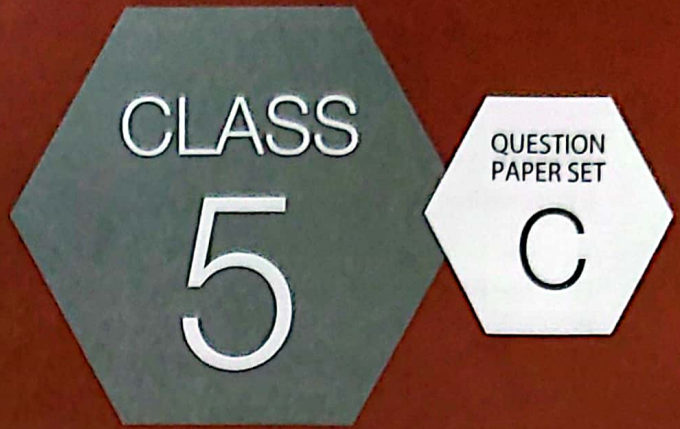


SOF INTERNATIONAL ENGLISH OLYMPIAD 2023-24



DO NOT OPEN THIS BOOKLET UNTIL ASKED TO DO SO

Total Questions: 50 | Time: 1 hr.

Guidelines for the Candidate

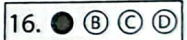
- You will get additional ten minutes to fill up information about yourself on the OMR Sheet, before the start of the exam.
- Write your **Name, School Code, Class, Section, Roll No.** and **Mobile Number** clearly on the **OMR Sheet** and do not forget to sign it. We will share your marks / result and other information related to SOF exams on your mobile number.
- The Question Paper comprises four sections:
Word and Structure Knowledge (30 Questions), **Reading** (10 Questions), **Spoken and Written Expression** (5 Questions) and **Achievers Section** (5 Questions).
 Each question in Achievers Section carries 3 marks, whereas all other questions carry one mark each.
- All questions are compulsory. There is no negative marking.
- There is only ONE correct answer. Choose only ONE option for an answer.
- To mark your choice of answers by darkening the circles on the OMR Sheet, use **HB Pencil** or **Blue / Black ball point pen** only. E.g.

Q.16: Fill in the blank.

Please teach my dog _____ a ball.

- A.** to fetch **B.** learn **C.** show **D.** to learn

As the correct answer is option A, you must darken the circle corresponding to option A on the OMR Sheet.



- Return the OMR Sheet to the invigilator at the end of the exam.
- Please fill in your personal details in the space provided before attempting the paper.

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WORD AND STRUCTURE KNOWLEDGE

FOR QUESTIONS 1 TO 18, CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION TO FILL IN THE BLANK.

1. Rishab was feeling nervous _____ his results.
A. on
B. about
C. with
D. off

2. There is one error in _____ each line, which is underlined.
A. a
B. an
C. the
D. no article

3. This company treats _____ staff like family.
A. their
B. his
C. its
D. your

4. The boy _____ off the wrapper to open his birthday present.
A. rip
B. ripping
C. ripped
D. is ripped

5. Take your chance, but this is a _____ risky venture.
A. some
B. rather
C. just
D. hardly

6. Property prices in this area have _____ through the roof.
A. shoot
B. shot
C. shoots
D. shotting

7. The whole project is a mess. _____, Jatin is very positive about making it work.
A. However
B. Because
C. As
D. In spite of

8. You haven't met my sister, _____?
A. are you
B. haven't you
C. have you
D. is she

9. Rohan is _____ that he is not to be blamed for the blunder.
A. insistent
B. urgent
C. evident
D. persist

10. Sarita is _____ animal lover; she loves cats and dogs especially.
A. a
B. an
C. the
D. no article

11. _____ you understand reflects your knowledge.
A. Which
B. Why
C. Whose
D. What

12. The results of the debate competition are still _____.
A. pending
B. pretending
C. pausing
D. persuading

13. My mother refused to let me go out and play _____ I finished my homework.

- A. yet
- B. and
- C. while
- D. until

14. The purpose _____ the meeting is to discuss about the preparations of annual function.

- A. on
- B. of
- C. off
- D. at

15. "Soma, please take this file to the principal's office," her teacher said.

Soma's teacher _____ to the principal's office.

- A. told her to take this file
- B. asked her to take that file
- C. said to her to take that file
- D. said that please take this file

16. _____ you mind buying some milk on the way home?

- A. Would
- B. Can
- C. Have
- D. Could

17. Mrs Shah and her children _____ practising yoga.

- A. were
- B. was
- C. is
- D. have

18. Saima promised _____ to make the same mistake again.

- A. randomly
- B. never
- C. always
- D. often

FOR QUESTIONS 19 TO 21, CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION FOR THE UNDERLINED WORD.

19. Each of my siblings will get a new outfit.

- A. Personal pronoun
- B. Demonstrative pronoun
- C. Distributive pronoun
- D. Relative pronoun

20. My grandmother was yawning.

- A. Transitive verb
- B. Gerund
- C. Auxiliary verb
- D. Intransitive verb

21. Yesterday, I took my dog to the vet for a routine checkup.

- A. Noun
- B. Pronoun
- C. Adverb
- D. Adjective

FOR QUESTIONS 22 TO 24, CHOOSE THE PART OF THE SENTENCE THAT HAS AN ERROR.

22. There was the boy in Sumit's class named Saurav.

- A. There was
- B. the boy
- C. in Sumit's class
- D. named Saurav.

23. My mother was appalling when she heard this.

- A. My mother was
- B. appalling when
- C. she heard this.
- D. No error

24. Krish bullied other students beside Nitin.

- A. Krish bullied
- B. other students
- C. beside Nitin.
- D. No error

FOR QUESTIONS 25 AND 26, CHOOSE THE OPTION WITH CORRECT SPELLING.

25. What is the spelling of the word which means 'unhappy'?

- A. Crestfallen
- B. Creastfelen
- C. Crustfallen
- D. Crestfalen

26. What is the spelling of the word which means 'charm'?

- A. Bigiule
- B. Begiulle
- C. Beguile
- D. Biguile

FOR QUESTIONS 27 AND 28, CHOOSE THE CORRECT SYNONYM OF THE GIVEN WORD.

27. Acquit

- A. Accuse
- B. Excuse
- C. Convict
- D. Charge

28. Malicious

- A. Moral
- B. Decent
- C. Nasty
- D. Thoughtful

FOR QUESTIONS 29 AND 30, CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANTONYM OF THE GIVEN WORD.

29. Auspicious

- A. Ominous
- B. Hopeful
- C. Bright
- D. Favourable

30. Presumption

- A. Premise
- B. Reality
- C. Opinion
- D. Reason

READING

FOR QUESTIONS 31 TO 35, READ THE PASSAGE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW.

A bird is a feathered animal. The covering of feathers is the only characteristic common to all birds and not possessed by any other creature. The other characters—the bill, the wings, egg-laying, etc.—by which we usually distinguish birds from animals of other kinds are not exclusive bird characters. Turtles have beaks, and there is one species of mammal which has a bill like that of a duck. Many insects and one species of mammal (the bat) fly. Insects, fishes, and reptiles lay eggs, and there are several rare species of mammals that lay eggs and incubate them.

On the other hand, some birds are deficient in one or more of the typical bird characters.

The ostrich cannot fly. The penguin can neither fly nor run, and cannot even walk well. The cuckoo lays its eggs in the nests of other birds, leaving to them the hatching and rearing of its young. These exceptional cases are very interesting. The characters which typically belong to birds attain their highest development in them.

In most cases, this is due to peculiar adaptable features of their feathers.

While placing birds below mammals in a simple classification of animals, naturalists note that birds are the most distinct class in the animal kingdom. When we compare birds and the lower mammals, and the relations of each class to man we see at once that nothing else could take the place of birds either in nature or in civilisation. Among birds are found the

highest developments of animal locomotion and of the natural voice. Birds also have the capacity for language far beyond that of other creatures (except man) and family and community relations resembling those of the human race.

In the history of the world, mammals have been more useful to man than birds. But birds have given him some of his best ideas. With the advance of civilisation the lower mammals became less necessary and birds more necessary to him. It has been said that "on the earth and on the sea, man has attained the powers of locomotion with which, in strength, endurance, and velocity, no animal movement can compare. But the air is an element on which he cannot travel, an ocean which he cannot navigate. The birds of heaven are still his envy, and on the paths they tread he cannot follow." Since that was written practical flying machines have been invented. But in these, as in boats and ships, man has merely devised a machine which under his control can do labouriously and at great risk what the bird does naturally and easily. To birds man is indebted for his first lessons in navigating the water as well as for his ideas about airships.

31. Which of the following physical characteristics of a bird does a turtle possess?
- A. A turtle is a reptile, just like a bird.
 - B. A turtle is a mammal that has a bill, just like a bird.
 - C. A turtle has a beak, just like a bird.
 - D. A turtle can fly and travel long distances in the air, just like a bird.
-
32. Which of the following is an exceptional case of a bird?
- A. Ostriches can fly at speeds of 50 km per hour, faster than most of the birds.
 - B. Cuckoos lay their eggs in the nests of other birds, leaving to them the hatching and rearing of their young ones.

- C. Penguins can run and walk but cannot fly like other birds.
- D. None of these

33. Why do naturalists think birds are the most distinct class in the animal kingdom?
- A. Because birds have much greater linguistic abilities than any other animal (except humans) and have familial and social structures similar to those of the human race.
 - B. Because birds can run, hop, fly, swim, think, etc., these qualities make them the superiors of the animal kingdom. They are loyal creatures as well.
 - C. Because birds are the fiercest creatures and are more violent than most of the animals in the animal kingdom. They are not only violent but also considered anti-social creatures.
 - D. Because birds can communicate and understand every other creature's vocalisation except within themselves.
-
34. Choose the statement which is incorrect based on the passage.
- A. The covering of feathers is the only characteristic common to all birds and not possessed by any other creature.
 - B. A man is indebted to no one for his first lessons in navigating the water as well as for his ideas about airships.
 - C. Insects, fishes, reptiles, and several other species of mammals lay eggs like birds.
 - D. In the history of the world, mammals have been more useful to man than birds. But birds have given him some of his best ideas.
-
35. In the passage, the word 'incubate' means _____.
- A. to become hostile towards everyone
 - B. to keep something safe and warm
 - C. to not care about anything
 - D. to be unable to act in a relaxed manner

FOR QUESTIONS 36 TO 40, READ THE PASSAGE AND ANSWER THE QUESTIONS THAT FOLLOW.

Sudoku is an addictive number puzzle that has taken the UK by storm and is now taking over the rest of the world. Since it first appeared in The Times in late 2004, its popularity has grown so much that it appears in most UK newspapers and has spread to countries from India to Canada, from Australia to South Africa.

So, what is Sudoku all about? Sudoku is played on a nine-by-nine grid, which is divided into nine smaller squares. The object of the puzzle is to fill in the digits from 1 to 9 so that they appear only once in each column, row, small three-by-three square. You are given some of the numbers, and you have to use logic and deduction to find the position of the other numbers.

Simple? Well, it depends! A Sudoku puzzle can vary from easy to absolutely fiendish. Certainly, the more numbers you are given to start off with, the easier the puzzle, but it also depends on which ones the puzzle setter offers. Traditionally, there should be no more than 30 numbers given.

Sudoku first appeared in a US puzzle magazine in the late 1970s but was then picked up by Japanese publisher Nikoli, who dubbed it Su Doku, or 'Solitary Square', and the puzzle-hungry Japanese loved it. From there, it was discovered by The Times, and the rest is history.

Sudoku is solved simply by logic; there is no maths required. You may at first be able to fill in a couple of numbers where they appear in every column and row. Next, you may need to mark up possible candidates in the empty squares until only one possibility remains. Like so many puzzles, there will be times when you stare hopelessly and others where the answers jump out at you.

The sudden popularity of Sudoku may be due to many things. It requires just

enough brainwork to give a feeling of satisfaction when the puzzle is complete without taking up huge amounts of time, and it requires no special knowledge, unlike for instance, crosswords, which may require a wide vocabulary.

For hardcore Sudoku fans, there are now even more difficult versions. There are sixteen-by-sixteen square versions, which include letters as well as numbers, and a three-dimensional version called the Dion Cube.

There are benefits of doing Sudoku puzzles too; the sort of exercise that the brain gets from logic puzzles can help to stop memory decline, make you smarter, and even halt the progress of Alzheimer's disease. Teachers are even giving simple versions of the puzzles to pupils to help develop their logic skills. So next time you see one of those nine-by-nine grids in your newspaper, give it a try. Your brain might just thank you!

36. Choose a suitable title for the given passage.
- A. Sudoku: A Game of Logic
 - B. How to Play Sudoku
 - C. Defeating Sudoku Critics
 - D. Sudoku: A Game that Changed the Schools
-
37. What is the antonym of the word 'fiendish'?
- A. Evil
 - B. Nefarious
 - C. Benign
 - D. Brutal
-
38. What is the one point to remember to solve a sudoku puzzle?
- A. Fill all nine-by-nine grid with all possible numbers in order.
 - B. A number can only appear once in every row and column.
 - C. A number can be used twice in a row and column.
 - D. No more than four numbers can be entered in a single row.

39. Choose the statement which is correct based on the passage.

- A. Sudoku requires special knowledge like crosswords, which may require a wide vocabulary.
- B. You may need to mark up possible candidates in all the squares until only one possibility remains.
- C. The more numbers you are given to start off with, the easier the puzzle.
- D. There are sixteen-by-sixteen square versions which include only letters.

40. What is the objective of playing a sudoku puzzle?

- A. To fill all the boxes with numbers from one to nine in any order.
- B. To fill in the digits from 1 to 9 so that it appears only once in each column, row and small three-by-three square.
- C. To ensure all the boxes are filled with any number, in no sequence from one to nine.
- D. To create a mix of numbers in any order, but the total must be 50.

SPOKEN AND WRITTEN EXPRESSION

FOR QUESTIONS 41 TO 45, CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION TO COMPLETE EACH CONVERSATION.

41. Teacher : Jatin, this is not coming together. I believe you should go back to the _____ board.

- A. science
- B. technology
- C. drawing
- D. net

42. Riya : Meesha is really enjoying her London work trip.

Neetu : True, she is having best of both _____.

- A. words
- B. worlds
- C. universes
- D. cities

43. Ketan : Why is Sunny suspended?

Gaurav : His conduct is bad and his honesty is not _____ suspicion.

- A. under
- B. above
- C. in
- D. for

44. Ramesh : Sudhir sold his only property because he was under a lot of _____.

- A. loan
- B. credit
- C. account
- D. debt

45. Ishaan : Why is Mohit looking so confused?
Praveen : I guess he is still trying to _____ the joke.

- A. figure up
- B. figure out
- C. figure off
- D. figuring out

ACHIEVERS SECTION

FOR QUESTIONS 46 AND 47, CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION TO FILL IN THE BLANK.

46. My father is a pilot. He loves being a part of _____ industry.

- A. aerial
- B. flight
- C. aviation
- D. aero

47. The tiger is a skilled _____ that patiently stalks and waits before attacking its prey.

- A. hunter
- B. poacher
- C. omnivorous
- D. predator

48. CHOOSE THE CORRECT SYNONYM OF THE GIVEN WORD.

Sagacious

- A. Naive
- B. Judicious
- C. Dense
- D. Ignorant

49. CHOOSE THE CORRECT ANTONYM OF THE GIVEN WORD.

Obsolete

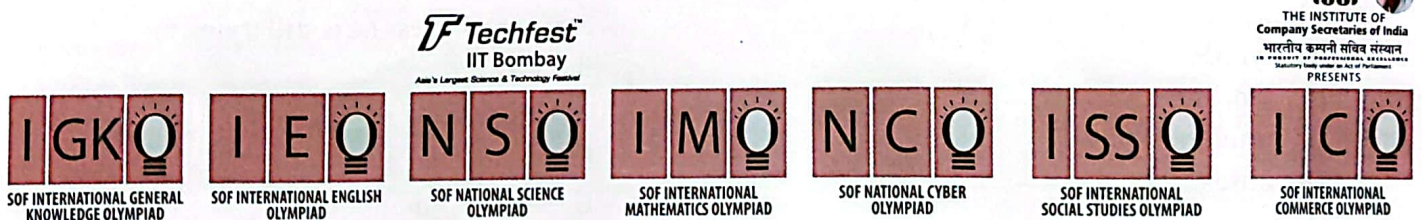
- A. Bygone
- B. Moldy
- C. Antique
- D. Contemporary

50. CHOOSE THE CORRECT OPTION TO COMPLETE THE CONVERSATION.

Karishma : Rachita needs to know everything.

She is such an eager _____.

- A. tiger
- B. beaver
- C. panther
- D. squirrel



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