

Entrance Essentials

Workbook-2

“the science of meaning”

The semantics 'back to school' workbooks give you a good start, in fact a smart start to your MBA entrance preparation. These are designed for you, and they are FREE! Lap it up! These simple lessons are followed by some original questions from MBA entrance tests. Yes, you can answer real questions after doing this workbook.

Enjoy learning!

Semantics and syntax comprise the two components of language. Semantics deals with meaning and syntax with structure (arrangement of words) of sentences. Structural elements link semantic elements to express the intended meaning. Since parts of sentences are linked structurally and syntactically, a missing word can be supplied in to the sentence.

Exercise 1

Directions: Complete the sentences below using appropriate words to logically agree with the sentences. The first three sentences are done for you.

1. Winston Churchill lives for ever; in fact, he is immortal.
2. Some living beings are free-living and solitary; they are independent.
3. Rushdie's new novel lacks originality; there is nothing new or interesting in it.
4. Dan is famous for his _____; he speaks too high of his achievements.
5. Delegates expressed strong _____ to the scheme as it appeared anti-poor.
6. There is a new feeling of _____ in the organization owing to the new employee-friendly policies of the management.
7. The youth of this generation is highly _____ displaying a lot of maturity and experience.

8. George is a _____ showing no allegiance to any political organization.
9. The company is notorious for its _____ mode of functioning; its processes need a fair degree of restructuring.
10. _____ are characterized by the tendency to doubt and question most things they come across.
11. With the new government in place the climate is _____ for foreign investors.
12. Fundamentalists serve a responsible function in a country by _____ the larger society from taking too modern perspectives.

Sentence completion questions, as those above, invariably have hints in them. Identifying these hints is crucial to choosing the right word/phrase to complete the sentence.

One such clue is thought continuity

Exercise 2

Directions : Complete each sentence using appropriate words of phrases. The word(s) that complete the sentence is (are) parallel to a word or phrase already given.

1. The hapless refugees should be treated with compassion and _____
2. The participants displayed great forethought and _____ on matters of political and electoral reforms.
3. Global marketers need to employ a more sophisticated and _____ approach to gain the confidence of local consumers.

4. Information is both the raw material as well as _____ for those who use it at every stage.
5. As the buying power of the consumer increases, he will also become more demanding of _____
6. A _____ country with a population of many religions, languages and beliefs, necessitates a secular government.
7. The reviewer of 'The interpreter of maladies' knowingly and _____ overlooks its artistic limitations.
8. Atwood's clarity and _____ in sketching bucolic life ensures that her stories are read widely.
9. The combination of elegance and _____ in Prof Chomsky's speech enthralled the invitees.
10. We no longer require artists to provide _____ images of humanity for our moral edification but rather regard such idealization as unnecessary.

Sentence completion clue- thought reversal

Exercise 3

Directions: complete each sentence using appropriate words or phrases. The word or phrase that completes the sentence is opposite in meaning to a word or phrase already given.

1. There is no pessimism among the young work force; they have a _____ to work place challenges.

2. Insularity has given way to _____ among the millions of young voters who chose to elect more liberal representatives to the State legislature.
3. The decisive factor for the merger will not be on physical assets but on _____
4. The modern interpretation of spirituality points to the celebration of life and not with _____
5. A culture of materialism has taken over the people preventing them from _____ pursuits.
6. Science and spirituality are not antithetical, instead they share a _____ relationship.
7. Let the differences between the two religions a cause for admiration and celebration, not for _____ and _____
8. It is doubted that ordinary human beings can be happy without _____; in fact, ever since man began community living rivalry has been the spur to most serious matters.

Exercise 4

Directions: Each question in this segment has a set of four sentences each containing a blank each set is followed by four words. Choose the words/words that complete the sentence. More than one word can fit a blank. Write the letter of the sentence against the word.

1. 1. Roma _____ her mother while the latter was reading.
 2. Her child's insistent crying _____ her.
 3. Leela doesn't like to be _____ when he is working.
 4. Satisfaction _____ to excitement.
A. perturbed B. disturbed
C. leads D. influenced
-
2. 1. If the senior officer is guilty, then by _____ so is his associate.
 2. We have to analyze the _____ before drawing any conclusion.
 3. We arrived at the _____ of her identity, from her strongly accented English.
 4. There is no _____ of the accused being guilty.
A. inference B. evidence
C. proof D. outcome
-
3. 1. Not only should one have _____ but must strive have to achieve it.
 2. John has not come up to the _____ of his parents.
 3. His only _____ is to amass material wealth.
 4. The government has not come up to the _____ of the people.
A. expectation(s) B. ambition
C. goal D. regards

4. 1. In order to include that quote, we must _____ whose words the quote is so that we can acknowledge appropriately.
2. It is _____ that the quality assurance team is visiting us next month.
3. To tide over the problem we should be able to take a _____ decision.
4. The announcement _____ my suspicions.
- A. ascertain B. certain
C. firm D. confirmed
5. 1. The union intends to settle the unrest and to _____ with the employer on wage claims.
2. Mathew decided to _____ his behavior after the setback.
3. After they _____ the price, the deal will be settled.
4. As existing space was insufficient, the company had to _____ the adjacent property.
- A. annex B. amend
C. negotiate D. differentiate
6. 1. It is a/an _____ to suppose that wealth brings happiness.
2. The singer was known for his _____ performances; brilliant on one day, mediocre the next day.
3. Since they had no practice, the team played in a/an _____ way.

4. It was proved that his allegations were _____

- A. false B. erratic
C. fallacy D. infallible

7. 1. The merger was formally announced after a/an _____ settlement was reached.

2. Lawrence was too _____ by the idea of spending his leisure time in the resort.

3. I find the work atmosphere in my office particularly _____

4. The smooth functioning of the local government will depend upon the _____ between the groups.

- A. amity B. amicable
C. enamored D. congenial

8. 1. Job aspirants usually feel a certain sense of _____ on D-day.

2. The elderly couple viewed the approach of winter with _____ dreading the effect it would have on health.

3. His hunger and weariness _____ the adventurer set out for his destination.

4. Many critics find modern architecture quite _____

- A. appalling B. apprehension
C. apparent D. appeased

9. 1. The officer repeatedly warned his secretary against her _____
2. The secretary felt that it wasn't her _____ to keep the documents ready.
3. She had to be guided closely as she was _____
4. The higher you rise in an organization, the greater the _____ on your shoulders.
- A. negligence B. naïve
C. respond(s) D. responsibility
10. 1. The company's financial crisis was _____ as it had poor planning.
2. People have a/an _____ tendency to defend their deeds.
3. Due to _____ circumstances, the meeting is postponed.
4. After his failure in the job, my friend developed a/an _____ attitude.
- A. inherent B. unavoidable C. indifferent
D. incorrigible
- 11.1. A lot of resources are required to _____ the scheme.
2. Man's earliest _____ were carved out of stones and bones.
3. Nutritious food is a prerequisite for the body to _____ normally.
4. Metabolism is the _____ of breaking down of the consumed food.
- A. process B. implement (s)
C. function D. execution

12. 1. The _____ traits of water birds enable them to dive deep into the water.

2. People gathered in the gallery to see the _____ work of art.

3. There was a _____ change in Dan after he returned from his month-long trip.

4. The scientist pointed out the _____ features of some water birds that enable them to wade through turbulent waters.

A. unique

B. salient

C. peculiar

D. significant

13. 1. The choice of players for the team seems completely _____ and defies logic.

2. The amendment passed by the government was no doubt _____ and well thought of.

3. She is unusually _____ for her age.

4. The _____ attitude of the cricket team invited a lot of criticism.

A. articulate

B. astute

C. arrogant

D. arbitrary

14.1. She spoke with _____ disregard about the seniors present in the conference room.

2. Since he was her son, her opinion of him was naturally a _____ one.

3. The committee is of a conservative _____ about certain issues.

4. One could feel from the culprit's body language that his statement was a _____ lie.

- A. pertinent B. bias(ed)
C. blatant D. benign

Exercise 5

Directions: choose the appropriate word/phrase from the brackets to complete the sentence

1. Our reporting authority insists that we do not worry _____ trivial matters

- A. on B. for C. with D. over

2. The new township has _____

- A. a building worth seeing
B. worth seeing building
C. seeing worth building
D. a worth seeing building

3. Employing a well-planned _____ the company could capture a major market share.

- A. implementation B. strategy
C. scrutiny D. study

4. Revolt spread among the party men like a/an _____ plague.
- A. infamous B. subtle
C. virulent D. traditional
5. The management refused to _____ on the reasons for the resignation of the chief finance officer.
- A. disagree B. criticize
C. speculate D. negotiate
6. We have decided to _____ for half an hour before we resume discussion.
- A. break away B. break off
C. break D. break out
7. The Congress sought to _____ the judge on the grounds of improper conduct.
- A. exhort B. redeem
C. impeach D. accuse
8. We will help you out _____ the outcome of the contest.
- A. in spite of B. irrespective of
C. provided D. in addition to

9. Every weekend we are asked to _____ the dean on the progress of the project.
- A. enrich B. enlighten
C. summarize D. influence
10. The enclosed bill can be _____ to your account.
- A. put into B. added
C. credited D. settled
11. Professor Daniel bored us with his _____ repeated quotes.
- A. usual B. oft
C. always D. almost
12. The newly inducted government's economic policy _____ industrial expansion.
- A. shown up B. point out
C. inaugurated D. accelerated
13. Bankruptcy is a distinct _____ if the Obama Administration's financial stimulus doesn't bail GM out.
- A. feature B. possibility
C. initiative D. event

14. If I _____ you, I would take up the offer without a second thought.
- A.were B.have been
C.am D.was
15. Edward's speech was uncharacteristically _____ given his normal clarity.
- A. lucid B. obscure
C.superficial D.powerful
16. She would've attended the party if _____ the time.
- A. she has
B. she had
C. she will have
D. she would
17. Poland's political ideology advocates the destruction of social institutions _____ a new society.
- A. to make way for B. to rest on the oars of
C.to nip in the bud of D. against all odds for
18. Environmentalists are not fully opposed to genetic engineering but believe that caution must be applied until its impact is known and _____ A.
safeguards are in place
B. safeguards are done

C. choices are made

D. trials are obvious

19. Did he know _____ referring to?

A. whom I am

B. who I am

C. whom am I

D. who am I

20. The memoranda _____ presented to the chairman.

A. is

B. has been

C. was

D. were

21. I will inform him _____ I meet him.

A. if

B. whether

C. until

D. although

22. There was no news of her lost pet dog; _____ she was hopeful.

A. even

B. even if

C. nevertheless

D. even after

23. Had you not neglected your studies, you _____ got through.

A. may have

B. might have

C. would have

D. must have

24. The factory workers _____ the strike after the management agreed to consider their demands.
- A. carried out B. called on
C. called off D. called
25. Except for a few productive land areas, the prevailing methods of cutting the soil rapidly exhaust its _____
- A. loam B. content
C. fertility D. substance
26. Nuclear experts argue that it is in the country's _____ to conduct at least one hydrogen bomb test before the CTBT deadline.
- A. safety B. capability
C. future D. disaster
27. Lawrence was a _____ in his love for his country and consequently expressed himself in extreme ways.
- A. fanatic B. patriot
C. zealot D. serf
28. The _____ directions misled him: he did not know which of the options to take.
- A. complicated B. foolish

- C. ambiguous D. arbitrary
29. Automation threatens mankind with an increased number of _____ hours.
- A. Meager B. useless
C. active D. idle
30. A serious critic must react _____ to a piece of writing, but often an element of bias comes into the response.
- A. subjectively B. vehemently
C. fervently D. Objectively
31. Unfortunately the common cold produced most often by rhino viruses is _____ anti viral defense.
- A. intractable to B. irrisistant to
C. conducive for D. blind to
32. The ideological origins of Feminism have been _____ because historians failed to recognize that Feminism was a truly international movement.
- A. obscured B. traced
C. contested D. Debated

33. Saint Simon's followers _____ the ideology on an interpretation of his project to reorganize the globe by replacing _____ with the role of spiritual powers.
- A. questioned ordinary life
 - B. broadened clichés
 - C. adapted worldly thoughts
 - D. premised brute force
34. An oil company conducted an investigation of the environmental _____ of oil spills and found that waterfowls _____ oil spills have a 95 percent survival rate.
- A. causes inhabiting
 - B. factors habituated to
 - C. contributors susceptible to
 - D. effects exposed to
35. The drug thalidomide taken during pregnancy to _____ anxiety was shown to contribute to deformation in infectious.
- A. alleviate
 - B. augment
 - C. resist
 - D. Withstand
36. Social sensitivity is otherwise called _____ the ability of an individual to accurately sense what others think and feel from their view point.

- A. initiative B. empathy
C. probity D. awe
37. _____ the ability to change appropriately is a prerequisite for entry level executives.
- A. Realism B. Influence
C. Flexibility D. Freezing
38. The boundaries between national traditions are _____ enabling easy and continuous interchange of elements.
- A. massive B. porous
C. plural D. atrophied
39. Hills and mountains are often regarded as the _____ of permanence, successfully resisting the destructive forces of nature.
- A. landscape B. epitome
C. throwback D. caricature
40. The Penrose episode _____ once again that even scientific pursuits, usually considered suitable for the ivory tower, can _____ the popular mind.
- A. undermined excite
B. bolstered sensitise
C. demonstrated excite

D. reconstructed bewilder

41. People who are _____ to hypnosis can _____ the effects of being hypnotised by often fooling the hypnotist that they are under his spell.

A. watchful experience

B. injured dominate

C. inattentive ignore

D. unresponsive mimic

42. Our visual perception _____ the reception of energy reflecting or radiating from that which we wish to perceive.

A. consists of

B. arises from

C. leads to

D. depends on

43. The _____ limits of our eyes have been mechanically _____ by instruments such as telescopes and microscopes.

A. estimated driven

B. usual aligned

C. natural extended

D. endless restricted

44. Atwood's fiction and essays have been widely and rightly _____ as major contributions to American Literature.

A. acknowledged

B. criticized

C. ignored D. repudiated

45. Many literary detectives have _____ a great puzzle concerning the writer Dorris Lessing.

- A. worried over B. pored over
C. resisted D. bias toward

46. There is no _____ about Francis; he encourages either _____ or profound antipathy in those who interact with him.

- A. enthusiasm reverence
B. dichotomy controversy
C. doubt indifference
D. neutrality uncritical adulation

47. Persons _____ violent street crimes often commit the same crimes again after being _____

- A. apprehended for predicted
B. prone to exculpable
C. imprisoned for released
D. taken to reined in

48. In western music, successful _____ is the first step in learning to be creative, and not an attempt at _____

- A. imitation originality

- B. interpretation goodness
C. rendition clarity
D. evolution elegance
49. The _____ of the book review can be gauged by the fact that it comprises kindness _____ occasional flashes of critical remarks where the book deserves it.
- A. fairness accompanied by
B. reality..... interrupted by
C. greatness interspersed with
D. duality marred by
50. Although recent research has allowed us to _____ the tissue biomaterial interface by controlling factors, our basic understanding of how implant devices adhere to tissues remains _____
- A. understand unchanged
B. demonstrate questionable
C. stabilize incomplete
D. replicate superfluous
51. Jewish law was _____ the cohesion of the community and reinforced by pressure from outside; it practiced _____ of dissent.
- A. dominated by denial

- B. buttressed by accommodation
C. supported by reversal
D. negated by compliance
52. Television programs for the late night viewing should be more challenging as the late night audience is more _____
- A. critical B. imaginative
C. mature D. realistic
53. Peter Drucker's management theories, though written in the 1950's, are worth reading as they are _____ present day business practices.
- A. precursors to B. by products of
C. outgrowths of D. implications for
54. Even though studies do not _____ the relationship, blood pressure regulation can be _____ sustained noise.
- A. obscure impaired by
B. diminish raised by
C. neutralise disrupted by
D. buttress aggravated by
55. After a lull, bicycles are in huge demand as _____ to automobiles because of an increased awareness on wellness.
- A. an addition B. a challenge

C. an alternative D. a surrogate

56. _____ history requires both scientific knowledge and cultural

- A. Analyzing..... awareness
- B. Revealing conformity
- C. Reconstructing sensitivity
- D. Synthesizing forcefulness

57. A _____ union of racial and religious feelings in African poetry often helped iron out ethnic issues.

- A. symbiotic B. traditional
- C. dominant D. secular

58. Since the Hawaiian Islands have never been _____ other masses, the great variety of plants in Hawaii must be a _____ the long distance disposal of seeds.

- A. contacted by reason for
- B. connected to result of
- C. repelled by consequence of
- D. haunted by precedent of

59. Critics of Emily Bronte's novel *Wuthering Heights* see its second part as a _____ that reverses the first part.

- A. counterpoint B. replica
C. prevarication D. ensemble

60. Through his writing, Thomas Hardy wanted to _____ what he considered to be the _____ of solely recording things exactly as they are.

- A. transcend banality
B. portray impulse
C. describe triteness
D. explore tragedy

Answers

Exercise 1:

4. boastfulness 5. opposition 6. Optimism
7. sophisticated 8. non-partisan 9. Haphazard
10. cynics/skeptics 11. conducive 12. Refraining
12. refraining

Exercise 2:

1. Kindness/empathy 2. Wisdom 3. Refined
4. the end product 5. Quality 6. Pluralistic
7. consciously 8. Precision 9. Style
10. ideal

Exercise 3:

- | | |
|--------------------------|----------------|
| 1. Positive outlook | 2. Eclecticism |
| 3. Intangibles | 4. Mortality |
| 5. Spiritual | 6. Symbiotic |
| 7. hostility and dissent | 8. Competition |

Exercise 4:

- | | | | | |
|-----|--------|------|--------|--------|
| 1. | 1. B | 2. A | 3. B | 4. C |
| 2. | 1. B | 2. B | 3. C | 4. B/C |
| 3. | 1. C | 2. A | 3. B/C | 4. A |
| 4. | 1. A | 2. A | 3. C | 4. D |
| 5. | 1. C | 2. B | 3. C | 4. A |
| 6. | 1. C | 2. B | 3. B | 4. A |
| 7. | 1. B | 2. C | 3. D | 4. A |
| 8. | 1. B | 2. B | 3. D | 4. A |
| 9. | 1. A | 2. D | 3. B | 4. D |
| 10. | 1. B | 2. A | 3. B | 4. C |
| 11. | 1. B | 2. B | 3. C | 4. A |
| 12. | 1. A/C | 2. A | 3. D | 4. B |
| 13. | 1. D | 2. A | 3. A | 4. C |
| 14. | 1. C | 2. B | 3. B | 4. C |

Exercise 5:

- | | | | | | | |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. D | 2. A | 3. B | 4. C | 5. C | 6. B | 7. C |
| 8. B | 9. B | 10. C | 11. B | 12. D | 13. B | 14. A |
| 15. B | 16. B | 17. A | 18. A | 19. A | 20. D | 21. A |

22. C	23. C	24. C	25. C	26. A	27. A	28. C
29. D	30. D	31. B	32. C	33. C	34. D	35. A
36. B	37. C	38. B	39. B	40. C	41. D	42. A
43. C	44. A	45. B	46. D	47. C	48. A	49. A
50. D	51. A	52. C	53. A	54. D	55. C	56. C
57. A	58. B	59. A	60. D			

NOTE: Watch this space for detailed explanations