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# English Questions for CLAT Exam.

**CLAT English Quiz 36**

Directions: Identify the words that are *similar in meaning* to the word/idiom/phrase in bold. The options do not necessarily need to be grammatically correct.

1. Delhi and Mumbai are **tinderbox** cities and therefore must strengthen their respective fire and safety regulations.
   - A. Full of inflammable waste
   - B. Extremely crowded
   - C. Dangerously uncontrollable
   - D. Readily ignited

2. The company tried to **keep a lid** on the lawsuit but word got out to the media.
   - A. Control
   - B. Conform
   - C. Recover
   - D. Defeat

3. Whether the temperature rise was mainly due to the greenhouse effect was **a moot point**.
   - A. Certain
   - B. Scheme
   - C. Regular
   - D. Disputed

4. When the new intern walked in dressed casually in jeans, there were a lot of **raised eyebrows**.
   - A. Regret
   - B. Enthusiasm
   - C. Disapproval
   - D. Questions

5. The customer **gave a mouthful** when asked the reason for his dissatisfaction.
   - A. Angry
   - B. Verbose
   - C. Succinct
   - D. Loud

6. The situation was already tense, but **the fat hit the fire** when she was accused of embezzling funds as well.
   - A. Disapprove
   - B. Deteriorate
   - C. Troubled
   - D. Widen

7. He **got a lot of flak** for his inability to stop the continuous plummeting of profits.
   - A. Anger
   - B. Severely
   - C. Convenient
   - D. Criticism

8. The event is one of many to ensure both children and adults in the area **are kept in stitches**.
   - A. Excited
   - B. Chained
   - C. Disciplined
   - D. Amused

9. He is **no spring chicken** himself, and knows the rules of the game very well.
   - A. Young
   - B. Old
   - C. Amateur
   - D. Professional
10. He's a versatile player, but under the new Coach, he was neither fish nor fowl, unable to assert himself on the pitch.

A. Clear  B. UselessAmbiguous  C. Ambiguous  D. Closed

Correct Answers:

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Explanations:

1. The fragment ‘must strengthen their respective fire and safety regulations’ seems to imply that the two cities have parts/areas that are likely to catch fire and cause loss of lives and property.

Looking at the various options:

*Extremely crowded* and *Dangerously uncontrollable* are clearly incorrect as *population* has no relevance to *being a tinderbox*. Also, *dangerously uncontrollable* is too vague an option.

Out of *Full of inflammable waste* and *Readily ignited*, Readily ignited is the most suitable fit as it conveys the meaning which is most similar to the word *tinderbox* in the present context.

Hence, option D is the correct answer.

2. **To keep a lid on**: To control the level of something in order to stop it increasing.

*Example: The administration has intervened to keep a lid on inflation.*

Out of the given options, the most suitable fit is *control* as per the explanation given above.

Hence, option A is correct.

3. **A moot point**: Something that is subject to debate, dispute, or uncertainty.

*Example: Whether Shakespeare actually wrote the poem remains a moot point among critics.*

The meaning conveyed by the explanation is depicted by option D- *disputed*.

Hence, option D is correct.
4. **To raise eyebrows**: To elicit shock or offense, typically through unconventional actions or words.

   *Example: His outspoken comments raised quite a few eyebrows at the meeting.*

   The most suitable word that conveys the meaning is *disapproval*.

   Hence, option C is correct.

5. **Gave a mouthful**: Talk to or shout at someone in an angry or critical way.

   *Example: When I asked her politely to move, she gave me a mouthful.*

   Clearly, option A - *Angry* conveys the correct meaning here.

   Hence, option A is correct.

6. **Fat hits the fire**: When trouble breaks out, or a situation deteriorates as a result of something said or done, it is said that the fat hits the fire.

   *Example: Things were looking bad in the stock market, then the fat hit the fire and I lost everything.*

   Going by the explanation above, the only word that fits in is *deteriorate* which means *to worsen*.

   Hence, option B is correct.

7. **Get flak**: To receive a lot of criticism or judgment. If you get a lot of flak from someone, they criticize you severely. If you take the flak, you get the blame for something.

   *Example: Why do I always get the flak when something goes wrong around here?* 

   Going by the explanation above, the appropriate word here is *criticism* which means *disapproval*.

   Hence, option D is correct.

8. **Keep somebody in stitches**: to keep somebody laughing hard or amused.

   *Example: The show kept me in stitches the whole time.*

   *Excited* means eager while the idiom means entertained.

   *Chained and disciplined* are opposite to the context.

   *Amused* is the correct fit here.

   Hence, option D is correct.
9. **No spring chicken:** Said of a person who is no longer particularly young.

   *Example: Although he's no spring chicken, he runs fast.*

   *Young* is completely opposite of what the idiom refers to.

   *Amateur* and *professional* are both irrelevant.

   Only *old* fits in well.

   Hence, option B is correct.

10. **Neither fish nor fowl:** Of doubtful character and difficult to identify or classify/ unclear.

   *Example: We require a solution that directly deals with the issue at hand, but the proposal that has been put forward is, to my mind, neither fish nor fowl.*

   *Clear* is opposite to what the idiom means.

   *Closed* and *useless* are both irrelevant.

   The only word that fits in is *ambiguous* which means *doubtful/uncertain/unclear*.

   Hence, option C is correct.
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