

**Class 7 | English Olympiad**

**Instructions:** Each question has one correct answer. Choose the best option (A/B/C/D). Answer key is provided at the end. This paper is for practice only — not an official exam paper. Recommended time: **45 minutes**.

**Q1.** 'Encomium' is a \_\_\_ .

**A.** formal speech or writing of praise

**B.** strong criticism

**C.** type of poem

**D.** legal document

**Q2.** Which sentence correctly uses 'whom'?

**A.** Whom is going to the meeting?

**B.** To who did you give the letter?

**C.** He is the person whom I trust most.

**D.** Whom should be blamed here?

**Q3.** 'Impecunious' most nearly means:

**A.** very rich

**B.** very talented

**C.** having very little money

**D.** having very little time

**Q4.** A 'syllepsis' (or zeugma) uses one word to modify two others, often incongruously. Which is an example?

**A.** He is as fast as wind.

**B.** She opened the door and her heart to him.

**C.** The trees were dancing.

**D.** He never lies.

**Q5.** 'Panegyric' means \_\_\_ .

**A.** a public speech of elaborate praise

**B.** a type of disease

**C.** a severe punishment

**D.** a lengthy apology

**Q6.** Which word means 'acting as a token representative'?

**A.** intrinsic

**B.** nominal

**C.** seminal

**D.** titular

**Q7.** 'Catachresis' is the \_\_\_ use of a word.

**A.** correct

**B.** overly formal

**C.** incorrect or strained

**D.** poetic

**Q8.** 'Lacuna' means \_\_\_ .

**A.** a type of lake

**B.** a missing portion or gap in a manuscript/argument

**C.** a lunar phenomenon

**D.** an elaborate decoration

**Q9.** The term 'pathetic fallacy' was coined by John Ruskin. It refers to \_\_\_ .

**A.** a character's false emotions

**B.** giving human emotions to nature or inanimate objects

**C.** an error in logical reasoning

**D.** a type of tragic ending

**Q10.** 'Prolepsis' in rhetoric is \_\_\_ .

**A.** anticipating and answering objections before they are raised

**B.** repeating phrases at the end of clauses

**C.** using understatement

**D.** deliberately leaving ideas incomplete

**Q11.** 'Internecline' means \_\_\_ .

**A.** international

**B.** very deep

**C.** mutually destructive, especially within a group

**D.** extremely violent towards outsiders

**Q12.** A 'tautology' in writing is \_\_\_ .

**A.** a logical contradiction

**B.** saying the same thing twice using different words (e.g. 'free gift')

**C.** an imprecise comparison

**D.** a figure of speech using sound

**Q13.** 'Nadir' means \_\_\_ .

**A.** the highest point

**B.** the beginning

**C.** the lowest point

**D.** the end

**Q14.** 'Supercilious' means \_\_\_ .

**A.** extremely kind

**B.** behaving as if superior to others; haughty

**C.** very precise

**D.** very cautious

**Q15.** 'Peripatetic' means \_\_\_ .

**A.** relating to surrounding areas

**B.** staying in one place

**C.** travelling from place to place

**D.** going deep underground

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**Q16.** In grammar, an 'appositive' is \_\_\_ .

**A.** an opposite word

**B.** a noun placed next to another noun to describe it (e.g. 'My friend, the doctor')

**C.** a prepositional phrase

**D.** a type of conditional

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**Q17.** 'Tendentious' : 'neutral' :: 'diffident' : \_\_\_ .

**A.** confident

**B.** different

**C.** difficult

**D.** shy

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**Q18.** 'Expurgate' means to \_\_\_ .

**A.** make public

**B.** add more content to a book

**C.** remove objectionable or offensive parts from a text

**D.** explain in detail

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**Q19.** The term 'dramatis personae' refers to \_\_\_ .

**A.** dramatic music

**B.** the list of characters in a play

**C.** a dramatic conclusion

**D.** the setting of a play

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**Q20.** Which word means 'fleeing from danger'?

**A.** fugacious

**B.** fugitive

**C.** fugue

**D.** fulsome

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**Q21.** A 'volta' in a sonnet is \_\_\_ .

**A.** the opening line

**B.** the final couplet

**C.** the turn or shift in argument or emotion

**D.** the rhyme scheme

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**Q22.** 'Pellucid' means \_\_\_ .

**A.** not clear

**B.** crystal clear

**C.** multicoloured

**D.** pulsating

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**Q23.** 'Peroration' is \_\_\_ .

**A.** the introduction of a speech

**B.** a type of rhetorical question

**C.** the concluding part of a speech, often summarising key points

**D.** a digression in a speech

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**Q24.** The word 'tergiversate' means to \_\_\_ .

**A.** investigate deeply

**B.** make evasive statements; abandon a cause

**C.** speak very clearly

**D.** argue strongly

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**Q25.** 'Plenipotentiary' describes someone \_\_\_ .

**A.** very wealthy

**B.** with full authority to represent a country

**C.** holding many different jobs

**D.** who plans very carefully

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**Q26.** A 'bathetic' moment in writing is \_\_\_ .

**A.** very beautiful and sublime

**B.** an abrupt, disappointing drop from the serious to the trivial

**C.** a moment of great action

**D.** a detailed description

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**Q27.** 'Venal' means \_\_\_ .

**A.** very gentle

**B.** relating to veins

**C.** open to bribery; corrupt

**D.** very proud

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**Q28.** 'Apophasis' is a rhetorical device where one \_\_\_ .

**A.** mentions something by claiming not to mention it

**B.** uses very short sentences

**C.** makes a long digression

**D.** defines a term precisely

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**Q29.** 'Quixotic' means \_\_\_ .

**A.** very quick

**B.** relating to quixote cheese

**C.** exceedingly idealistic; impractically romantic

**D.** very angry

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**Q30.** 'Sartorial' relates to \_\_\_ .

**A.** food and cooking

**B.** tailoring and fashion

**C.** speech and language

**D.** law and order

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**Q31.** 'Verisimilitude' : 'truth-like appearance' :: 'veridical' : \_\_\_ .

**A.** truthful; accurately representing facts

**B.** very dangerous

**C.** relating to a verdict

**D.** relating to green colour

**Q32.** A 'Spoonerism' involves \_\_\_ .

**A.** rhyming slang

**B.** swapping initial sounds of words ('blushing crow' for 'crushing blow')

**C.** a type of pun

**D.** reversing the order of words in a sentence

**Q33.** 'Propitious' means \_\_\_ .

**A.** very proper

**B.** giving a sign of good things to come; favourable

**C.** very proportional

**D.** deeply religious

**Q34.** 'Parvenu' refers to a \_\_\_ .

**A.** formal entry point

**B.** type of pasta

**C.** person who has recently gained wealth or importance but lacks social standing

**D.** type of formal greeting

**Q35.** 'Weal' (as in 'public weal') means \_\_\_ .

**A.** a type of fish

**B.** well-being; prosperity

**C.** a circular object

**D.** a metal material

**Q36.** A 'macaronic' text mixes \_\_\_ .

**A.** only metaphors and similes

**B.** two or more languages

**C.** prose and poetry

**D.** fact and fiction

**Q37.** 'Limpid' means \_\_\_ .

**A.** limp or tired

**B.** unclear

**C.** perfectly clear

**D.** very slow

**Q38.** 'Aphorism' : 'short wise saying' :: 'epigram' : \_\_\_ .

**A.** a long narrative

**B.** a brief, witty, and often satirical saying or poem

**C.** a type of graph

**D.** an inscription on a tomb

**Q39.** The 'Great Chain of Being' is a concept from \_\_\_ .

**A.** biology

**B.** ancient Greek and medieval philosophy; a hierarchy of all matter

**C.** modern physics

**D.** literary criticism

**Q40.** 'Fungible' items are \_\_\_ .

**A.** made of fungi

**B.** very fragile

**C.** interchangeable; one unit is equivalent to another

**D.** very expensive

### Answer Key

Q1: A    Q2: C    Q3: C    Q4: B    Q5: A    Q6: D    Q7: C    Q8: B    Q9: B    Q10: A  
Q11: C    Q12: B    Q13: C    Q14: B    Q15: C    Q16: B    Q17: A    Q18: C    Q19: B  
Q20: B    Q21: C    Q22: B    Q23: C    Q24: B    Q25: B    Q26: B    Q27: C    Q28: A  
Q29: C    Q30: B    Q31: A    Q32: B    Q33: B    Q34: C    Q35: B    Q36: B    Q37: C  
Q38: B    Q39: B    Q40: C