

English Language for Competitive Exams
Prof. Aysha Iqbal
Department of Humanities and Social Sciences
Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

Week - 06
Lecture – 29
Text Completion Part 3

Good morning and welcome back. We are doing text completion. So, you should know that and this I think I have already referred to what touched upon in my earlier sessions that words, that we know sometimes when we look at them as possible choices we become confident, and this confidence may trickle into carelessness on our part. Remember that words with similar usage meaning should be looked at very carefully. If two choices seem to fit, try applying them in various situations and sentences and see what different meanings can be attributed to the words.

So, again we are looking as before at set of words, double choices, double blanks sorry and let us look at the first exercise.

(Refer Slide Time: 01:10)

Nor would she appreciate that he to know what she was really thinking, on the basis of but incomplete evidence.

- i) a) Subsumes
- b) Purports
- c) Transmutes

- ii) a) Treacherous
- b) Usurious
- c) voluminous

Nor would she appreciate that he dash to know what she was really thinking, on the basis of dash, but incomplete evidence; subsumes, purports, transmutes. Choice two, set two is

treacherous, usurious voluminous. Look at the use of contrast markers like nor would and but. It should tell you something. First the answer is choice one purports, to subsumes means to contain, to purport means to propose something purportedly and to transmute means to change it cannot fit in here. Sentence indicates that the situation is about once thought and another's take on it.

The passage itself is the clue for this easy question. The only choice is purports; second answer is choice two that is voluminous. Treacherous means dangerously unstable and unpredictable. Usurious means exorbitant and the meanings of voluminous is evident from the word large in volume. So, insufficient, incomplete information and therefore, voluminous it is not you have to say use look at the use of, but and that is what I said look at the contrast markers is the clue for the second part. It indicates that whatever has been said does not go with what comes next, that is incomplete which a, she did not have voluminous evidence here.

(Refer Slide Time: 02:53)

I have always striven in my writings to
express for the life and lessons of our
Saviour, because I feel it.

- a) Ruminatation
- b) Personification
- c) Trepidation
- d) Veneration
- e) Supposition

Next exercise I have always striven in my writings to express ruminatation, personification, trepidation, veneration and supposition for the life and lessons of our Saviour, because I feel it. Best choice is veneration, choice d.

Rumination means a calm, lengthy intend consideration. Personification means the act of attributing human characteristics to extract ideas; we have done this word earlier also. When I did death be not be proud, do not be proud. Trepidation means hesitation and a kind of alarm or dread, veneration means a feeling of profound respect for someone or something and supposition means a hypothesis that is taken for granted. You have to remember that saviour is the clue here and if it is saviour then, you cannot have a personification or trepidation, it has to be something of is spiritual and religious nature and therefore, veneration is the best fit.

(Refer Slide Time: 04:00)

His own letters express the regret which he felt at the of this long and always pleasant association.

- a) Predilection
- b) Subordination
- c) Dissolution
- d) Reparation
- e) Mutation

Next exercise, his own letters express the regret which he felt at the predilection, subordination, dissolution, reparation, mutation, of this long and always pleasant association. Look at the word meanings of all these items or all these choices. The best choice is dissolution.

Predilection is a strong liking, subordination means the quality of obedient submissiveness, dissolution is a termination or disintegration of a relationship. Reparation means compensation for an insult or injury and mutation indicates a change or alteration in form of qualities. The word association acts as a clue in this particular instance, but this would still create confusion between predilection and mutation. Hence we look for second clue that is regrets.

So, dissolution is the best choice here. Look at the next set, the author has used the same winning formula of delving deeply into a crime story that had.

(Refer Slide Time: 05:01)

The author has used the same winning formula of delving deeply into a crime story that had in its day and retelling it with new resonance.

- a) Tremendous solvability
- b) Tremendous notoriety
- c) Little notoriety
- d) Little solvability
- e) Notorious solvability

Tremendous solvability, tremendous notoriety, little notoriety, little solvability, notorious solvability, into a crime story that had dash it is day in it is day and retelling it with new resonance. The best choice is b, tremendous notoriety. The meanings of the words here do not help us beyond the point. Remember we need to take care in choosing the answer because the words are repeated and this is also one style in which examiner set question papers.

Now, remember since it is a crime story you have to look it solvability and these words are you know quite detrimental to the nature of a crime story. Solvability may not change over time, best choice is notoriety. The kind of plots that you have, the writer is using the formula tremendous notoriety.

(Refer Slide Time: 06:15)

One of the approaches used by geographers toward the use of literature in their works is to add colour or texture to scientific analyses through.....of places. Here literature isexcept insofar as it conjures up interesting images for the text.

- i) a) Literary description
- b) Factual explanation
- c) Constant clarification

- ii) a) Prophetic
- b) Peripheral
- c) Permeating

Please look at the next slide. One of the approaches used by geographers toward the use of literature in their works is to add colour or texture to scientific analyses through literary description, factual explanation constant clarification of places. Here literature is prophetic, peripheral, permeating except insofar as it conjures up interesting images for the text.

First is, literary description. This is a passage because you have to look at the second blank also. In the second sentence of the given text the word except works as the clue which tells us that the required word for the second blank should indicate that literature is not of much use other than to conjure images. Since neither prophetic nor permeating has such meaning, the obvious answer is peripheral. Now we have to also read the second sentence completely and make sense of the first sentence. It is clear from the passage that the geographers use literature to conjure images. Hence the phrase literary description fits the blank better than any other word.

(Refer Slide Time: 07:26)

Although there were efforts to ban the book for profanity, the book has found new audience in each generation, particularly among those close to the protagonist in age who canthe novel to fit their own experiences. Since his final years were spent as a recluse, protagonist's dream of living in the woods may have become the author'sreality.

- i) a) Adopt
- b) Adapt
- c) Adept

- ii) a) Bogus
- b) Estimable
- c) Eventual

Let us look at the next slide. Although there were efforts to ban the book for profanity, what is profanity? Bad language, a bad idea something unacceptable or morally not very acceptable; the book has found new audience in each generation, particularly among those close to the protagonist in age who can adopt, adapt, adept the novel to fit their own experiences. Since his final years were spent as a recluse, protagonist's dream of living in the woods may have become the authors bogus, estimable, eventual reality.

The best choice a one, adapt; a d a p t and then second choice is eventual. First set so many words which sound almost alike. So, we might choose the wrong word in a hurry thinking that we know the right answer. A d e p t adept means having or showing knowledge and skill. Adopt means to choice and follow and adapt means to make fit for, so a d a p t; adapt is the best choice here. Eventual, the eventual retreat, the final retreat of the author into woods; so, those are the right answers.

(Refer Slide Time: 08:56)

Most of the phrases used by the protagonist such as “or something” serve no real,linguistic function. They only give a sense of looseness of expression. Some find this habitof his tendency to

i) a) Consistent
b) Indicative
c) Generalise

ii) a) Indicative
b) Consistent
c) Generalise

iii) a) Consistent
b) Indicative
c) Generalise

Let us look at the next set. Most of the phrases used by the protagonist such as or something serve no real, dash consistent, indicative, generalise linguistic function. They only give a sense of looseness of expression. Some find this habit indicative, consistent, and generalise of his tendency to dash. The best answer is first set, consistent second is indicative and third is generalize. Let us look at the set again, consistent linguistic function, indicative of his tendency to generalize. Most of the phrases used by the protagonist such as or something serve no real consistent linguistic function, not indicative or not generalize. They only give a sense of looseness of expression. Some find this habit, indicative because it cannot be consistent of his tendency; to generalize. This is the way you have to do this one.

(Refer Slide Time: 10:05)

Some critics have regarded the final scene as less clear-cut, but have viewed itsas cause for complaint. Some say that the conclusion is blunted.

- a) Tranquillity
- b) Temperance
- c) Compunction
- d) Ambiguity
- e) Preponderance

Let us look at the next set. Some critics have regarded the final scene as less clear cut, but have viewed it is tranquility, temperance, compunction, ambiguity; preponderance viewed its dash as cause for complaint. Some say that the conclusion is blunted. The best choice is d, ambiguity because you have given a clear cut clue that is less clear cut. We need a word that has a similar meaning to fill in the blanks. Tranquility is a state of peace and quiet, preponderance means superiority in power or influence, compunction means a feeling of deep regret and temperance is to abstain from excess. Ambiguity is open to more than one interpretation and this is only word that fits in the sentence.

(Refer Slide Time: 10:57)

The old insolent resource of assailing them and making the most wicked statements that they are politically indifferent, has borne the inevitable fruit.

- a) Audaciously
- b) Intrinsically
- c) Summarily
- d) Preemptively
- e) Demonstratively

Let us look at the next set. The old insolent resource of assailing them and making the most audaciously, intrinsically, summarily, preemptively, demonstratively wicked statements that they are politically indifferent, has borne the inevitable fruit. The best answer is a, audaciously; audacious means unrestrained by convention or propriety. Intrinsically means with respect to inherent nature, summarily indicates without delay. Preemptively means designed or having the power to deter prevent and anticipated situation or occurrence and demonstrative means given to or marked by the open expression of emotion. The meanings of the choices may make it difficult, but the best answer is, audaciously.

(Refer Slide Time: 11:46)

The intolerable injustice of the bribed to an assembly of bribers, has goaded their sense of justice beyond endurance.

- a) Fazing
- b) Equivocating
- c) Imbibing
- d) Vituperating
- e) Demurring

Next exercise. The intolerable injustice of fazing, equivocating, imbibing, vituperating, demurring the bribed to an assembly of bribers, has goaded their sense of justice beyond endurance. Intolerable justice, injustice of vituperating d, faze means disturbing the composure of your. Equivocating when you are deliberately ambiguous, to imbibe means to take him and to vituperate means to spread negative information about something demu means take exception to, a strong reaction is indicated in the passages because of a perceive wrong and the only verb that would elicited such a reaction is, vituperate. Equivocate, imbibe a phase do not quite apply to the situation. It is more likely to vituperate then to demur, if it is an intolerable injustice.

(Refer Slide Time: 12:45)

The milliner's man, rendered by the most surprising bargain he had just made, naturally wished to retain the patronage of such a model customer

- a) Demure
- b) Histrionic
- c) Affable
- d) Indigent
- e) Errant

Let us look at the next exercise. The milliner's man, rendered demure, histrionic, affable, indigent and errant by the most surprising bargain he had just made, naturally wished to retain the patronage of such a model customer and you have to use the right word. So, rendered, affable; we are looking for an adjective that can describe the milliners mans who have the patronage of a model customer. Demure is coy, being histrionic is being melodramatic. Affable means defusing warmth and friendliness. If somebody is indigent is poor enough to need help from others. Errant means is straying from the accepted standards; we have done most of these words before. The milliner's man need not be melodramatic or poor or stray. He would be rather affable, since he has already made his bargain. He did want to lose the patronage of such model customer, so affable.

(Refer Slide Time: 13:49)

The minimal interference from the leadership ensures quick decision-making, which is crucial inelection campaign.

- a) a protean
- b) a perfunctory
- c) a frenetic
- d) a spurious
- e) a peremptory

Next exercise, the minimal interference from the leadership ensures quick decision making, which is crucial in a protean, a perfunctory, a frenetic, a spurious, a peremptory election campaign. The best choice is a frenetic; option c. We are looking for an adjective; remember we have to look at the meanings here. Protean means taking on different forms it is a Greek words comes coming from Greek mythology. Perfunctory means not thorough, frenetic means excessively agitated. A spurious means intended to deceive and peremptory equals not alloying contradiction or refusal, peremptory. Sentence suggests that some kind of improvement when election campaign is desirable accept or excepted. So, therefore, frenetic campaign agitated.

(Refer Slide Time: 14:51)

If she wasn't drunk before, she is now. She wiped her lips with the back of her hand and smiled, but the expression was lopsided, and the focus was spilling from the bowls of her china blue eyes. Falling and fading as she was, the mask of her manyattitudes began to slip, and she suddenly looked very young and vulnerable. The set of her jaw – angry, fearing, and dislikeable – relaxed into an expression that was surprisingly gentle and she offered me the bottle and i accepted it, taking a sip. I held onto it for a few moments, and when she wasn't looking, i placed it on the floor beside the bed,out of her reach. She stirred her head from the pillows suddenly, her movements groggy, and glared at me with what seemed to be real.....

i) a) Quixotic b) Reclusive c) Abrasive

ii) a) Compassionate b) Recondite c) Salutory

iii) a) Discreetly b) Pungently c) Speciously

iv) a) Temperance b) Probity c) Malevolence

Look at this lengthy passage now. If she was not drunk before, she is now. She wiped her lips with the back of her hand and smiled, but the expression was lopsided, and the focus was spilling from the bowls of her china blue eyes. Falling and fading as she was, the mask of her many attitudes began to slip, and she suddenly looked very young and vulnerable. The set of her jaw angry, fearing, and dislikable relaxed into an expression that was surprisingly gentle and she offered me the bottle and I accepted it, taking a sip. I held onto it for a few moments, and when she was not looking, I placed it on the floor beside the bed, out of her reach. She stirred her head from the pillows suddenly, her movements groggy, and glared at me with what seemed to be real. There are four blanks here, please go through it. Take a moment.

First choice is abrasive that is first answer. Remember quixotic means eccentric. It comes from (Refer Time: 16:05) visionary remember, not sensible about practical matter; so quite an idealistic person; reclusive means withdrawn from social circles or from society. Abrasive means someone who is brusque, disagreeable. Best choice is abrasive, she is young vulnerable gentle in that case the adjective we are looking for a not any of these things. So, abrasive is the best for it. Second set best answer is choice two, compassionate. Compassion is a deep awareness of an sympathy for other another person suffering. Recondite means difficult to penetrate, something is salutary, if it is beneficial

to health. Therefore, we use the words salubrious climate. There is a use of the conjunction and linking word.

So, the word to fill in the blanks should go along with gentle and dash compassionate. Choice three, option three is your option three discreetly. Discreet means marked by prudence and wise self restrain, pungently strong and sharp. A specious means based on pretense or deceptively look at the spelling specious is s p e c, spacious is something which are lot of space. When she was not looking in the, is the phrase that clues us on in on the answer. Pungently is definitely of the mark between specious and discreet the letter is a better match because removing the bottle is not pleasing or based on pretense. So, discreetly.

Malevolence; the look of malevolence that is the right answers, It cannot be temperance which means abstaining from access. Probity means having a strong moral, principle. It is not to be confused with probing. Probing look the penetrating look, probity means moral principles. Here is a deep look of malevolence. Malevolence is the quality of threatening evil that is also glare of malevolence. We can infer from the whole passage that the words that we are looking for cannot be temperance or probity. Malevolence is the right answer and let us look at the next set now.

(Refer Slide Time: 18:38)

Multiple drug resistant tuberculosis is treatable but treatment is and expensive, and often not effective.

- a) Fractious
- b) Unenviable
- c) Bunglesome
- d) Ungainly
- e) Arduous

Multiple drug resistance resistant tuberculosis is treatable, but treatment is fractious, unenviable, bunglesome, ungainly, arduous and expensive, and often not effective very easy sentence. Treatment is dash and expensive, what does it mean? The best answer as e, arduous. Expensive and arduous, what is arduous? Arduous after all means difficult to accomplish, demanding lot of skill and resources and mental effort. Fractious is something that is stubbornly resistant to authority and control. Something is unenviable is something which is hard to deal with, you are in an unenviable position.

Especially causing pain and embarrassment, it is bunglesome if it is difficult to handle or manage. Ungainly is another words for bunglesome, it means lacking grace and arduous means difficult to accomplish, demanding mental effort and skill.