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# Comprehension Test for Bank Exams ( )

## Passage No 3

**Directions (Q.1 to 15) Read the following passage to answer the given questions based on it. Some words/phrases are printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.**

During the reign of king Veer, there lived a wise magistrate. Haripant's verdicts were always just and people from all over vast kingdom came to him in order to **settle** their disputes. In the city where Haripant lived, there was a greedy ghee merchant named Niranjan. He always kept twenty barrels of ghee. Of these, fifteen would contain good quality ghee and the remaining could be adulterated. He would mix the two and sell it. This went on for a long time, till finally the people fed up of being **cheated**, complained to Haripant.

Haripant had the ghee examined and found to it be adulterated. He gave Niranjan a choice of punishment—drink the five barrels of adulterated ghee from his shop, or receive a hundred lashings, or pay a thousand gold coins to the treasury. Niranjan thought for a while. Losing a thousand gold coins was too much and a hundred lashings too painful. So he decided to drink the five barrels of ghee. Though Niranjan sold adulterated goods in his shop, he made sure his own food was of the best quality. So after drinking one barrel of ghee he began to feel sick. By the second barrel, he was vomiting. At this point he decided to opt for the lashings instead. But he was pampered and his body was **unused** to any harsh treatment. After ten lashes, he started trembling and by twenty he was giddy. 'Stop!' he screamed. 'I will pay the thousand gold coins!' And he handed them over.

So he ended up **suffering** all three punishments, something he did not forget in a hurry and the people of the city got to use only the **best** quality in their food from then on.

## Questions

### 1. Why was Sean reluctant to take Luke along ?

- A. Because he was a selfish man
- B. He feared that Luke's reaction may alert the Emperor's men
- C. Because Luke could harm him
- D. He wanted to bring fruits for Luke himself

### 2. How did old Sean manage to meet his food requirements ?

- A. by buying food form the market
- B. His nephew Luke took care of his requirements
- C. He picked up fruits from the emperor's orchard
- D. The emperor provided him with ample supply of fruits

### 3. Luke remained behind at the orchard because he

- A. was greedy and wanted to collect more fruits
- B. waited for the Emperor's men to arrest him
- C. lost his composure and started expressing his feeling loudly
- D. had waited for his uncle return

### 4. Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?

- A. Luke did not take good care of his uncle
- B. Lake of self-control had put Luke into trouble
- C. The Emperor was a wicked man

D. Luke had a habit of speaking loudly

**5. Which of the following is not true in the context of the passage ?**

A. Sean was a poor and suffering man

B. Luke came to know about the orchard from his uncle

C. Luke was finally set free

D. Both Sean and Luke collected fruits from Emperor's orchard

**6. How often did Sean visit the Emperor's orchard?**

A. Daily

B. Once a month

C. In a period of two weeks

D. Never; his nephew Luke brought fruits for him

**7. Which is most same in meaning, 'Reluctant'**

A. against

B. disinclined

C. opposed

D. go with

E. none

**8. Why did Niranjan keep five barrels of adulterated ghee?**

A. To sell to customers who could not afford high quality ghee.

B. To make a profit by cheating people.

C. Being a miser he kept the low quality ghee for his family.

D. Demand for this ghee was low so he kept only a small quantity.

E. None of these

**9. Why did the people decide to go to Haripant with their complaint?**

- A. He was close to the king and would get justice for them.
- B. They knew Nirranjan was afraid of Haripant who punished people severely.
- C. They were confident that he would listen to their complaint and give a fair judgement.
- D. He was the only magistrate in the entire kingdom.
- E. None of these.

**10. Why did Haripant allow Nirranjan to choose his own punishment?**

- A. He felt sorry for Nirranjan.
- B. Nirranjan's offence was minor.
- C. He did not want Nirranjan to appeal to the King for leniency.
- D. He did not want to give the wrong punishment.
- E. None of these

**11. Which of the following can be said about Nirranjan?**

- I. He took a lot of time to make any decision.**
- II. He only cheated those who would not dare complain against him.**
- III. He was allergic to ghee and fell sick whenever he consumed it.**

- A. None      B. Only I      C. Both I and II      D. All I, II and III      E. None of these

**12. Why did Nirranjan decide to drink adulterated ghee for his punishment?**

- A. Since the barrels were from his shop he thought he could substitute the adulterated ghee with good ghee.
- B. He wanted to prove that the quality of ghee he sold was good.

- C. He was greedy and had a big appetite so he thought he would easily drink the ghee.
- D. He considered it the easiest of the punishments as he did not realise what effect the ghee would have on him.
- E. None of these

**13. How did Haripant arrive at the conclusion that Niranjan sold adulterated ghee?**

- A. Niranjan was ill when he drank the ghee from his shop.
- B. He had the ghee tested to see if it was adulterated.
- C. He trusted the word of those who had complained about him.
- D. He too was duped by Niranjan.
- E. Niranjan admitted his guilt when confronted.

**14. Which of the following is NOT true in the context of the passage?**

- I. Niranjan's customers were so angry that they beat him mercilessly.
- II. King Veer's kingdom was large.
- III. Niranjan had a very good memory.

- A. Only I      B. Only II      C. Both I and III      D. All I, II and III      E. None of these

**15. What made Niranjan opt for paying the fine last of all?**

- A. He would be deeply in debt if he paid it.
- B. He knew Haripant would keep the money for himself.
- C. No one was willing to lend him money.

- D. He could not bear to part with such a huge sum.
- E. His business would be ruined if he paid such a large fine.

**16. What effect did Niranjan's punishment have?**

- A. All the merchants learnt their lesson and supplied only good quality ghee.
- B. Niranjan lost all his customers and had to close down his shop.
- C. People began to fear Haripant because of his severe punishments.
- D. Niranjan gave into all his customers' demands even if it meant making a loss.
- E. Niranjan never adulterated the ghee thereafter.

**17. Why did the Niranjan suffer three punishments?**

- A. He had cheated so many people that his punishment had to be severe.
- B. Haripant had ordered this so that Niranjan would never repeat his offence.
- C. Haripant wanted to make an example of him so that other merchants would not cheat their customers.
- D. Niranjan could not bear any punishment completely and so had to undergo all three punishments.
- E. None of these

**18. Choose the most SIMILAR word in meaning:**

**SETTLE**

- A. Resolve
- B. Occupy
- C. Compromise
- D. Arrange
- E. Quiet

**19. Choose the most SIMILAR word in meaning:**

**CHEATED**

- A. Unfaithful      B. Blamed      C. Exploited      D. Prevented      E. Dodged

**20. Choose the most SIMILAR word in meaning:**

**SUFFERING**

- A. Hardship      B. Distressing      C. Hurting      D. Experiencing      E. Trouble

**21. Choose the most OPPOSITE word in meaning:**

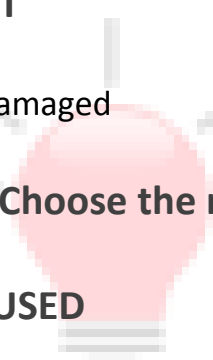
**BEST**

- A. Damaged      B. Inferior      C. Spoiled      D. Defective      E. Cheap

**22. Choose the most OPPOSITE word in meaning:**

**UNUSED**

- A. Accustomed      B. Routine      C. Often      D. Normal      E. Repeated



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**Correct Answers:**

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
B	C	C	B	D	C	B	B	C	E	A	D	B	C	D	E	D	A	C	D	B	A

**Explanations:**

**8.**

Kindly refer to the 2nd last sentence of the 1st paragraph.

**9.**

As it's evident from the 1st paragraph that Haripant was famous for his rational verdicts amongst people, we can infer that people went to him because they had confidence in his judgment.

**10.**

The answer will be 'None of these' as the reason why Haripant allowed him to choose his own punishment is not clearly mentioned in the passage.

**11.**

Out of the given statements, none is true. The right answer, hence, is A.

**12.**

Kindly refer to the 3rd and 4th sentences of the 2nd paragraph.

**13.**

The answer can easily be inferred from the 1st sentence of the 2nd paragraph. The answer, hence, will be option C.

**14.**

1st and 3rd statements are not true but 2nd statement can easily be inferred from the 2nd sentence of the 1st paragraph. The answer, hence, will be option C.

**15.**

Kindly refer to the 3rd and 4th sentences of the 2nd paragraph.

**16.**

The answer can easily be inferred from the last sentence of the last paragraph.

**17.**

The answer can be inferred from the last few sentences of the 2nd paragraph.

**18.**

'To settle' in the context of passage means 'to resolve' or 'to sort out a problem'.

**19.**

In the context of the passage, the people of the kingdom were feeling exploited by Niranjan. So the most similar word to 'Cheated' is 'Exploited'.

**20.**

As Niranjan suffered or faced all three punishments, he actually experienced them. So the most similar word to 'Suffering' is 'Experiencing'.

**21.**

In the context, the quality of 'Ghee' that Nirajan used to sell is being talked. And the most suitable antonym of 'Best' will be 'Inferior'.

**22.**

In the context, the word 'unused' means 'that's never been used to' and the most opposite word to this will be 'Accustomed' that means 'habitual or usual'.



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