

# SENTENCE COMPLETION / WORD FILLERS

Sentence Completion is a common test item in which a sentence contains one or two blanks to be filled in using the choices. These questions test your vocabulary and knowledge of the finer distinctions among words. A good vocabulary can be a great help here.

## Strategies for Sentence Completion

### 1. Read the Sentence

Use the sentence clues by reading the sentence thoroughly. Two things make a question difficult: difficult words and sentence structure. If you cannot dissect a sentence to figure out what fits best, you cannot crack the question though you know the word's meanings. You need to take apart the sentences and improve your vocabulary.

### 2. Hints

The hints indicate what should go into the blank for the sentence to make sense. Here's a test to locate the right hint: if you change the hint, the choice in the blank must be changed. Often, you can use the hint by putting that word or phrase into the blank itself.

### 3. Positive or Negative

Once you find the word clues, indicate the kind of word you're looking for with a positive meaning or negative meaning.

### 4. Structure Words

Look for words like *but*, *rather*, *although*, *however*, *and*, *while*, *but*, and *therefore*.

They reveal the sentence organization and the hint-blank relationship. They tell you what kinds of words to look for as they change the thought process in the sentence.

### 5. Visualize

Consider the available words for the blanks before moving on to the options. It will protect you from making poor decisions. Elimination is considerably easier if you have a rough idea of the types of words required.

This is preferable to testing out the options to see "what sounds good". It is more efficient and less prone to mistakes.

### Example

Neem has \_\_\_\_\_ qualities, and in many clinical trials, doctors have saved countless lives by using raw neem leaves on serious wounds.

- (a) remedial                      (b) flavouring                      (c) inferior                      (d) doubtful

We need a positive word with a "life saving" meaning. Choices C and D are negative and are ruled out. You may be unaware of *remedial*, but you know that "flavouring" doesn't mean anything like *life-saving*. Therefore, the answer is *remedial*.

**In the following questions, sentences are given with blanks to be filled in with an appropriate word(s). Four/ five alternatives are suggested for each question. Choose the correct alternative as your answer.**

- I could hardly recognize him \_\_\_\_\_ I saw him.  
(a) after                      (b) but                      (c) and                      (d) when
- She tries to adjust \_\_\_\_\_ her relations.  
(a) for                      (b) at                      (c) so                      (d) with

3. Take this medicine regularly and you will get rid \_\_\_\_\_ this disease.  
 (a) at (b) from (c) of (d) over
4. The student was punished for his \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (a) impudence (b) prudence (c) modesty (d) elemency
5. The flood damaged the books so much that it was impossible to \_\_\_\_\_ them.  
 (a) retrieve (b) retrace (c) retract (d) retreat
6. I am quite satisfied that I have not been \_\_\_\_\_ in doing whatever was needful for building up their character.  
 (a) negligent (b) devoted (c) caring (d) affectionate
7. Today, \_\_\_\_\_ society is literally poisoning the earth with acid rain.  
 (a) cosmopolitan (b) developing (c) growing (d) industrialized
8. On the \_\_\_\_\_ occasion of Laxmi Puja, the Mathurs bought a new car.  
 (a) officious (b) auspicious (c) fortuitous (d) prosperous
9. The director congratulated Mr. Varma \_\_\_\_\_ his success.  
 (a) on (b) for (c) at (d) about
10. The boys were \_\_\_\_\_ to hear that we were going to build a bridge.  
 (a) delight (b) delights (c) delighted (d) delighting
11. The revolting players and the game's administrators held \_\_\_\_\_ discussions to resolve the payment dispute.  
 (a) unnecessary (b) obligatory (c) preliminary (d) silent
12. The higher you climb, the more difficult it \_\_\_\_\_ to breathe.  
 (a) became (b) becomes (c) has become (d) is becoming
13. Neha has been crying \_\_\_\_\_ morning.  
 (a) from (b) of (c) since (d) till
14. Fourteen kilometres \_\_\_\_\_ not a short distance to reach to my office daily.  
 (a) are (b) has (c) have (d) is
15. Good reading \_\_\_\_\_ the sense of liberal educated mind.  
 (a) beliefs (b) leads (c) reflects (d) starts
16. Be just \_\_\_\_\_ fear nothing.  
 (a) but (b) while (c) and (d) until
17. He came two hours \_\_\_\_\_ us.  
 (a) before (b) ago (c) above (d) ahead
18. Sunaina said, "She is sick \_\_\_\_\_ the whole business."  
 (a) by (b) of (c) for (d) with
19. He was quite \_\_\_\_\_ when he heard what had happened.  
 (a) laughing (b) amused (c) lovable (d) beautiful
20. As soon as this workshop is over, I am going to \_\_\_\_\_ every duty and go on a holiday.  
 (a) sidetrack (b) abandon (c) overthrow (d) close down
21. She \_\_\_\_\_ great pleasure and satisfaction from cooking.  
 (a) wants (b) has (c) draws (d) derives
22. Romeo and Juliet's \_\_\_\_\_ affairs is probably the most loved of all times.  
 (a) secret (b) covert (c) candid (d) clandestine
23. Some interesting matters \_\_\_\_\_ in our discussion yesterday.  
 (a) came up (b) got up (c) came in (d) came about

24. \_\_\_\_\_ forests prevent erosion.  
 (a) Lean (b) Dense (c) Sparse (d) Tidy
25. Three people were arrested, and an illegal arms unit was \_\_\_\_\_ by the police in a raid.  
 (a) revealed (b) searched (c) discovered (d) busted
26. A woman got into the car and \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (a) drove off (b) broke down (c) rode in (d) drove in
27. The lecture was not very interesting. In fact I \_\_\_\_\_ in the middle of it.  
 (a) showed off (b) put off (c) dozed off (d) plugged off
28. The cops \_\_\_\_\_ murder by kin.  
 (a) suspect (b) afford (c) manage (d) administer
29. With the less rapid expansion of the economy, we should make \_\_\_\_\_ progress toward stable price levels.  
 (a) detailed (b) substantial (c) definite (d) infinite
30. At times, he gets very angry, and then no one can \_\_\_\_\_ him.  
 (a) prevent (b) humour (c) mollify (d) satisfy
31. Many people today have fallen into utter confusion of values with the result that they cannot \_\_\_\_\_ the good from the bad.  
 (a) divide (b) differentiate (c) see (d) alter
32. In the face of the overwhelming mass of evidence against him, we cannot \_\_\_\_\_ him of the crime.  
 (a) punish (b) absolve (c) release (d) ignore
33. I hope that the rain will \_\_\_\_\_ for our picnic tomorrow.  
 (a) keep off (b) put off (c) set back (d) stay out
34. After the marathon, some of the competitors felt completely \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (a) cut up (b) done in (c) done out (d) run out
35. Scarcely \_\_\_\_\_ the teacher entered the class when he heard the noise.  
 (a) did (b) has (c) had (d) will have
36. These essays are intellectually \_\_\_\_\_ and represent various levels of complexity.  
 (a) revealing (b) modern (c) superior (d) demanding  
 (e) persistent
37. The soldiers were instructed to \_\_\_\_\_ restraint and handle the situation peacefully.  
 (a) exercise (b) control (c) prevent (d) enforce  
 (e) remain
38. Since one cannot read every book, one should be content with making a \_\_\_\_\_ selection.  
 (a) normal (b) standard (c) sample (d) moderate  
 (e) judicious
39. Success comes to those who are vigilant not to permit \_\_\_\_\_ from the chosen path.  
 (a) diversion (b) deviation (c) obstruction (d) alienation  
 (e) distraction
40. His actions had \_\_\_\_\_ pain and suffering on thousands of people.  
 (a) deplored (b) eliminated (c) affected (d) inflicted  
 (e) imposed
41. Some people \_\_\_\_\_ themselves into believing that if they are indispensable to the organisation they work for.  
 (a) keep (b) fool (c) force (d) denigrate  
 (e) delude

42. How do you expect that country to progress when her government is corrupt, \_\_\_\_\_ and still largely feudal?  
 (a) devalued (b) dwindling (c) despotic (d) demeaning  
 (e) demobilised
43. The petition before the Court prayed for \_\_\_\_\_ the appointment orders issued by the management.  
 (a) removing (b) granting (c) posting (d) quashing  
 (e) dismissing
44. I have a profound respect for his political \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (a) personality (b) ambition (c) temperament (d) sagacity  
 (e) involvement
45. His interest in the study of human behaviour is indeed very \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (a) strong (b) large (c) broad (d) vast  
 (e) deep
46. The improvement made by changes in the system was \_\_\_\_\_ and did not warrant the large expenses.  
 (a) large (b) small (c) minute (d) marginal  
 (e) uncertain
47. He is too \_\_\_\_\_ to be deceived easily.  
 (a) strong (b) modern (c) kind (d) honest  
 (e) intelligent
48. There has been a \_\_\_\_\_ lack of efficiency in all the crucial areas of the working of the Public Sector Undertakings.  
 (a) positive (b) surprising (c) conspicuous (d) stimulative  
 (e) insignificant
49. He is so \_\_\_\_\_ of his own idea that he will not entertain any suggestion from others.  
 (a) hopeful (b) enchanted (c) enamoured (d) jealous  
 (e) possessed
50. I will be leaving for Delhi tonight and \_\_\_\_\_ to return by this weekend.  
 (a) waiting (b) plan (c) going (d) likely  
 (e) making
51. Ravi's behaviour is worthy of \_\_\_\_\_ by all the youngsters.  
 (a) trial (b) emulation (c) following (d) exploration  
 (e) experiment
52. Nothing can be achieved without \_\_\_\_\_ a certain amount of discomfort while making an effort.  
 (a) getting (b) sacrificing (c) enduring (d) imbibing  
 (e) internalizing
53. Even at the risk of economic loss, he \_\_\_\_\_ refused to take the beaten track.  
 (a) repeatedly (b) often (c) regularly (d) continuously  
 (e) steadfastly
54. On his sudden demise, my emotions were so complicated that it was \_\_\_\_\_ how I felt.  
 (a) unreasonable (b) impossible (c) intolerable (d) unimaginable  
 (e) inexplicable
55. The presence of their teacher \_\_\_\_\_ the chit-chat of the girls in the restaurant.  
 (a) limited (b) interrupted (c) inhibited (d) obstructed  
 (e) prohibited

56. The accused \_\_\_\_\_ to the judge for mercy.  
 (a) asked (b) applied (c) demanded (d) appealed  
 (e) requested
57. Mounting unemployment is the most serious and \_\_\_\_\_ problem faced by India today.  
 (a) dubious (b) profound (c) unpopular (d) intractable  
 (e) unattainable
58. Automobile manufacturers are reviving up to launch a campaign designed to increase consumer \_\_\_\_\_ about the new emission control.  
 (a) production (b) education (c) capacity (d) knowledge  
 (e) awareness
59. His logic \_\_\_\_\_ everyone, including the experts.  
 (a) teased (b) defied (c) surprised (d) confounded  
 (e) overwhelmed
60. It is not fair to cast \_\_\_\_\_ on honest and innocent persons.  
 (a) aspiration (b) aspersions (c) inspiration (d) adulation
61. You must \_\_\_\_\_ your career with all seriousness.  
 (a) direct (b) complete (d) manage (c) follow  
 (e) pursue
62. The affluent lifestyles of contemporary politicians are in sharp contrast to the \_\_\_\_\_ ways of living of the freedom fighters.  
 (a) austere (b) agnostic (c) stingy (d) extravagant  
 (e) disciplined
63. The villagers \_\_\_\_\_ the death of their leader by keeping all the shops closed.  
 (a) announced (b) protested (c) mourned (d) consoled  
 (e) avenged
64. These medicines are \_\_\_\_\_ for curing cold.  
 (a) proper (b) real (c) effective (d) capable  
 (e) powerful
65. The poor ones continue to \_\_\_\_\_ out a living inspite of economic liberalisation in that country.  
 (a) find (b) go (c) eke (d) bring  
 (e) manage
66. I will write a letter to you tentatively \_\_\_\_\_ the dates of the programme.  
 (a) involving (b) urging (c) guiding (d) indicating  
 (e) propagating
67. Contemporary economic development differs \_\_\_\_\_ from the Industrial Revolution of the 19th century.  
 (a) naturally (b) usually (c) literally (d) specially  
 (e) markedly
68. It was the help he got from his friends that \_\_\_\_\_ him through the tragedy.  
 (a) helped (b) boosted (c) perked (d) supported  
 (e) sustained

69. The criminals managed to escape from the prison even though two armed policemen were \_\_\_\_\_ vigil over them.  
 (a) taking (b) putting (c) guarding (d) keeping  
 (e) looking
70. The speaker did not properly use the time as he went on \_\_\_\_\_ on one point alone.  
 (a) dilating (b) devoting (c) deliberating (d) diluting  
 (e) distributing
71. Ravi had to drop his plan of going to picnic as he had certain \_\_\_\_\_ to meet during that period.  
 (a) preparations (b) observations (c) urgencies (d) transactions  
 (e) commitments
72. Even in today's modern society, people \_\_\_\_\_ god to bring rains.  
 (a) provoke (b) evoke (c) appeal (d) propitiate  
 (e) superimpose
73. The good is often \_\_\_\_\_ with their bones.  
 (a) buried (b) covered (c) exhumed (d) interred  
 (e) fleshed
74. Eight scientists have \_\_\_\_\_ the national awards for outstanding contribution and dedication to the profession.  
 (a) bestowed (b) picked (c) bagged (d) conferred  
 (e) discovered
75. It was \_\_\_\_\_ hot that day and the cable suffered the brunt of the heat.  
 (a) treacherously (b) acceptably (c) unfailingly (d) unbelievably  
 (e) uncompromisingly
76. My father keeps all his \_\_\_\_\_ papers in a lock and key.  
 (a) required (b) necessary (c) useful (d) confidential
77. The splendour of the Himalayas \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (a) beggars description (b) needs no description (c) is so charming (d) inspires awe
78. Sharing heavy responsibilities with colleagues does not involve loss of prestige or \_\_\_\_\_ of the authority of an institute's Head.  
 (a) deterioration (b) decrease (c) diminution (d) loss
79. The problem of proliferation of nuclear arms is never going to be solved unless the superpowers agree to \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (a) a solution (b) understand each other (c) sit together (d) meet half-way
80. The \_\_\_\_\_ arguments put forth for not disclosing the facts did not impress anybody.  
 (a) intemperate (b) spurious (c) specious (d) convincing
81. His \_\_\_\_\_ directions misled us; we did not know which road to take.  
 (a) complex (b) obscure (c) mingled (d) vague
82. We \_\_\_\_\_ trouble on our borders.  
 (a) comprehend (b) supplement (c) complement (d) apprehend

83. The payment was \_\_\_\_\_ delayed this time because some of the supporting documents for the claim were missing.  
 (a) unduly (b) unjustifiably (c) unforeseenly (d) undeservedly  
 (e) unquestionably
84. The library expects you to return each and every book that you have \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (a) demanded (b) lent (c) taken (d) handed  
 (e) given
85. The shepherd was looking after the \_\_\_\_\_ of sheep.  
 (a) crew (b) gang (c) fleet (d) flock
86. One should develop a \_\_\_\_\_ habit of going through a newspaper, some selected magazines and general literature.  
 (a) continuous (b) constant (c) persistent (d) regular  
 (e) recurring
87. Improvement in efficiency and productivity has to be the key \_\_\_\_\_ of policy in respect of both the public and the private sectors in the Five Year Plans.  
 (a) ingredient (b) purpose (c) platform (d) role  
 (e) criterion
88. It is very unfortunate that the two communities which were so friendly till recently are now  
 (a) unfriendly (b) at daggers drawn (c) hostile (d) unhappy
89. Because of the bitter experiences of the past, he \_\_\_\_\_ everywhere.  
 (a) disbelieves (b) smells a rat (c) sees a danger (d) suspects foul
90. On seeing the police approach, the miscreants \_\_\_\_\_.  
 (a) cooled their heels (b) wore at their heels (c) took to their heels (d) took upon their heels
91. Colgate has also got an ambitious aim of \_\_\_\_\_ an eight per cent value share of the toothpaste market by the end of the first year.  
 (a) keeping (b) distributing (c) cornering (d) soliciting
92. This is the \_\_\_\_\_ chosen for the hospital complex to be built next year.  
 (a) area (b) locality (c) site (d) sight
93. Oh! Such a pretty girl. Whom has she \_\_\_\_\_ ?  
 (a) taken after (b) took after (c) taken by (d) took by
94. He was initially \_\_\_\_\_ at the suggestion but was soon \_\_\_\_\_ it himself.  
 (a) frowning; rejecting (b) shocked; advocating (c) impressed; negating (d) thrilled; propagating
95. He preaches liberal views but in practice, he is not \_\_\_\_\_ and is \_\_\_\_\_ narrow-minded than almost any other person.  
 (a) hard; openly (b) tolerant; more (c) ambitious; hardly (d) acceptable; genuinely
96. The birth of a daughter is no more a/an \_\_\_\_\_ occasion because education has \_\_\_\_\_ the people.  
 (a) magnificent; liberalised (b) benign; esteemed  
 (c) ominous; enlightened (d) propitious; blinded

97. He is always \_\_\_\_\_ to his uncle because he considers him a \_\_\_\_\_ fellow.  
 (a) disrespectful; venerable (b) respectful; dishonourable  
 (c) respectful; venerable (d) impudent; respectable
98. The police was at last able to \_\_\_\_\_ the \_\_\_\_\_ of her disappearance from her husband's home.  
 (a) reveal; secret (c) confirm; doubt (b) expose; mystery (d) solve; mystery
99. The police \_\_\_\_\_ any attempt of arson by \_\_\_\_\_ at the trouble spot quite in time.  
 (a) squashed; surrounding (b) made; encircling  
 (c) pre-empted; arriving (d) thwarted; presenting
100. The leaders were \_\_\_\_\_ needed by those to \_\_\_\_\_ they addressed.  
 (a) angrily; who (b) readily; which (c) scarcely; whom (d) rarely; where

**ANSWERS**

- |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |          |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|----------|
| 1. (d)  | 2. (d)  | 3. (c)  | 4. (a)  | 5. (a)  | 6. (a)  | 7. (d)  | 8. (b)  | 9. (a)  | 10. (c)  |
| 11. (c) | 12. (b) | 13. (c) | 14. (d) | 15. (c) | 16. (c) | 17. (a) | 18. (b) | 19. (b) | 20. (b)  |
| 21. (c) | 22. (b) | 23. (a) | 24. (b) | 25. (c) | 26. (a) | 27. (c) | 28. (a) | 29. (b) | 30. (c)  |
| 31. (b) | 32. (b) | 33. (a) | 34. (b) | 35. (c) | 36. (c) | 37. (a) | 38. (e) | 39. (b) | 40. (d)  |
| 41. (e) | 42. (c) | 43. (d) | 44. (d) | 45. (e) | 46. (d) | 47. (e) | 48. (c) | 49. (c) | 50. (b)  |
| 51. (b) | 52. (c) | 53. (e) | 54. (e) | 55. (c) | 56. (d) | 57. (d) | 58. (e) | 59. (c) | 60. (b)  |
| 61. (e) | 62. (a) | 63. (c) | 64. (c) | 65. (c) | 66. (d) | 67. (e) | 68. (e) | 69. (d) | 70. (c)  |
| 71. (e) | 72. (b) | 73. (d) | 74. (c) | 75. (d) | 76. (d) | 77. (a) | 78. (c) | 79. (d) | 80. (c)  |
| 81. (c) | 82. (d) | 83. (a) | 84. (c) | 85. (d) | 86. (d) | 87. (d) | 88. (b) | 89. (b) | 90. (c)  |
| 91. (c) | 92. (c) | 93. (a) | 94. (b) | 95. (b) | 96. (c) | 97. (c) | 98. (d) | 99. (c) | 100. (c) |