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Aptitude, 2018 EC, entrance exam, version 1

Grade 12 · Aptitude · 2018 E.C.

Time allowed: 120 minutes | **Questions:** 41 | **Total marks:** 41

Name _____ Grade _____ ID No. _____ Date _____

1. SCHOLAR : KNOWLEDGE :: (1)

A. Artist : creativity
B. Judge : courtroom
C. Farmer : harvest
D. Doctor : hospital

2. WHISPER : SHOUT :: (1)

A. Walk : stumble
B. Drizzle : downpour
C. Speak : lecture
D. Glance : observe

3. THIRST : DRINK :: (1)

A. Hunger : eat
B. Fatigue : sleep
C. Curiosity : question
D. Grief : weep

4. OPTIMIST : HOPE :: (1)

A. Pessimist : despair
B. Realist : fantasy
C. Scholar : ignorance
D. Artist : canvas

5. DROUGHT : FAMINE :: (1)

A. Flood : destruction
B. Rain : harvest
C. Sun : warmth
D. Wind : breeze

6. Based on musical instrument family classification, choose the odd one out: (1)

A. Oboe
B. Clarinet
C. Flute
D. Violin

7. Based on emotional valence (positive vs. negative meaning), choose the odd one out: (1)

A. Joyful
B. Elated
C. Ecstatic
D. Melancholy

8. Despite the heavy rains, the farmers remained _____ that their crops would survive, drawing on generations of experience with the land. (1)

A. doubtful
B. hopeful
C. indifferent
D. anxious

9. The young woman's speech was both _____ and _____; she moved the audience to tears while also challenging them to take immediate action. (1)

A. boring . . lengthy
B. confusing . . vague
C. inspiring . . persuasive
D. humorous . . careless

10. Many Ethiopian students find themselves _____ between respecting traditional values and _____ the opportunities that modern education provides. (1)

A. struggling . . embracing
B. choosing . . rejecting
C. hesitating . . ignoring
D. deciding . . abandoning

11. The novel's protagonist was a _____ character—firm in her convictions yet responsive to changing circumstances. (1)

A. simple . . rigid . . closed
B. complex . . steadfast . . adaptable
C. ordinary . . confused . . open
D. predictable . . weak . . resistant

12. After weeks of meticulous preparation, the debate team was ready to _____ their arguments with confidence. (1)

A. withdraw
B. present
C. question
D. abandon

13. The success of the village's new irrigation project _____ on the community's willingness to _____ together and maintain the system collectively. (1)

A. depends . . work
B. fails . . compete
C. relies . . argue
D. hinges . . struggle

14. PREDICTABLE — Choose the word most nearly similar in meaning: (1)

A. unforeseeable
B. foreseeable
C. random
D. uncertain

15. ILLEGIBLE — Choose the word most nearly similar in meaning: (1)

A. readable
B. understandable
C. unreadable
D. clear

16. SUBMERGE — Choose the word most nearly opposite in meaning: (1)

A. immerse
B. emerge
C. sink
D. plunge

17. POSTPONE — Choose the word most nearly opposite in meaning: (1)

A. delay
B. advance
C. defer
D. suspend

18. *The Solar Revolution in Rural Ethiopia 1. In the remote villages of Ethiopia's Rift Valley, where the national power grid remains a distant dream, a different kind of energy revolution is taking root. For generations, families relied on kerosene lamps—flaming, expensive, and hazardous—to extend their days beyond sunset. Children studied by dim, smoky light, their eyes straining and their lungs absorbing toxic fumes. Women walked kilometers to mill grain, and health posts stored vaccines in unreliable kerosene refrigerators. Energy poverty was simply a fact of life. 2. That reality is now changing, driven by the falling cost of solar technology and innovative distribution models. Companies like Bio Lite and d.light have partnered with Ethiopian microfinance institutions to make solar home systems affordable for rural families. A typical system includes a small rooftop panel, a battery, LED lights, and a phone charger—all for less than the cost of one year's kerosene. For Alemitu, a mother of five in the Oromia region, the impact has been transformative: "My children can now study after dark. I charge my phone at home instead of walking two hours to town. We breathe clean air." 3. The implications extend beyond individual households. Solar-powered water pumps are enabling small-scale irrigation, extending growing seasons and increasing food security. Solar-powered refrigerators allow health clinics to store vaccines safely. And perhaps most significantly, solar energy is creating new economic opportunities—women are starting small businesses charging phones, and young people are training as solar technicians. What began as a solution to energy poverty is becoming a catalyst for broader rural development. Source: Adapted from reports by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and field observations in Ethiopian rural communities, 2023-2025.* (1)

The primary purpose of this passage is to:

A. criticize the Ethiopian government for failing to extend the power grid

B. describe how solar technology is transforming rural Ethiopian communities

C. argue that kerosene lamps are superior to solar lighting

D. promote urban migration as a solution to energy poverty

19. *The Solar Revolution in Rural Ethiopia 1. In the remote villages of Ethiopia's Rift Valley, where the national power grid remains a distant dream, a different kind of energy revolution is taking root. For generations, families relied on kerosene lamps—flaming, expensive, and hazardous—to extend their days beyond sunset. Children studied by dim, smoky light, their eyes straining and their lungs absorbing toxic fumes. Women walked kilometers to mill grain, and health posts stored vaccines in unreliable kerosene refrigerators. Energy poverty was simply a fact of life. 2. That reality is now changing, driven by the falling cost of solar technology and innovative distribution models. Companies like Bio Lite and d.light have partnered with Ethiopian microfinance institutions to make solar home systems affordable for rural families. A typical system includes a small rooftop panel, a battery, LED lights, and a phone charger—all for less than the cost of one year's kerosene. For Alemitu, a mother of five in the Oromia region, the impact has been transformative: "My children can now study after dark. I charge my phone at home instead of walking two hours to town. We breathe clean air." 3. The implications extend beyond individual households. Solar-powered water pumps are enabling small-scale irrigation, extending growing seasons and increasing food security. Solar-powered refrigerators allow health clinics to store vaccines safely. And perhaps most significantly, solar energy is creating new economic opportunities—women are starting small businesses charging phones, and young people are training as solar technicians. What began as a solution to energy poverty is becoming a catalyst for broader rural development. Source: Adapted from reports by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and field observations in Ethiopian rural communities, 2023-2025.* (1)

According to the passage, solar home systems in rural Ethiopia typically include all of the following EXCEPT:

A. a rooftop panel

B. a battery

C. a television set

D. LED lights

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The author's attitude toward the adoption of solar technology in rural Ethiopia can be described as:

A. skeptical and doubtful

B. critical and dismissive

C. indifferent and neutral

D. positive and supportive

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The passage suggests that the introduction of solar technology has created new economic opportunities such as:

A. factory jobs in cities and elsewhere

B. Phone charging and solar technician training

C. kerosene distribution networks

D. government employment program

22. *The Garden in Our Heads 1. The human brain has been called the most complex structure in the known universe. With approximately 86 billion neurons, each connected to thousands of others, it creates a network whose possible configurations exceed the number of atoms in existence. Until recently, we could only speculate about how this remarkable organ works. 2. That is changing. Advances in neuroimaging—such as fMRI and EEG—now allow scientists to observe the living brain in action. What researchers are discovering challenges long-held assumptions. The old model suggested that specific functions resided in fixed locations. But the reality appears far more dynamic: when a person speaks or remembers, multiple brain regions activate in coordinated patterns that shift constantly based on context. 3. Perhaps most fascinating is neuroplasticity—the brain's ability to reorganize itself throughout life. Scientists once believed that after childhood, the brain became fixed. We now know that learning a new skill or adapting to a new environment can physically reshape neural connections. The brain of a London taxi driver shows measurable growth in navigation regions; a musician's brain differs in areas controlling fine motor skills. 4. This understanding carries profound implications for education. If brains can change, then intelligence is not simply fixed at birth. Teaching methods, environment, and effort all matter. Dr. Hanna Mekonnen, an Ethiopian neuroscientist, explains: "The brain is not a computer that arrives pre-wired. It's more like a garden that grows according to how it's tended. With the right conditions, growth is always possible." Source: Adapted from research published in the Journal of Neuroscience and interviews with African neuroscientists, 2022-2024.* (1)

According to the passage, the traditional view of the brain as having fixed locations for specific functions is best described as:

A. completely accurate and well-supported

B. an oversimplification of a more complex reality

C. irrelevant to understanding brain function

D. a recent scientific discovery

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According to the passage, what evidence supports neuroplasticity?

A. Brain scans showing identical structures across all people

B. The fact that brain size never changes after childhood

C. Observable brain changes in taxi drivers and musicians

D. Research showing intelligence is completely genetic

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Dr. Hanna Mekonnen's comparison of the brain to a garden primarily emphasizes that:

A. brains are beautiful but fragile

B. neural development requires proper conditions and care

C. gardens grow better in some climates than others

D. brain research is still in its early stages

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Based on the passage, which statement would the author most likely agree with?

A. Intelligence is determined at birth and cannot change.

B. Educational approaches should consider the brain's capacity for change.

C. Neuroimaging has solved all mysteries about how the brain works.

D. Only children's brains are capable of neuroplasticity.

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The passage implies that the practical value of neuroplasticity research for Ethiopian education lies in:

A. proving that some students simply cannot learn

B. encouraging teaching methods that build neural pathways

C. replacing teachers with brain scanners

D. focusing exclusively on early childhood education

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In the context of the passage, the word 'profound' most nearly means:

A. shallow and unimportant

B. deep and significant

C. confusing and unclear

D. temporary and brief

28. *The Solar Revolution in Rural Ethiopia 1. In the remote villages of Ethiopia's Rift Valley, where the national power grid remains a distant dream, a different kind of energy revolution is taking root. For generations, families relied on kerosene lamps—flaming, expensive, and hazardous—to extend their days beyond sunset. Children studied by dim, smoky light, their eyes straining and their lungs absorbing toxic fumes. Women walked kilometers to mill grain, and health posts stored vaccines in unreliable kerosene refrigerators. Energy poverty was simply a fact of life. 2. That reality is now changing, driven by the falling cost of solar technology and innovative distribution models. Companies like Bio Lite and d.light have partnered with Ethiopian microfinance institutions to make solar home systems affordable for rural families. A typical system includes a small rooftop panel, a battery, LED lights, and a phone charger—all for less than the cost of one year's kerosene. For Alemitu, a mother of five in the Oromia region, the impact has been transformative: "My children can now study after dark. I charge my phone at home instead of walking two hours to town. We breathe clean air." 3. The implications extend beyond individual households. Solar-powered water pumps are enabling small-scale irrigation, extending growing seasons and increasing food security. Solar-powered refrigerators allow health clinics to store vaccines safely. And perhaps most significantly, solar energy is creating new economic opportunities—women are starting small businesses charging phones, and young people are training as solar technicians. What began as a solution to energy poverty is becoming a catalyst for broader rural development. Source: Adapted from reports by the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA) and field observations in Ethiopian rural communities, 2023-2025. --- The Garden in Our Heads 1. The human brain has been called the most complex structure in the known universe. With approximately 86 billion neurons, each connected to thousands of others, it creates a network whose possible configurations exceed the number of atoms in existence. Until recently, we could only speculate about how this remarkable organ works. 2. That is changing. Advances in neuroimaging—such as fMRI and EEG—now allow scientists to observe the living brain in action. What researchers are discovering challenges long-held assumptions. The old model suggested that specific functions resided in fixed locations. But the reality appears far more dynamic: when a person speaks or remembers, multiple brain regions activate in coordinated patterns that shift constantly based on context. 3. Perhaps most fascinating is neuroplasticity—the brain's ability to reorganize itself throughout life. Scientists once believed that after childhood, the brain became fixed. We now know that learning a new skill or adapting to a new environment can physically reshape neural connections. The brain of a London taxi driver shows measurable growth in navigation regions; a musician's brain differs in areas controlling fine motor skills. 4. This understanding carries profound implications for education. If brains can change, then intelligence is not simply fixed at birth. Teaching methods, environment, and effort all matter. Dr. Hanna Mekonnen, an Ethiopian neuroscientist, explains: "The brain is not a computer that arrives pre-wired. It's more like a garden that grows according to how it's tended. With the right conditions, growth is always possible." Source: Adapted from research published in the Journal of Neuroscience and interviews with African neuroscientists, 2022-2024.* (1)

Which of the following themes is common to both passages?

A. Traditional methods are always superior to modern innovations.

B. Scientific advances meet basic human needs.

C. Rural communities resist all forms of change and development.

D. Government intervention is the only path to progress.

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Both passages suggest that meaningful transformation requires:

A. abandoning traditional practices entirely

B. importing solutions from developed countries without adaptation

C. integrating new technologies with local conditions and needs

D. waiting for government support before taking action

30. The elder advised the young man: "When you follow the path of your fathers, you learn to walk with their wisdom." This proverb suggests that: (1)

A. young people should never question their elders

B. traditional knowledge offers valuable guidance

C. walking is the only way to learn

D. fathers always know the best routes

31. The proverb "Don't count your chickens before they hatch" teaches us to: (1)

A. avoid raising poultry

B. Wait for certainty before celebrating

C. count carefully to avoid mistakes

D. expect every egg to produce a chick

32. The committee _____ for three hours before finally reaching a unanimous decision on the new school policy. (1)

A. debated
B. was debated
C. were debating
D. have debated

33. All successful farmers in the region understand soil composition. Beka understands soil composition. Therefore: (1)

A. Beka is definitely a successful farmer
B. Beka may or may not be a successful farmer
C. Beka cannot be a successful farmer
D. only successful farmers understand soil

34. If the length of a rectangle increases by 20% and the width decreases by 20%, then the area changes by: (1)

A. No change
B. 4% decrease
C. 4% increase
D. 8% decrease

35. If 8 workers can finish a job in 12 days, how many workers are needed to finish the same job in 6 days (assume each person works at the same rate)? (1)

A. 12
B. 14
C. 16
D. 18

36. A team of 5 students met for a discussion. Each student shook hands once with each other. How many handshakes take place? (1)

A. 120
B. 10
C. 25
D. 20

37. A train running at 54 km/hr crosses a pole in 12 seconds. Length of the train is: (1)

A. 150 meter
B. 160 meter
C. 180 meter
D. 200 meter

38. Eight years ago, a mother's age was four times her daughter's age. Eight years from now, the mother's age will be twice her daughter's age. What is the current age of the mother? (1)

A. 40
B. 48
C. 56
D. 64

39. *The table shows the number of different categories of electronic devices sold by a company over five years (in thousands). Year | Laptops | Tablets | Smartphones | Smart watches | Headphones | Total 2013 | 120 | 80 | 350 | 60 | 190 | 800 2014 | 150 | 95 | 420 | 75 | 210 | 950 2015 | 170 | 110 | 460 | 90 | 230 | 1060 2016 | 200 | 130 | 520 | 105 | 260 | 1215 2017 | 230 | 150 | 610 | 120 | 290 | 1400*
For which category was the percentage increase in sales from 2014 to 2015 the maximum? (1)

A. Headphones
B. Laptops
C. Smart watches
D. Tablets

40. *The table shows the number of different categories of electronic devices sold by a company over five years (in thousands). Year | Laptops | Tablets | Smartphones | Smart watches | Headphones | Total 2013 | 120 | 80 | 350 | 60 | 190 | 800 2014 | 150 | 95 | 420 | 75 | 210 | 950 2015 | 170 | 110 | 460 | 90 | 230 | 1060 2016 | 200 | 130 | 520 | 105 | 260 | 1215 2017 | 230 | 150 | 610 | 120 | 290 | 1400* (1)

If the same percentage increase in smartphone sales from 2016 to 2017 continues for 2018, approximately how many smartphones will be sold in 2018?

A. 690 thousand

B. 715 thousand

C. 730 thousand

D. 740 thousand

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The number of smart watches sold in 2015 is what percentage of the headphones sold in 2016?

A. 30%

B. 40%

C. 36%

D. 34.6%

— END OF EXAMINATION —