

## GRE practice paper

### Gre verbal

#### Text completion

Directions: For each blank select one entry from the corresponding column of choices. Fill all blanks in the way that best completes the text.

#### Question 1

Carey and Skylar's constant bickering dismayed their mother, who had grown weary of their \_\_\_\_\_.

squabbles
laudations
affectations
procrastinations
humour

#### Question 2

The Mayor was so \_\_\_\_\_ by the long trial that, despite his eventual acquittal, he admitted his failing health and declined to run for reelection.

distraught
exonerated
inspired
debilitated
vindicated

#### Question 3

Despite her hearing loss and \_\_\_\_\_(i)\_\_\_\_\_ painful arthritis, Maj was a pleasant and surprisingly \_\_\_\_\_(ii)\_\_\_\_\_ dog.

Blank(i)	Blank(ii)
mildly	enervated

chronically	agile
sympathetically	acute

Question 4

While any bird egg will suffice for the tradition of egg decorating, those with \_\_\_\_\_ shells are preferred, so as to prevent breaking when their contents are hollowed.

tenuous
pristine
resilient
obtuse

Question 5

Hand-cu4ng the two \_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_ men stopped the \_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_ violence, but did nothing to cease the volley of \_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_ they continued to yell at each other.

Blank(i)	Blank(ii)	Blank(iii)
prevaricating	corporeal	epithets
moiling	rhetorical	blows
belligerent	histrionic	projectiles

Question 6

Though she willingly admitted that the \_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_ town was scenically beautiful, Christine could not help but feel it was \_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_ backwater compared to her previous home in the city.

Blank(i)	Blank(ii)
sprawling	A cultural
desolate	An attractive
bucolic	A picaresque

Question 7

The Roman Empire's military and political \_\_\_\_\_ was often challenged by the smaller but ambitious Persians, who for centuries fought wars intended to usurp Rome's dominion.

heterodoxy
methodology
hegemony
impotence
timorousness

Question 8

The chairman's \_\_\_\_\_(i)\_\_\_\_\_ comments about the environmental disaster caused people to grow even angrier at the company, \_\_\_\_\_(ii)\_\_\_\_\_ a situation that was already \_\_\_\_\_(iii)\_\_\_\_\_.

Blank(i)	Blank(ii)	Blank(iii)
compassionate	edifying	parious
glib	exacerbating	inured
solicitous	mollifying	complaint

Question 9

Allowing distinguished figures to \_\_\_\_\_(i)\_\_\_\_\_ on their experiences, lives and wisdom learned, the memoir genre has given us such significant works as Ulysses S. Grant's Personal Memoirs, an interesting, well-written account of his days as a general and a president. At the opposite end of the spectrum, the genre also provides an outlet for anyone who wants to share any \_\_\_\_\_(ii)\_\_\_\_\_ experience, as evidenced by the \_\_\_\_\_(iii)\_\_\_\_\_ release of a fly-by-night internet celebrity's memoir next month.

Blank(i)	Blank(ii)	Blank(iii)
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extemporize	apocryphal	laudable
expatiate	petty	laughable
exagitate	eccentric	impending

Question 10

Although Father's Day, first celebrated in 1908, is now an honored tradition in the United States, it did not always enjoy such \_\_\_\_\_(i)\_\_\_\_\_; rather, unofficial \_\_\_\_\_(ii)\_\_\_\_\_ from prominent figures such as Woodrow Wilson and William Jennings Bryan were required before Americans embraced the holiday.

Blank(i)	Blank(ii)
decorum	opprobrium
ennui	accolades
esteem	hyperbole

Question 11

Some conservative theologians subscribe to the belief of Biblical \_\_\_\_\_(i)\_\_\_\_\_ as far as the Scripture never being wrong when it comes to revealing God, his vision, and his news to humanity. However, other literalist Christians believe the \_\_\_\_\_(ii)\_\_\_\_\_ refers to the Bible being without error in every way, including matters of chronology, history, biology, sociology, politics, et cetera.

Blank(i)	Blank(ii)
inerrancy	centurion
fallacy	erudition
interpretation	doctrine

Question 12

When he was alive, the magnate was described as arrogant, bitterly critical, and \_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_. Nevertheless, the speaker, who was often the victim of his legendary \_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_, was able to find \_\_\_\_ (iii) \_\_\_\_\_ things to say about him.

Blank(i)	Blank(ii)	Blank(iii)
efficacious	diatribes	magnanimous
bellicose	encominus	Imperious
chastened	eulogies	vindictive

Question 13

When the mother \_\_\_\_ (i) \_\_\_\_\_ the disruptive child, she did not expect his siblings to encourage malevolent behavior; rather, she anticipated that the children would mock and \_\_\_\_ (ii) \_\_\_\_\_ their troublesome brother and through this punishment, he would refrain from harassing others.

Blank(i)	Blank(ii)
touted	deride
calumniated	laud
pilloried	renege

Question 14

Many city-dwellers have a \_\_\_\_\_ of knowledge about their food sources: indeed, a number of people have never even seen a live chicken or cow.

pith
dross
surfelt
dirge
dearth

Question 15

Most fans dismissed the press release detailing the comedian's ill health as a hoax, as she had frequently \_\_\_\_\_ her audience by feigning a physical ailment as part of her stage routine.

reconnoitered
hoodwinked
lambasted
vitiated
derided

Sentence Equivalence

1. Joseph truly wanted to serve in the position no one else wanted; his enthusiasm was \_\_\_\_\_.

- A sincere
- B negated
- C convoluted
- D unfeigned
- E contagious
- F counterfeit

2. Annabelle, to whom praise was paramount, did not care so much about earning good grades in school for the knowledge; it was the \_\_\_\_\_ that she craved.

- A eloquence
- B approbation
- C ennui
- D censure
- E sanction
- F hilarity

3. The orchestral performance's musical selections were \_\_\_\_\_ ; they included classical, folk, and rock compositions.

- A malleable
- B bucolic
- C diverse
- D exacerbated
- E eclectic
- F caustic

4. As the day wore on with little progress in evidence, Jenny's energy began to \_\_\_\_\_.

- A mitigate
- B wane
- C flag
- D proliferate
- E dissemble
- F mollify

5. The formidable social worker was \_\_\_\_\_ to the frequent fulminations of her clients.

- A rarified
- B case-hardened
- C enervated
- D inured
- E refulgent
- F contrite

6. When a caterpillar undergoes metamorphosis, its \_\_\_\_\_ chrysalis belies the enormity of the changes within.

- A tranquil
- B volatile
- C august
- D quiescent
- E contiguous
- F intransigent

7. Although one might reasonably compare the roots of two criminals' antisocial behavior, the causes are often found to be entirely \_\_\_\_\_.

- A desperate
- B disparate
- C dispirited
- D dissimilar
- E despondent
- F despot

8. The student's answer on the opinion essay test was brilliant but \_\_\_\_\_; the professor was taken aback by its candor and artlessness.

- A anomalous
- B ingenious
- C discordant
- D fastidious
- E guileless
- F ingenuous

9. After a month of survival training in the wilderness, the Boy Scouts became quite \_\_\_\_\_.

- A lucid
- B alert
- C putrefied
- D perspicacious
- E odious
- F pedantic

10. My quotidian challenge is to avoid a \_\_\_\_\_ attitude; it leads to a soporific lifestyle.

- A quixotic
- B vacillating
- C phlegmatic
- D iconoclastic
- E hedonistic

## Reading comprehension

### Reading Passage 1:

Since the late nineteenth century, fingerprint identification methods have been used by police agencies around the world to identify suspected criminals as well as the victims of crime. The basis of the traditional fingerprinting technique is simple. The skin on the palmar surface of the hands and feet forms ridges, so-called papillary ridges, in patterns that are unique to each individual and which do not change over time. Even identical twins (who share their DNA) do not have identical fingerprints. The best way to render latent fingerprints visible, so that they can be photographed, can be complex and may depend, for example, on the type of surfaces on which they have been left. It is generally necessary to use a 'developer', usually a powder or chemical reagent, to produce a high degree of visual contrast between the ridge patterns and the surface on which a fingerprint has been deposited. Developing agents depend on the presence of organic materials or inorganic salts for their effectiveness, although the water deposited may also take a key role. Fingerprints are typically formed from the aqueous-based secretions of the eccrine glands of the fingers and palms with additional material from sebaceous glands primarily from the forehead. This latter contamination results from the common human behaviors of touching the face and hair. The resulting latent fingerprints consist usually of a substantial proportion of water with small traces of amino acids and chlorides mixed with a fatty, sebaceous component that contains a number of fatty acids and triglycerides. Detection of a small proportion of reactive organic substances such as urea and amino acids is far from easy. Fingerprints at a crime scene may be detected by simple powders, or by chemicals applied in situ. More complex techniques, usually involving chemicals, can be applied in specialist laboratories to appropriate articles removed from a crime scene. With advances in these more



sophisticated techniques, some of the more advanced crime scene investigation services from around the world were, as of 2010, reporting that 50% or more of the fingerprints recovered from a crime scene had been identified as a result of laboratory-based techniques.

1. Which of the following is the best title for this passage?

- A In Situ Powder Use in Crime Scene Investigations
- B How to Identify a Criminal
- C Amino Acids in Fingerprint Detection
- D Fingerprint Composition and Detection E Uses of Papillary Ridge Secretions

2. According to the article, amino acids and chlorides in fingerprints originate from the

- I sebaceous glands
- II eccrine glands
- III papillary ridges

- A I only
- B II only
- C III only
- D I and II only
- E none of the above

3. According to the passage, powders to detect fingerprints are most likely to be used

- A instead of reactive organic substances
- B at the crime scene
- C in laboratories
- D to detect triglycerides
- E as one of the more sophisticated techniques

4. According to the passage, all of the following are true EXCEPT

- A fingerprints identify the victims of crime
- B fingerprint patterns may become distorted by sebaceous contamination
- C identical twins have different fingerprints
- D investigators want to make fingerprints visible so they can be photographed
- E touching the face and hair contaminates eccrine gland secretions

### **Reading Passage 2:**

The following is an excerpt of a letter written by one fictional literary character to another: "Two offenses of a very different nature, and by no means of equal magnitude, you last night laid to my charge. The first mentioned was that, regardless of the sentiments of either, I had detached Mr. Bingley from your sister, and the other, that I had, in defiance of various claims, in defiance of honour and humanity, ruined the immediate prosperity and blasted the prospects of Mr. Wickham. Wilfully and wantonly to have thrown off the companion of my youth, the

acknowledged favourite of my father, a young man who had scarcely any other dependence than on our patronage, and who had been brought up to expect its exertion, would be a depravity, to which the separation of two young persons, whose affection could be the growth of only a few weeks, could bear no comparison. But from the severity of that blame which was last night so liberally bestowed, respecting each circumstance, I shall hope to be in the future secured, when the following account of my actions and their motives has been read. If, in the explanation of them, which is due to myself, I am under the necessity of relating feelings which may be offensive to yours, I can only say that I am sorry. The necessity must be obeyed, and further apology would be absurd."

5. According to the writer of the letter, which offense would be considered the worst?

- A obeying necessity
- B separating Mr. Bingley from the letter reader's sister
- C continuing dependency through patronage
- D relating feelings that may be offensive to the letter reader
- E ruining Mr. Wickham's prospects are only

6. Which of the following characters are the "young persons" mentioned?

- A Mr. Wickham and the letter reader's sister
- B the letter writer and the letter reader
- C Mr. Bingley and the letter reader
- D the father's favourite and the letter reader
- E the letter reader's sister and Mr. Bingley

7. Near the end of the passage, the phrase "secured" is used to mean

- A tightly fastened
- B safe from being charged
- C captured or confined
- D accomplished
- E guaranteed

8. The letter writer's purpose in presenting his comments is

- I to defend his actions against the letter reader's accusations of wrongdoing
- II to apologize for offending the letter reader's feelings with his explanation
- III to satisfy himself in retrospect that his actions were appropriate

- A I only
- B II only
- C III only
- D I and II only
- E I, II, and III only

## Quantitative reasoning

For each question, indicate the best answer, using the directions given. Question 1-13 have several different format- multiple choice questions and numeric entry questions. Unless directed select a single answer choice

1. The area of the space bounded by the x and y axes and between the lines described by the equations  $y = -2x + 10$  and  $y = -2x + 2$ , in square units, is

- A 1
- B 4
- C 10
- D 24
- E 25

2.  $12r^2 - 51r + 45 =$

- A  $3(4r - 5)(r + 3)$
- B  $3(4r + 5)(r - 3)$
- C  $3(4r + 3)(r - 5)$
- D  $3(4r - 5)(r - 3)$
- E  $3r^2 - 15$

3. If the number of seconds in d days equals the number of minutes in 8 weeks, then d =

- A 60
- B 56
- C 7
- D  $\frac{2}{3}$
- E  $\frac{14}{15}$

4. If  $y = \frac{29}{31}$  and  $x = 43$ , then  $(y^0 \cdot y^1 \cdot y^2 \cdot x)/xy^3 =$

- A 0
- B 1
- C x
- D  $\frac{1}{y}$
- E  $\frac{29}{31}$

5. If  $x^2 - 4x = 45$ , then x =

- I 9
- II 8
- III -5
- A I only
- B II only
- C III only
- D II or III only

E I or III only

6. If  $y$  is a positive integer, and  $x = y(5)(6)(7)(8)$ , then  $x$  is evenly divisible by

I 12

II 25

III 15

A I only

B II only

C II and III only

D I and III only

E I, II, and III

7. For what value of  $x$  is it true that  $0.2x = 3.3 - 0.5y$  and  $0.6y = 0.2x + 2.2$ ?

A 0.4

B 0.5

C 4

D 5

E 20

8. A triangle ABC drawn on the coordinate plane has one side determined by points  $A = (1,3)$  and  $B = (5,6)$ . The slope of the line BC is  $-3$ , while the slope of the line AC = 0. The coordinates of point C are

A (4,6)

B (1,18)

C (3,7)

D (6,3)

E (1,6)

9. The product of the greatest prime factor of 88 and the smallest prime factor of 117 is

A 6

B 33

C 99

D 104

E 858

10. 30 liters of a solution of water and acid contains 15% acid. If more water is added to change the solution to 5% acid, which of the following represents the number of liters of water in the final solution?

A 30

B 57

C 60

D 85.5

E 90

11. Anna bought a collectible statuette at an auction for 40% above the starting bid of \$200. Then an appraiser told her that it was worth 15% less than she had paid. The statuette is worth

- A \$42
- B \$238
- C \$250
- D \$265
- E \$330

12. Point A on the coordinate plane is 24 units from point B and 48 units from point C. Set N = {all possible distances from B to C}. The range of set N =

- A 12
- B 24
- C 32
- D 48
- E 72

13. In a certain geometric sequence, the first five terms are m, n, o, p, and q. If  $m = \frac{1}{2}$  and o = 18, the fifth term in the series is

- A 6
- B 9
- C 18
- D 108
- E 648

Direction: For each of question, 14-30, compare column A and Column B and select one of the following 4 answer choices of the question. The quantity in Column A is greater.

14. A restaurant serves 16 different items; the lunch "custom meal" offer includes the diner's choice of any 3 different dishes. How many different meals can be created?

Column A  $16 \times 15 \times 14$

Column B  $16!/13!$

- A The quantity in Column A is greater.
- B The quantity in Column B is greater.
- C The two quantities are equal.
- D The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

15. A right triangle ABC has hypotenuse 20 and base 16.

Column A: The area of triangle ABC

Column B: Two times the perimeter of triangle ABC

- A The quantity in Column A is greater.
- B The quantity in Column B is greater.
- C The two quantities are equal.
- D The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

16. Peter left home and drove toward the family vacation house at an average speed of 40 km/hour. Sophia left home some time later and, driving at 48 km/hr for five hours, caught up with Peter. At that time Peter had been driving for  $h$  hours.

Column A 336 km

Column B The distance Sophia could drive in  $h$  hours at her current speed

- A The quantity in Column A is greater.
- B The quantity in Column B is greater.
- C The two quantities are equal.
- D The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

17. The number  $n$  is an integer,  $7^n < 3000$ , and  $5^n > 600$ .

Column A: 5

Column B:  $n$

- A The quantity in Column A is greater.
- B The quantity in Column B is greater.
- C The two quantities are equal.
- D The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

18. Column A: Number of square tiles needed to cover a space on a wall of 72" x 108", using tiles that each have a perimeter of 36 inches.

Column B: Number of square tiles needed to make a rectangular border one tile wide around the outside of the same 72" x 108" space, using tiles that each have an area of 9 square inches.

- A The quantity in Column A is greater.
- B The quantity in Column B is greater.
- C The two quantities are equal.
- D The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

19. A girl sells cups of lemonade at a stand. Her sales on Wednesday compared to Tuesday were in the ratio 3:2. If she had sold 80 more cups of lemonade on Tuesday, she would have sold the same number of cups on each day.

Column A: The number of cups of lemonade she sold on Tuesday

Column B: Twice the number of additional cups needed on Tuesday to match Wednesday's sales

- A The quantity in Column A is greater.
- B The quantity in Column B is greater.

- C The two quantities are equal.
- D The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

20. Jack and Joe are specialty repair contractors who work on a daily rate. Jack can earn \$800 in 4 working days, while Joe takes 36 working days to earn \$7200.

Column A: The total amount of money Jack and Joe earn if Joe works for 108 working days and Jack works for 72 working days

Column B: The total amount of money Joe and Jack earn if Jack works for 108 working days and Joe works for 72 working days

- A The quantity in Column A is greater.
- B The quantity in Column B is greater.
- C The two quantities are equal.
- D The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

21. Column A: 200 times larger than 0.063  
Column B: 30 times larger than 0.42

- A The quantity in Column A is greater.
- B The quantity in Column B is greater.
- C The two quantities are equal.
- D The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

22.  $mn = n^2/(n-2m)$

Column A: 3-2

Column B: -23

23.  $x^2 - x - 20 = 0$

Column A: x

Column B: 5

- A The quantity in Column A is greater.
- B The quantity in Column B is greater.
- C The two quantities are equal.
- D The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

24. Jessie looks in her closet to pick one of her 30 shirts to wear. She has 6 green shirts, 4 blue shirts, 2 red shirts, 10 yellow shirts, 1 white shirt, and the rest are other colors. 16 of the shirts are woven; the others are knit.

Column A minimum number of woven shirts that are not green or yellow

Column B number of knit shirts that are a color other than red, yellow, or white

- A The quantity in Column A is greater.
- B The quantity in Column B is greater.

C The two quantities are equal.

D The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.

25. Andy and Brandon are outside on a sunny late afternoon. Andy, who is 1.6m tall, casts a 400cm shadow, while Brandon's shadow is 300cm.

Column A twice Brandon's height

Column B The absolute value of the difference between the length of Andy's shadow and Andy's height

A The quantity in Column A is greater.

B The quantity in Column B is greater.

C The two quantities are equal.

D The relationship cannot be determined from the information given.