STHP Free Practice Set – 50 Questions

Sukkur IBA Sindh Talent Hunt Program · English, Mathematics & ICT · with answer key

Please read first

• 50 original MCQs (20 English, 20 Mathematics, 10 ICT) written by MCQsAI on the published STHP topics, in the same proportion as the STHP pattern (English 40, Maths 40, ICT 20).

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• Suggested time: 60 minutes. Answers and short explanations are on the last pages.

Section	Questions
English	20
Mathematics	20
ICT	10
Total	**50**

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English

Q1. Choose the word closest in meaning to "abundant".

A) plentiful
B) scarce
C) costly
D) rare

Q2. Choose the word closest in meaning to "reluctant".

A) certain
B) eager
C) unwilling
D) careful

Q3. Choose the word opposite in meaning to "ancient".

A) old
B) aged
C) historic
D) modern

Q4. She is fond _____ classical music.

A) for
B) at
C) with
D) of

Q5. The train arrives _____ platform number 3.

A) at
B) in
C) on
D) to

Q6. Which part of the sentence is incorrect?
"My brother have a new bicycle."

A) a new
B) My brother
C) have
D) bicycle

Q7. Which part of the sentence is incorrect?
"I have seen him yesterday."

A) have seen
B) yesterday
C) him
D) I

Q8. Which part of the sentence is incorrect?
"She is more taller than her sister."

A) more taller
B) than
C) She is
D) her sister

Q9. The children _____ playing in the garden when it started to rain.

A) were
B) was
C) are
D) have been

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Q10. He has _____ his homework already.
A) finish
B) finished
C) finishing
D) finishes

Q11. If it rains tomorrow, we _____ the picnic.
A) cancel
B) would cancelled
C) will cancel
D) cancelled

Q12. Neither the teacher _____ the students were present.
A) but
B) and
C) nor
D) or

Q13. Not only was he late, _____ he also forgot his book.
A) nor
B) and
C) so
D) but

Q14. She _____ English since 2020.
A) learns
B) learned
C) has been learning
D) is learning

Q15. When I called him, he _____ dinner.
A) will have
B) is having
C) was having
D) has

Q16. Read the passage.

Water seems plentiful, but only a small fraction of the world's water is fresh and available for drinking. In cities, a large amount is wasted through leaking pipes and careless use. Simple habits, such as turning off the tap while brushing teeth and fixing leaks quickly, can save thousands of litres every year. Schools can also help by teaching children to value water from an early age.

What is the main idea of the passage?
A) Water is limited, and small everyday habits can help save it.
B) Fresh water is available everywhere.
C) Cities should stop using water.
D) Schools should close taps.

Q17. Read the passage.

Water seems plentiful, but only a small fraction of the world's water is fresh and available for drinking. In cities, a large amount is wasted through leaking pipes and careless use. Simple habits, such as turning off the tap while brushing teeth and fixing leaks quickly, can save thousands of litres every year. Schools can also help by teaching children to value water from an early age.

According to the passage, much city water is wasted through

A) factories and farms
B) leaking pipes and careless use
C) floods and rain
D) ice and snow

Q18. Read the passage.

Water seems plentiful, but only a small fraction of the world's water is fresh and available for drinking. In cities, a large amount is wasted through leaking pipes and careless use. Simple habits, such as turning off the tap while brushing teeth and fixing leaks quickly, can save thousands of litres every year. Schools can also help by teaching children to value water from an early age.

Which habit does the passage mention?

A) Using more bottled water
B) Turning off the tap while brushing teeth
C) Washing cars daily
D) Filling pools in summer

Q19. Read the passage.

Water seems plentiful, but only a small fraction of the world's water is fresh and available for drinking. In cities, a large amount is wasted through leaking pipes and careless use. Simple habits, such as turning off the tap while brushing teeth and fixing leaks quickly, can save thousands of litres every year. Schools can also help by teaching children to value water from an early age.

The word "plentiful" in the passage means

A) dirty
B) scarce
C) abundant
D) expensive

Q20. Read the passage.

Water seems plentiful, but only a small fraction of the world's water is fresh and available for drinking. In cities, a large amount is wasted through leaking pipes and careless use. Simple habits, such as turning off the tap while brushing teeth and fixing leaks quickly, can save thousands of litres every year. Schools can also help by teaching children to value water from an early age.

What role does the passage suggest for schools?

A) Closing in summer
B) Selling water
C) Teaching children to value water
D) Building new pipes

Mathematics

Q21. Which of the following is an irrational number?
A) 22/7
B) √16
C) 0.25
D) √7

Q22. Simplify √12 + √27.
A) 6√3
B) 5√3
C) 5√6
D) √39

Q23. The LCM of 12, 18 and 30 is
A) 90
B) 540
C) 360
D) 180

Q24. Rationalising the denominator, 1 / (√5 − 2) equals
A) 5 − 2√5
B) √5 + 2
C) 1/3
D) √5 − 2

Q25. The value of $3x^2 - 2x + 1$ when x = 2 is
A) 7
B) 11
C) 13
D) 9

Q26. Factorise $2x^2 + 7x + 3$.
A) (x + 7)(2x + 3)
B) (2x + 1)(x + 3)
C) (2x + 3)(x + 1)
D) (2x − 1)(x − 3)

Q27. $(a + b)^2 - (a - b)^2$ equals
A) 2ab
B) 0
C) 4ab
D) $2a^2 + 2b^2$

Q28. If $x + 1/x = 3$, then $x^2 + 1/x^2$ equals
A) 7
B) 9
C) 11
D) 6

Q29. If a − b = 4 and ab = 5, then $a^2 + b^2$ equals
A) 16
B) 36
C) 26
D) 21

Q30. Solve 5x − 3 = 2x + 9.
A) x = 2
B) x = 6
C) x = 3
D) x = 4

Q31. Solve (x + 1)/2 + (x − 1)/3 = 6.

A) x = 6
B) x = 7
C) x = 8
D) x = 5

Q32. The sum of two numbers is 45 and their difference is 9. The larger number is

A) 27
B) 36
C) 18
D) 24

Q33. The solution of 2x + y = 11 and x − y = 1 is

A) (4, 3)
B) (5, 1)
C) (2, 7)
D) (3, 4)

Q34. Five years ago a father was 4 times as old as his son. Now the sum of their ages is 50. The son's present age is

A) 13 years
B) 15 years
C) 12 years
D) 10 years

Q35. The roots of $x^2 - 5x + 6 = 0$ are

A) −2 and −3
B) 1 and 6
C) −1 and 6
D) 2 and 3

Q36. The sum of the roots of $2x^2 - 8x + 3 = 0$ is

A) −4
B) 4
C) 3/2
D) 8

Q37. If 3 is a root of $x^2 - kx + 12 = 0$, then k equals

A) 9
B) 7
C) 4
D) 12

Q38. The solutions of |x − 2| = 5 are

A) x = 3 or x = 7
B) x = 7 or x = −3
C) x = 7 only
D) x = −7 or x = 3

Q39. The solution of 3x − 4 > 5 is

A) x < 3
B) x > 3
C) x > 9
D) x > 1

Q40. The solution set of −3 < 2x + 1 ≤ 7 is

A) −2 ≤ x < 3
B) −1 < x ≤ 3
C) −4 < x ≤ 6
D) −2 < x ≤ 3

ICT

Q41. One byte is equal to

A) 8 bits
B) 1024 bits
C) 4 bits
D) 16 bits

Q42. Which of the following is volatile memory?

A) RAM
B) ROM
C) DVD
D) Hard disk

Q43. The binary number 1011 equals which decimal number?

A) 9
B) 13
C) 11
D) 10

Q44. Which of the following is an input device?

A) Keyboard
B) Monitor
C) Printer
D) Speaker

Q45. Which of the following is an operating system?

A) Python
B) Excel
C) Google
D) Linux

Q46. The letters "https" at the start of a web address show that the connection is

A) an advertisement
B) offline
C) slower than normal
D) secure (encrypted)

Q47. In a spreadsheet, the cell at the intersection of column B and row 3 is called

A) C2
B) B3
C) 3B
D) B-3

Q48. Which of the following is a web browser?

A) Excel
B) Firefox
C) Windows
D) Linux

Q49. Which of the following is the largest unit of storage?

A) Gigabyte (GB)
B) Kilobyte (KB)
C) Megabyte (MB)
D) Terabyte (TB)

Q50. A computer virus is best described as

A) a free office tool
B) a part of the keyboard
C) a harmful program that can copy itself and damage data
D) a type of printer

Answer Key

Q1: A	Q2: C	Q3: D	Q4: D	Q5: A	Q6: C	Q7: A	Q8: A	Q9: A	Q10: B
Q11: C	Q12: C	Q13: D	Q14: C	Q15: C	Q16: A	Q17: B	Q18: B	Q19: C	Q20: C
Q21: D	Q22: B	Q23: D	Q24: B	Q25: D	Q26: B	Q27: C	Q28: A	Q29: C	Q30: D
Q31: B	Q32: A	Q33: A	Q34: A	Q35: D	Q36: B	Q37: B	Q38: B	Q39: B	Q40: D
Q41: A	Q42: A	Q43: C	Q44: A	Q45: D	Q46: D	Q47: B	Q48: B	Q49: D	Q50: C

Next step

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Explanations

Q1 · A · Synonyms and Antonyms · easy
"Abundant" means existing in large quantities, which is plentiful.

Q2 · C · Synonyms and Antonyms · easy
"Reluctant" means not willing to do something.

Q3 · D · Synonyms and Antonyms · easy
"Ancient" means very old; its opposite is modern.

Q4 · D · Prepositions · easy
The correct phrase is "fond of".

Q5 · A · Prepositions · easy
We say "arrives at" a station or platform.

Q6 · C · Error Detection · easy
A singular subject (my brother) needs "has".

Q7 · A · Error Detection · medium
With the finished time "yesterday" we use the simple past: "I saw him yesterday".

Q8 · A · Error Detection · medium
"Taller" is already a comparative, so "more" must be removed.

Q9 · A · Use of Verbs · easy
A plural subject in the past continuous takes "were".

Q10 · B · Use of Verbs · easy
After "has" we use the past participle: finished.

Q11 · C · Use of Verbs · medium
A real future condition (if + present) takes "will + verb" in the main clause.

Q12 · C · Pair of Words · medium
"Neither" is paired with "nor".

Q13 · D · Pair of Words · hard
"Not only" is paired with "but (also)".

Q14 · C · Tenses · medium
An action that began in the past and continues now, with "since", takes the present perfect continuous.

Q15 · C · Tenses · medium
An action in progress at a past moment takes the past continuous.

Q16 · A · Reading Comprehension · easy
The passage says fresh water is limited and describes habits that save it.

Q17 · B · Reading Comprehension · easy
The passage names leaking pipes and careless use.

Q18 · B · Reading Comprehension · easy
This habit is mentioned directly in the passage.

Q19 · C · Reading Comprehension · medium
"Plentiful" means available in large amounts, which is abundant.

Q20 · C · Reading Comprehension · easy
The last sentence says schools can teach children to value water early.

Q21 · D · Real Number System · easy
$\sqrt{16} = 4$, 0.25 and 22/7 are rational. $\sqrt{7}$ cannot be written as a fraction of integers.

Q22 · B · Real Number System · medium
$\sqrt{12} = 2\sqrt{3}$ and $\sqrt{27} = 3\sqrt{3}$, so the sum is $5\sqrt{3}$.

Q23 · D · Real Number System · medium
$12 = 2^2 \times 3$, $18 = 2 \times 3^2$, $30 = 2 \times 3 \times 5$. The LCM is $2^2 \times 3^2 \times 5 = 180$.

Q24 · B · Real Number System · hard
Multiply top and bottom by $(\sqrt{5} + 2)$: $(\sqrt{5} + 2) \div (5 - 4) = \sqrt{5} + 2$.

Q25 · D · Algebraic Expressions · easy
$3(4) - 4 + 1 = 12 - 4 + 1 = 9$.

Q26 · B · Algebraic Expressions · medium
$(2x + 1)(x + 3) = 2x^2 + 6x + x + 3 = 2x^2 + 7x + 3$.

Q27 · C · Algebraic Expressions · medium
The a^2 and b^2 terms cancel and $2ab - (-2ab) = 4ab$.

Q28 · A · Algebraic Expressions · medium
Square both sides: $x^2 + 2 + 1/x^2 = 9$, so $x^2 + 1/x^2 = 7$.

Q29 · C · Algebraic Expressions · hard
$a^2 + b^2 = (a - b)^2 + 2ab = 16 + 10 = 26$.

Q30 · D · Linear Equations · easy
$3x = 12$, so $x = 4$.

Q31 · B · Linear Equations · medium
Multiply by 6: $3(x + 1) + 2(x - 1) = 36$, so $5x + 1 = 36$ and $x = 7$.

Q32 · A · Linear Equations · medium
The larger number = $(45 + 9) \div 2 = 27$.

Q33 · A · Linear Equations · medium
Adding the equations: $3x = 12$, so $x = 4$ and $y = 3$.

Q34 · A · Linear Equations · hard
Let the son be s now. Then $(50 - s) - 5 = 4(s - 5)$, so $5s = 65$ and $s = 13$.

Q35 · D · Quadratic Equations · easy
$(x - 2)(x - 3) = 0$.

Q36 · B · Quadratic Equations · medium
Sum of roots $= -b/a = 8/2 = 4$.

Q37 · B · Quadratic Equations · hard
Put $x = 3$: $9 - 3k + 12 = 0$, so $k = 7$.

Q38 · B · Absolute Value and Inequalities · medium
$x - 2 = 5$ gives $x = 7$, and $x - 2 = -5$ gives $x = -3$.

Q39 · B · Absolute Value and Inequalities · medium
$3x > 9$, so $x > 3$.

Q40 · D · Absolute Value and Inequalities · hard
Subtract 1: $-4 < 2x \leq 6$. Divide by 2: $-2 < x \leq 3$.

Q41 · A · Computer Fundamentals · easy
By definition, 1 byte = 8 bits.

Q42 · A · Computer Fundamentals · easy
RAM loses its contents when power is switched off.

Q43 · C · Number Systems · medium
$1011 = 8 + 0 + 2 + 1 = 11$.

Q44 · A · Hardware · easy
A keyboard sends data into the computer; the others give output.

Q45 · D · Software · easy
Linux is an operating system. Excel is an application, Google is a search service and Python is a programming language.

Q46 · D · Internet · medium
HTTPS means HTTP with encryption (TLS), so data is sent securely.

Q47 · B · Office Applications · medium
Cells are named by column letter then row number.

Q48 · B · Internet · easy
Firefox is a browser. Windows and Linux are operating systems; Excel is a spreadsheet program.

Q49 · D · Computer Fundamentals · medium
1 TB = 1024 GB, so it is the largest of these units.

Q50 · C · Security · medium
A virus is malicious software that spreads and can damage files or slow the system.