)(iii) | 2014**	**2 M**

Make hay while the sun shines **Meaning:** Use an opportunity while it lasts. **Ans:** The monsoon is near, so **make hay while the sun shines**.	**Q5(c)(iv) | 2014**	**2 M**
To be on tenterhooks **Meaning:** Be anxious and in suspense. **Ans:** The candidates **were on tenterhooks** waiting for the results.	**Q5(c)(v) | 2014**	**2 M**

Sentence transformation — 60 items, grouped by type

(d) Rewrite the following sentences as directed without changing their meaning : $2\times5=10$

(i) He was obstinate. He was punished.
(Combine into one sentence using 'as')

(ii) She said to him, "Please wait here till I return."
(Change into Indirect Speech)

(iii) He is too ignorant to be a postman.
(Rewrite the sentence omitting 'too' and 'to')

(iv) Are they not praising me ?
(Change into Passive Voice)

(v) No building in the city is as tall as Ushakiran.
(Rewrite using the Superlative Degree)

Transformation type	Count	Years
Active / passive voice	13	'14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22 '23 '24 '25
Direct / indirect speech	12	'14 '15 '16 '17 '18 '19 '20 '21 '22 '23 '24 '25
Too … to / so … that / enough	8	'14 '15 '16 '18 '22 '23 '24 '25
Combining with a given connector	7	'14 '17 '18 '20 '21 '25
Affirmative / negative / assertive	6	'16 '19 '20 '21 '22 '23
Degree of comparison	4	'21 '23 '24 '25
Simple / complex sentence	4	'15 '18 '19 '20
Rewrite using a given word	3	'15 '19 '22
Correct form of the verb	2	'14 '16
Question tag	1	'24

Active / passive voice — 13 sentences

Are they not praising me ? *(Change into Passive Voice)* **Ans: Am I not being praised by them?**	**Q5(d)(iv) | 2025**	**1 M**
Remove the goggles before entering the tunnel. *(Change into Passive Voice)* **Ans: Let the goggles be removed before entering the tunnel.**	**Q5(f)(i) | 2024**	**1 M**
One may accomplish many things by a little effort. *(Change into Passive Voice)* **Ans: Many things may be accomplished by a little effort.**	**Q5(f)(v) | 2023**	**1 M**

He writes poems. *(Change to Passive Voice)* **Ans: Poems are written by him.**	**Q5(f)(iv) | 2022**	**1 M**
The company gave her a rousing reception when she joined. *(Change into passive voice)* **Ans: She was given a rousing reception by the company when she joined.**	**Q5(f)(ii) | 2021**	**1 M**
The people will make him the President. *(Change into a 'passive sentence')* **Ans: He will be made the President by the people.**	**Q5(f)(v) | 2020**	**1 M**
My captors were taking me to prison. *(Change into passive voice)* **Ans: I was being taken to prison by my captors.**	**Q6(c) | 2019**	**1 M**
Commercial reasons rule the cinema industry. *(Change to passive voice)* **Ans: The cinema industry is ruled by commercial reasons.**	**Q6(d) | 2018**	**1 M**
I have made this painting. *(Change to passive voice)* **Ans: This painting has been made by me.**	**Q5(f)(i) | 2017**	**1 M**
Is he the musician for the evening ? *(Change to passive voice)* **Ans: No passive possible — 'is' is a linking verb with no object.**	**Q5(f)(ii) | 2017**	**1 M**
Are you listening to the story? *(Change to passive voice)* **Ans: Is the story being listened to by you?**	**Q5(d)(i) | 2016**	**1 M**
He learnt the alphabet before he could read. *(Change to passive voice)* **Ans: The alphabet was learnt by him before he could read.**	**Q5(f)(ii) | 2015**	**1 M**
She is writing a letter. *(Change to passive voice)* **Ans: A letter is being written by her.**	**Q5(f)(ii) | 2014**	**1 M**

Direct / indirect speech — 12 sentences

She said to him, "Please wait here till I return." *(Change into Indirect Speech)* **Ans: She requested him to wait there till she returned.**	**Q5(d)(ii) | 2025**	**1 M**
Rakesh said, "I wish to master the art of public speaking this year." *(Change into Indirect Speech)* **Ans: Rakesh said that he wished to master the art of public speaking that year.**	**Q5(f)(ii) | 2024**	**1 M**
He said, "I did not go to school yesterday". *(Change into Indirect Speech)* **Ans: He said that he had not gone to school the previous day.**	**Q5(f)(i) | 2023**	**1 M**
He says, "I am sorry." *(Change to Indirect Speech)* **Ans: He says that he is sorry.**	**Q5(f)(iii) | 2022**	**1 M**
Ramesh declared that he could not consent to my going. *(Change into direct speech)* **Ans: Ramesh said, "I cannot consent to your going."**	**Q5(f)(i) | 2021**	**1 M**
The speaker said, "We tried to control the prices last year." *(Change it into 'indirect speech')* **Ans: The speaker said that they had tried to control the prices the previous year.**	**Q5(f)(iii) | 2020**	**1 M**
She told me that she would speak to me the following day. *(Change to direct speech)* **Ans: She said to me, "I will speak to you tomorrow."**	**Q6(e) | 2019**	**1 M**
He said that his neighbour was bitten by a dog. *(Change to direct speech)* **Ans: He said, "My neighbour was bitten by a dog."**	**Q6(a) | 2018**	**1 M**
I told him, "Don't be late or you'll miss the flight." *(Change to indirect speech)* **Ans: I warned him not to be late or he would miss the flight.**	**Q5(f)(iii) | 2017**	**1 M**
The captain said to the boys, "Let us play a match." *(Change to indirect speech)* **Ans: The captain proposed to the boys that they should play a match.**	**Q5(d)(ii) | 2016**	**1 M**

The workers said, "We were repairing the road." *(Change to indirect speech)* **Ans: The workers said that they had been repairing the road.**	**Q5(f)(i) | 2015**	**1 M**
"Are you coming home with me ?" he asked. *(Change to indirect speech)* **Ans: He asked me if I was coming home with him.**	**Q5(f)(i) | 2014**	**1 M**

Too … to / so … that / enough — 8 sentences

He is too ignorant to be a postman. *(Rewrite the sentence omitting 'too' and 'to')* **Ans: He is so ignorant that he cannot be a postman.**	**Q5(d)(iii) | 2025**	**1 M**
Rohan is very ill. His family has given up the hope of his recovery. *(Combine the sentence using 'so.....that')* **Ans: Rohan is so ill that his family has given up the hope of his recovery.**	**Q5(f)(v) | 2024**	**1 M**
He is very intelligent. He can understand the problem. *(Combine the sentences using 'enough')* **Ans: He is intelligent enough to understand the problem.**	**Q5(f)(iv) | 2023**	**1 M**
He is too weak to walk. *(Rewrite using so ... that instead of too ... to)* **Ans: He is so weak that he cannot walk.**	**Q5(f)(i) | 2022**	**1 M**
He is so weak that he cannot play. *(Rewrite using 'too')* **Ans: He is too weak to play.**	**Q6(b) | 2018**	**1 M**
He is very sensible. He will understand it. *(Combine the two sentences using 'too')* **Ans: He is too sensible not to understand it.**	**Q5(d)(v) | 2016**	**1 M**
It is very hot outside. You cannot go out. *(Rewrite using 'so')* **Ans: It is so hot outside that you cannot go out.**	**Q5(f)(iv) | 2015**	**1 M**
He is very clever. He cannot be fooled. *(Combine the two sentences using 'too')* **Ans: He is too clever to be fooled.**	**Q5(f)(iv) | 2014**	**1 M**

Combining with a given connector — 7 sentences

He was obstinate. He was punished. *(Combine into one sentence using 'as')* **Ans: As he was obstinate, he was punished.**	**Q5(d)(i) | 2025**	**1 M**
He has become very frail. He is recovering from an illness. *(Combine the two sentences using 'since')* **Ans: He has become very frail since he is recovering from an illness.**	**Q5(f)(iv) | 2021**	**1 M**
He will be late. It is certain. *(Combine the sentences using 'that')* **Ans: It is certain that he will be late.**	**Q5(f)(i) | 2020**	**1 M**
He was ill. He came to the party. *(Combine using 'despite')* **Ans: Despite being ill, he came to the party.**	**Q6(c) | 2018**	**1 M**
He is a portrait painter. He is very popular among people. *(Combine the two sentences using 'and')* **Ans: He is a portrait painter and is very popular among people.**	**Q5(f)(iv) | 2017**	**1 M**
He was searching for the bat. It was under the bed so he couldn't find it. *(Combine the two sentences using 'therefore')* **Ans: He was searching for the bat, but it was under the bed; therefore, he couldn't find it.**	**Q5(f)(v) | 2017**	**1 M**
He was tired of play. He sat down to rest. *(Combine the two sentences into one)* **Ans: Being tired of play, he sat down to rest.**	**Q5(f)(v) | 2014**	**1 M**

Affirmative / negative / assertive — 6 sentences

He is taller than his brother. *(Change into a Negative sentence without changing the meaning)* **Ans: His brother is not as tall as he is.**	**Q5(f)(iii) | 2023**	**1 M**
There is no tree which is not known by its fruit. *(Change to Positive Sentence)* **Ans: Every tree is known by its fruit.**	**Q5(f)(v) | 2022**	**1 M**
Who can surpass Einstein in intelligence ? *(Change into an assertive sentence)* **Ans: No one can surpass Einstein in intelligence.**	**Q5(f)(iii) | 2021**	**1 M**
He was doubtful if he could walk so far. *(Change it into a 'negative sentence')* **Ans: He was not sure that he could walk so far.**	**Q5(f)(ii) | 2020**	**1 M**
Who could expect that Hari would be so stupid ? *(Change into a negative sentence)* **Ans: No one could expect that Hari would be so stupid.**	**Q6(d) | 2019**	**1 M**
He tried every plan. *(Change to negative)* **Ans: He left no plan untried.**	**Q5(d)(iv) | 2016**	**1 M**

Degree of comparison — 4 sentences

No building in the city is as tall as Ushakiran. *(Rewrite using the Superlative Degree)* **Ans: Ushakiran is the tallest building in the city.**	**Q5(d)(v) | 2025**	**1 M**
Mango is the most delicious fruit. *(Rewrite using the Positive Degree of Comparison)* **Ans: No other fruit is as delicious as mango.**	**Q5(f)(iv) | 2024**	**1 M**
Very few Indian cities are as big as Delhi. *(Rewrite using the Superlative Degree of Comparison)* **Ans: Delhi is one of the biggest cities in India.**	**Q5(f)(ii) | 2023**	**1 M**
Few historians write as interestingly as Joshi. *(Change the degree of comparison)* **Ans: Joshi writes more interestingly than most other historians.**	**Q5(f)(v) | 2021**	**1 M**

Simple / complex sentence — 4 sentences

He remarked on the boy's impudence. *(Change it into a 'complex sentence')* **Ans: He remarked that the boy was impudent.**	**Q5(f)(iv) | 2020**	**1 M**
He will not pay unless he is compelled. *(Change the sentence into a simple sentence)* **Ans: He will not pay without being compelled.**	**Q6(b) | 2019**	**1 M**
She must weep or she will die. *(Change to complex sentence)* **Ans: If she does not weep, she will die.**	**Q6(e) | 2018**	**1 M**
He felt confident to pass his driving test. *(Change into a complex sentence)* **Ans: He felt confident that he would pass his driving test.**	**Q5(f)(iii) | 2015**	**1 M**

Rewrite using a given word — 3 sentences

If you study well, you will pass. *(Rewrite using 'unless')* **Ans: Unless you study well, you will not pass.**	**Q5(f)(ii) | 2022**	**1 M**
I could not finish the project on time. *(Rewrite the sentence using 'able to')* **Ans: I was not able to finish the project on time.**	**Q6(a) | 2019**	**1 M**
My brother is not a doctor. My sister is also not a doctor. *(Change the sentence using 'neither...nor')* **Ans: Neither my brother nor my sister is a doctor.**	**Q5(f)(v) | 2015**	**1 M**

Correct form of the verb — 2 sentences

I _____ (not smoke) since I _____ (leave) school. *(Use the correct form of the verbs)* **Ans: I have not smoked since I left school.**	**Q5(d)(iii) | 2016**	**1 M**
So long as the rain (to continue), I stayed at home. *(Use the correct tense of the verb)* **Ans: So long as the rain continued, I stayed at home.**	**Q5(f)(iii) | 2014**	**1 M**

Question tag — 1 sentence

It is not raining now. *(Add a question tag)* **Ans: It is not raining now, is it?**	**Q5(f)(iii) | 2024**	**1 M**

Word pairs in sentences — 60 pairs

(f) Make one sentence with each of the following words to make the meaning clear : $2\times5=10$

(i) Accede, Exceed

(ii) Ascent, Assent

(iii) Corporal, Corporeal

(iv) Extant, Extent

(v) Feat, Feet

Accede, Exceed **Ans:** The minister agreed to **accede** to the villagers' demand. Expenses should not **exceed** income. *[accede = agree to; exceed = go beyond]*	**Q5(f)(i) | 2025**	**2 M**
Ascent, Assent **Ans:** The **ascent** of Everest took six weeks. The Bill became law after the President's **assent**. *[ascent = climb; assent = approval]*	**Q5(f)(ii) | 2025**	**2 M**
Corporal, Corporeal **Ans: Corporal** punishment is banned in schools. A ghost has no **corporeal** form. *[corporal = of the body (punishment); corporeal = physical, material]*	**Q5(f)(iii) | 2025**	**2 M**
Extant, Extent **Ans:** Few manuscripts of the poet are still **extant**. The **extent** of the flood damage is not yet known. *[extant = still existing; extent = size, degree]*	**Q5(f)(iv) | 2025**	**2 M**
Feat, Feet **Ans:** Climbing the peak alone was a remarkable **feat**. The tree is forty **feet** tall. *[feat = achievement; feet = plural of foot]*	**Q5(f)(v) | 2025**	**2 M**
site, cite **Ans:** The **site** for the new sanctuary has been chosen. Always **cite** your sources. *[site = place; cite = quote as evidence]*	**Q5(d)(i) | 2024**	**2 M**
vantage, vintage **Ans:** From this **vantage** point we could see the whole valley. He collects **vintage** cars. *[vantage = favourable position; vintage = old and of high quality]*	**Q5(d)(ii) | 2024**	**2 M**

callus, callous **Ans:** Years of digging left a **callus** on his palm. It was **callous** of him to ignore the injured man. *[callus = hardened skin; callous = unfeeling]*	**Q5(d)(iii) | 2024**	**2 M**
intimidate, intimate **Ans:** Poachers tried to **intimidate** the forest guard. She shared her plans only with **intimate** friends. *[intimidate = frighten; intimate = close, personal]*	**Q5(d)(iv) | 2024**	**2 M**
bellow, billow **Ans:** The officer began to **bellow** orders. Smoke began to **billow** from the burning forest. *[bellow = shout loudly; billow = swell, roll out]*	**Q5(d)(v) | 2024**	**2 M**
adverse, averse **Ans:** The drought had an **adverse** effect on the crop. He is not **averse** to hard work. *[adverse = harmful; averse = unwilling]*	**Q5(d)(i) | 2023**	**2 M**
amiable, amicable **Ans:** Our new neighbour is an **amiable** man. The two states reached an **amicable** settlement. *[amiable = friendly (person); amicable = peaceful (relations)]*	**Q5(d)(ii) | 2023**	**2 M**
artist, artisan **Ans:** The **artist** painted the tiger reserve at dawn. A skilled **artisan** carved the wooden door. *[artist = fine-arts creator; artisan = skilled craftsman]*	**Q5(d)(iii) | 2023**	**2 M**
credible, creditable **Ans:** The witness gave a **credible** account. Winning bronze was a **creditable** performance. *[credible = believable; creditable = deserving praise]*	**Q5(d)(iv) | 2023**	**2 M**
decease, disease **Ans:** After his **decease**, the estate passed to his son. Malaria is a mosquito-borne **disease**. *[decease = death; disease = illness]*	**Q5(d)(v) | 2023**	**2 M**
Metal, Mettle **Ans:** Copper is a useful **metal**. The rescue team showed its **mettle** during the floods. *[metal = substance; mettle = courage]*	**Q5(b)(i) | 2022**	**2 M**
Troop, Troupe **Ans:** A **troop** of soldiers guarded the bridge. A dance **troupe** performed at the festival. *[troop = group of soldiers/animals; troupe = group of performers]*	**Q5(b)(ii) | 2022**	**2 M**
Yolk, Yoke **Ans:** The **yolk** of an egg is rich in protein. India threw off the **yoke** of colonial rule. *[yolk = yellow of an egg; yoke = burden, bondage]*	**Q5(b)(iii) | 2022**	**2 M**
College, Collage **Ans:** She studies forestry at a **college** in Dehradun. The children made a **collage** of dry leaves. *[college = institution; collage = picture of pasted pieces]*	**Q5(b)(iv) | 2022**	**2 M**
Sole, Soul **Ans:** He was the **sole** survivor of the crash. Music is food for the **soul**. *[sole = only; soul = spirit]*	**Q5(b)(v) | 2022**	**2 M**
affect, effect **Ans:** Pollution can **affect** children's health. The new law had an immediate **effect**. *[affect (v) = influence; effect (n) = result]*	**Q5(b)(i) | 2021**	**2 M**
loose, lose **Ans:** The screw on the gate is **loose**. Do not **lose** heart after one failure. *[loose = not tight; lose = fail to keep]*	**Q5(b)(ii) | 2021**	**2 M**
quiet, quite **Ans:** Please keep **quiet** in the library. Your answer is **quite** correct. *[quiet = silent; quite = completely, fairly]*	**Q5(b)(iii) | 2021**	**2 M**

unqualified, disqualified **Ans:** He is **unqualified** for the post as he lacks a degree. The athlete was **disqualified** for doping. *[unqualified = lacking qualifications; disqualified = declared ineligible]*	**Q5(b)(iv) | 2021**	**2 M**
imitate, intimate **Ans:** Parrots can **imitate** human speech. Please **intimate** your date of joining to the office. *[imitate = copy; intimate (v) = inform formally]*	**Q5(b)(v) | 2021**	**2 M**
Profit, Prophet **Ans:** The firm made a large **profit** this year. A **prophet** is rarely honoured in his own land. *[profit = gain; prophet = messenger of God]*	**Q5(b)(i) | 2020**	**2 M**
Addition, Edition **Ans:** The new hostel is a welcome **addition** to the campus. The latest **edition** of the book is revised. *[addition = something added; edition = version of a publication]*	**Q5(b)(ii) | 2020**	**2 M**
Insight, Incite **Ans:** The report gives an **insight** into tribal life. No one should **incite** violence. *[insight = deep understanding; incite = provoke]*	**Q5(b)(iii) | 2020**	**2 M**
Censor, Sensor **Ans:** The board may **censor** violent scenes. A **sensor** detects smoke in the room. *[censor = suppress content; sensor = detecting device]*	**Q5(b)(iv) | 2020**	**2 M**
Heel, Heal **Ans:** She hurt her **heel** while running. The wound will **heal** in a week. *[heel = back of the foot; heal = become well]*	**Q5(b)(v) | 2020**	**2 M**
Desert; Dessert also asked 2017 **Ans:** Camels can cross the **desert** for days. Ice cream was served as **dessert**. *[desert = dry region; dessert = sweet dish]*	**Q5(b)(i) | 2019**	**2 M**
Current; Currant **Ans:** The swimmer was swept away by the **current**. The cake has **currants** in it. *[current = flow / present; currant = dried grape]*	**Q5(b)(ii) | 2019**	**2 M**
Disinterested; Uninterested **Ans:** A judge must be **disinterested** in the case. He was **uninterested** in politics. *[disinterested = impartial; uninterested = not interested]*	**Q5(b)(iii) | 2019**	**2 M**
Wise; Vice **Ans:** A **wise** man thinks before he speaks. Greed is a **vice**. *[wise = sensible; vice = moral fault]*	**Q5(b)(iv) | 2019**	**2 M**
Perspective; Prospective **Ans:** Travel gives a new **perspective** on life. The **prospective** candidates were interviewed. *[perspective = point of view; prospective = likely, future]*	**Q5(b)(v) | 2019**	**2 M**
Confirm; Conform **Ans:** Please **confirm** your booking. All buildings must **conform** to safety rules. *[confirm = verify; conform = comply]*	**Q5(b)(i) | 2018**	**2 M**
Luxuriant; Luxurious **Ans:** The Western Ghats have **luxuriant** vegetation. They stayed in a **luxurious** hotel. *[luxuriant = growing thickly; luxurious = very comfortable, costly]*	**Q5(b)(ii) | 2018**	**2 M**
Idle; Idol **Ans:** An **idle** mind is the devil's workshop. Sachin is the **idol** of millions. *[idle = inactive; idol = image / admired person]*	**Q5(b)(iii) | 2018**	**2 M**
Devise; Device **Ans:** We must **devise** a plan to save the tiger. A GPS collar is a tracking **device**. *[devise (v) = plan; device (n) = tool]*	**Q5(b)(iv) | 2018**	**2 M**

Defy; Deify **Ans:** Do not **defy** the orders of the court. Some people **deify** film stars. *[defy = disobey openly; deify = treat as a god]*	**Q5(b)(v) | 2018**	**2 M**
Capital; Capitol **Ans:** New Delhi is the **capital** of India. The US Congress meets in the **Capitol**. *[capital = chief city / money; Capitol = US legislative building]*	**Q5(b)(i) | 2017**	**2 M**
Wait; Weight **Ans:** Please **wait** for your turn. The **weight** of the parcel is two kilograms. *[wait = stay for; weight = heaviness]*	**Q5(b)(ii) | 2017**	**2 M**
Sail; Sale **Ans:** The ship will **sail** at dawn. The house is up for **sale**. *[sail = travel by water; sale = act of selling]*	**Q5(b)(iii) | 2017**	**2 M**
Dairy; Diary **Ans:** Milk comes from the village **dairy**. She writes in her **diary** every night. *[dairy = milk farm/shop; diary = daily record]*	**Q5(b)(iv) | 2017**	**2 M**
Dessert; Desert also asked 2019 **Ans:** We had kheer for **dessert**. A true friend will never **desert** you. *[dessert = sweet dish; desert (v) = abandon]*	**Q5(b)(v) | 2017**	**2 M**
Same; Similar **Ans:** We study in the **same** class. Your answer is **similar** to mine. *[same = identical; similar = alike, not identical]*	**Q5(b)(i) | 2016**	**2 M**
Good; Goods **Ans:** Exercise is **good** for health. The **goods** were sent by train. *[good = beneficial; goods = merchandise]*	**Q5(b)(ii) | 2016**	**2 M**
Cease; Seize **Ans:** The two armies agreed to **cease** fire. Forest officials **seized** the illegal timber. *[cease = stop; seize = take by force]*	**Q5(b)(iii) | 2016**	**2 M**
There; Theirs **Ans:** **There** is a tiger in the grass. The house is **theirs**, not ours. *[there = in that place; theirs = belonging to them]*	**Q5(b)(iv) | 2016**	**2 M**
Paint (v); Pant (v) **Ans:** We will **paint** the walls white. Dogs **pant** in hot weather. *[paint = apply colour; pant = breathe quickly]*	**Q5(b)(v) | 2016**	**2 M**
Rest / Wrest **Ans:** Take some **rest** after the long trek. The rebels tried to **wrest** power from the king. *[rest = relax; wrest = take by force]*	**Q5(b)(i) | 2015**	**2 M**
Précis / Precise **Ans:** Write a **précis** of the passage. Give a **precise** answer. *[précis = summary; precise = exact]*	**Q5(b)(ii) | 2015**	**2 M**
Confident / Confidant **Ans:** She is **confident** of success. He is my **confidant** and knows all my secrets. *[confident = sure; confidant = trusted friend]*	**Q5(b)(iii) | 2015**	**2 M**
Glove / Glow **Ans:** He lost one **glove** in the snow. Fireflies **glow** in the dark. *[glove = hand covering; glow = shine softly]*	**Q5(b)(iv) | 2015**	**2 M**
Knotty / Naughty **Ans:** This is a **knotty** problem. The **naughty** boy hid my shoes. *[knotty = complicated; naughty = mischievous]*	**Q5(b)(v) | 2015**	**2 M**

share, sheer **Ans:** The partners will **share** the profit. It was **sheer** luck that we escaped. *[share = divide; sheer = pure, complete]*	**Q5(b)(i) | 2014**	**2 M**
raise, rage **Ans:** The government will **raise** the minimum wage. He flew into a **rage** at the insult. *[raise = lift, increase; rage = violent anger]*	**Q5(b)(ii) | 2014**	**2 M**
fear, fair **Ans:** Children often **fear** the dark. The election was free and **fair**. *[fear = be afraid; fair = just]*	**Q5(b)(iii) | 2014**	**2 M**
cattle, kettle **Ans:** The **cattle** were grazing in the forest. Put the **kettle** on for tea. *[cattle = cows and bulls; kettle = pot for boiling water]*	**Q5(b)(iv) | 2014**	**2 M**
pair, pare **Ans:** I bought a new **pair** of shoes. **Pare** the apple before eating it. *[pair = set of two; pare = peel, trim]*	**Q5(b)(v) | 2014**	**2 M**

Hornbill Tip

- Homophones (sail / sale) and look-alikes (affect / effect) make up most pairs; since 2023 the words are harder (callus / callous, extant / extent).

Congratulations

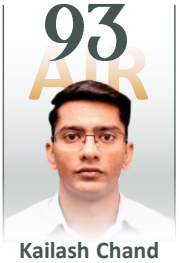
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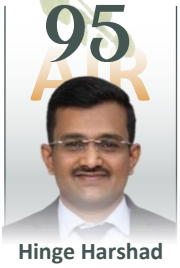
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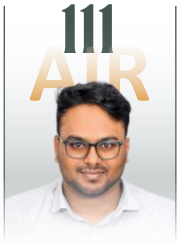
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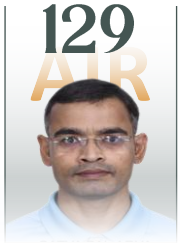
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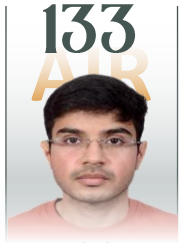
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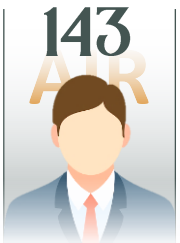
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ABOUT THIS BOOK

This book presents a structured 12-year analysis of UPSC Indian Forest Service (Main) General English question papers from 2014 to 2025. It helps aspirants understand paper structure, recurring themes, writing expectations, grammar focus, and preparation priorities for more effective exam-oriented practice.

KEY HIGHLIGHTS

- 12-year paper analysis (2014–2025)
- Topic-wise coverage and question-pattern mapping
- Trend analysis across previous year questions
- Coverage of Essay, Precis, Comprehension, Grammar, Vocabulary, and Usage
- Useful for revision, pattern understanding, and strategic preparation

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