



ECAT GRAND FINALE

Sample Paper

(Based on the new exam pattern)



TOTAL MARKS
100



QUESTIONS
50



DURATION
60 mins

Instructions for Student:

- Read the question carefully before answering.
- Each question has 4 options (A, B, C & D).
- Choose one correct option as your answer from the 4 options.
- **New Exam Pattern:**
 1. Each question will carry 1, 2, or 4 marks, depending on its difficulty level.
 2. **Negative Marking:** Additional marks will be deducted for every incorrect answer (0.25 marks for a 1-mark question, 0.5 marks for a 2-mark question, and 1 mark for a 4-mark question).
 3. The Assessment Round score will be included in the Grand Finale score using a weighted average method. 30% of the Assessment Round and 70% of the Grand Finale score.
 4. New Method to Calculate Marks for Grand Finale Awards.

	Assessment Round	Grand Finale
Actual Marks	60	80
Weightage	30%	70%
Marks After Weighted Average Rule	$60 \times 30/100 = 18$	$80 \times 70/100 = 56$
Final Marks for Grand Finale Awards	$18 + 56 = 74$	

- On the answer sheet blacken the correct option against the corresponding question number.
- **Use pencil to mark your answer.**
- If you wish to change your answer, erase the previous mark completely.

All The Best !

SECTION 1: Identification of Grammar

1. Which of the following sentences uses the preposition incorrectly? (1m)
 - a. We are very excited about our trip to Spain next week.
 - b. I am looking forward to having a meeting with you next week.
 - c. At the moment, she is recovering of her injuries.
 - d. My cousin is married to a famous American.
2. Which word can be formed by rearranging all the letters of "CONSIDER" and means "to think carefully about something"? (1m)
 - a. Discord
 - b. Decision
 - c. Consider
 - d. Condense
3. Rearrange the letters in "RESCUE" to form a word that means "to make use of something again." (1m)
 - a. Secure
 - b. Reuse
 - c. Censure
 - d. Recuse
4. Choose the correctly spelled word. (1m)
 - a. Exagerate
 - b. Exagerrate
 - c. Exaggarate
 - d. Exaggerate
5. "The sun was shining brightly when we reached the beach." What tense is used in the sentence? (1m)
 - a. Present Perfect
 - b. Present continuous
 - c. Past Perfect
 - d. Past
6. Which sentence is in the active voice? (1m)
 - a. The final report had been reviewed by the committee.
 - b. The committee had carefully reviewed the final report.
 - c. The final report was being reviewed by the committee.
 - d. The final report will be reviewed tomorrow.
7. "Blinded by a dust storm, they lost their way." Identify the type of sentence. (1m)
 - a. Simple
 - b. Compound
 - c. Compound-Complex
 - d. Complex
8. Identify the sentence that contains an adverb clause. (1m)
 - a. He comes to me whenever he gets time.
 - b. I think that it would rain.
 - c. Do you know who he is?
 - d. I am not sure what I have to do.
9. Which of the following sentences does NOT contain an abstract noun? (1m)
 - a. We have a lot of faith in our judiciary.
 - b. The management has conducted a meeting about upcoming projects.
 - c. I am filled with extreme joy when I help others.
 - d. Over time most people develop wisdom.
10. "I will have dressed up by the time you reach home." What is the tense of the verb? (1m)
 - a. Future perfect
 - b. Present perfect
 - c. Past perfect
 - d. Future perfect continuous

SECTION 2: Functional Grammar

11. "Is this _____ jacket? No, I'm sure it belongs to _____ woman waiting near the entrance." Choose the option that correctly completes both blanks. (2m)
 - a. an, a
 - b. your, a
 - c. your, the
 - d. the, an

12. He said to me, "I have often told you not to play with fire."

Convert the sentence into indirect speech. (2m)

- a. He told me that he often tells me not to play with fire.
- b. More often than not, he tells me not to play with fire.
- c. He often tells me not to play with fire.
- d. He told me that he had often told me not to play with fire.

13. "Some of us can do that, _____?" Choose the correct question tag. (2m)

- a. can we
- b. didn't we
- c. can't we
- d. should we

14. "How do you write that word?" Convert the sentence into passive voice. (2m)

- a. How can you write that word?
- b. Is that word written by you?
- c. How is that word written?
- d. Have you written that word?

15. "The museum is _____ open on public holidays, but visitors should check the timings before planning their visit."

Choose the option that correctly completes the sentence. (2m)

- a. near
- b. nearly
- c. rarely
- d. rare

16. Which sentence uses the correct form of the adjective? (2m)

- a. This is the most fascinating book I have ever read.
- b. This is the fascinatingest book I have ever read.
- c. This is the more fascinating book I have ever read.
- d. This is the most fascinated book I have ever read.

17. Which sentence contains an error in using degrees of comparison? (2m)

- a. She is more intelligent than her peers.
- b. This is the best pizza I have ever tasted.
- c. He is more taller than his friend.
- d. Mount Everest is the highest mountain in the world.

18. "The scientist repeated the experiment to verify the results."

What does "verify" most nearly mean in this context? (2m)

- a. To question their accuracy
- b. To confirm their accuracy
- c. To change their findings
- d. To explain their importance

19. "The sudden disruption to the power supply brought the entire production line to a halt."

What does "disruption" suggest in this context? (2m)

- a. A temporary interruption
- b. A planned improvement
- c. A permanent expansion
- d. A gradual increase

20. If you "hit the nail on the head," what have you done? (2m)

- a. Solved a problem accurately
- b. Made a mistake
- c. Done or said something exactly right
- d. Created confusion

21. The instructions were so _____ that nobody could understand what was expected. (2m)

- a. transparent
- b. ambiguous
- c. precise
- d. explicit

22. Choose the correctly punctuated sentence. (2m)

- a. As the sun began to set over the horizon Tina exclaimed, "What a beautiful sunset!"
- b. As the sun began to set over the horizon, Tina exclaimed, "What a beautiful sunset!"
- c. As the sun began to set over the horizon; Tina exclaimed "What a beautiful sunset!"
- d. As the sun began to set over the horizon Tina, exclaimed "What a beautiful sunset!"

23. Choose the correctly punctuated sentence. (2m)

- a. The reporter gasped, "What an astonishing discovery they have made!"
- b. The reporter gasped "What an astonishing discovery they have made"!
- c. The reporter gasped, "What an astonishing discovery they have made."
- d. The reporter, gasped "What an astonishing discovery they have made!"

24. Choose the correctly punctuated sentence. (2m)

- a. "Do you think it will look this stunning tomorrow?" she asked.
- b. "Do you think it will look this stunning tomorrow"? she asked.
- c. "Do you think it will look this stunning tomorrow," she asked?
- d. "Do you think it will look this stunning tomorrow." she asked.

25. Choose the correctly punctuated sentence. (2m)

- a. If the computer system crashes, save your document immediately.
- b. If the computer system crashes save, your document immediately.
- c. If the computer system crashes; save your document immediately.
- d. If the computer system crashes. save your document immediately.

SECTION 3: Reading Comprehension

Observe the poster and answer questions 26 to 29.



KEEP YOUR KIDS HEALTHY

Be Wary of Childhood Obesity
1 in 5 CHILDREN in the U.S. is considered overweight or obese.

CHILDREN WHO ARE CONSIDERED OVERWEIGHT HAVE A HIGHER RISK OF:

- 
Staying overweight through adulthood
- 
Developing chronic diseases like heart disease and diabetes
- 
Experiencing feelings of stress, sadness and low self-esteem

PRACTICE HEALTHY EATING HABITS

Guiding children towards healthy eating choices when they are younger helps them practice healthy habits in the future.



Fill your kitchen with healthy, low-sugar snacks.

TIP – Try fruits, veggies and nuts instead of chips, candy or soda.



Prepare foods at home instead of buying fast foods that are high in carbs and calories.

TIP – Next time you cook spaghetti, try zucchini noodles or spaghetti squash instead of pasta noodles.

26. Which conclusion can be reasonably drawn from the information in the poster? (2m)

- a. Childhood obesity can affect children's physical health as well as their emotional and social well-being.
- b. Childhood obesity is mainly caused by children spending too much time playing outdoors.
- c. Children who maintain a healthy weight will never experience emotional difficulties.
- d. Childhood obesity affects children only when they become teenagers.

27. Which conclusion can reasonably be drawn from the poster? (2m)

- a. Childhood obesity can affect both physical and emotional well-being.
- b. Childhood obesity affects only children's physical health.
- c. Healthy eating alone guarantees that obesity will never occur.
- d. Children who are overweight are unlikely to face health problems later.

28. A student wants to reduce the risk of developing unhealthy habits mentioned in the poster. Which combination of actions would best support this goal? (2m)

- a. Eating a balanced diet, staying physically active and limiting excessive screen time
- b. Avoiding all snacks, spending more time indoors and increasing screen time
- c. Exercising only when feeling unwell and replacing meals with snacks
- d. Focusing mainly on academic work and avoiding outdoor activities

29. Which of the following statements about childhood obesity is true? (2m)

- a. It can lead to chronic diseases later in life.
- b. It only affects children from low-income families.
- c. It is not a concern for children under 10 years old.
- d. All children will outgrow obesity without intervention.

Read the passage and answer questions 30 to 34.

I had asthma when I was young, so I never got to play sports much with my father. While my brother and father practiced, I could only sit in bed, propped up by a stack of pillows. As I read comic books, I heard them beneath our apartment window. In the summer, it was the thump of my brother's fastball into my father's mitt. In the fall, it was the smack of a football. In the winter, it was the airy bounce of a basketball.

Though my father had come from China when he was eight, he had taken quickly to American games. When he and Mother were young, they had had the same dances and sports leagues as their white schoolmates - but kept separate in Chinatown. He had met Mother when she tripped him during a co-ed basketball game at the Chinatown Y.

Father was big as a teenager and good at sports. In fact, a social club in Chinatown had hired him to play football against social clubs in other Chinatowns. There he was, a boy playing against grown men.

During a game in Watsonville, a part-time butcher had broken Father's nose. It never properly healed, leaving a big bump at the bridge. There were other injuries too from baseball, basketball, and tennis. Each bump and scar on his body had its own story, and each story was matched by a trophy or medal.

— Excerpt from *The Great Rat Hunt* by Lawrence Yep

30. What does the narrator's repeated attention to the sounds and movements outside the window mainly reveal about his experience? (2m)

- a. He is curious about the neighbourhood but feels completely safe.
- b. He is increasingly alert and uneasy because he does not know what may be outside.
- c. He is excited because he expects to discover something entertaining.
- d. He is distracted from his reading because he dislikes comic books.

31. How did the narrator's father adapt to American sports after moving from China? (2m)

- a. He quickly learned and participated in American games.
- b. He refused to play any sports.
- c. He only played traditional Chinese games.
- d. He focused solely on academic achievements.

32. What theme is primarily reflected in the narrator's experience of watching their father and brother play sports? (2m)

- a. The importance of competition in sports
- b. The role of injuries in athletic careers
- c. The challenges of adapting to new cultures
- d. The impact of family dynamics on personal experiences

33. Why might the narrator feel a sense of longing while watching their family play sports? (2m)

- a. He/She wished to participate but was physically unable due to asthma.
- b. He/She had no interest in sports and only enjoyed watching.
- c. He/She preferred reading to playing outside.
- d. He/She was upset with their father for not including them.

34. What can be inferred about the father's sports achievements? (2m)

- a. His injuries were more significant than his successes.
- b. He was not very successful in sports.
- c. He preferred individual sports over team sports.
- d. Each injury he sustained had a corresponding story or achievement.

Read the given information and answer questions 35 to 41.

For many young athletes, managing the responsibilities of school and sports can feel overwhelming. However, finding a balance is essential not only for academic success but also for athletic performance and personal growth. Here are some key strategies to help you navigate this dual commitment effectively.

Establishing clear and realistic goals in both academics and athletics is the first step towards balance. Ask yourself what you want to achieve in each area. Prioritizing these goals will help you make informed decisions about how to allocate your time.

Developing a daily or weekly schedule can greatly enhance your time management skills. Include all your commitments: classes, homework, and study sessions, practices, games, and training sessions, meals,

relaxation, and social activities. Using a planner or digital calendar can help you visualize your commitments and ensure you dedicate enough time to each area.

Make the most of any free time you have. Whether it's during bus rides to games or breaks between classes, use these moments to review notes or read ahead in textbooks or complete smaller assignments or study for upcoming tests. Maximizing these pockets of time can prevent last-minute cramming and help you stay prepared.

Remember that both academics and athletics contribute to your overall growth as a student and an individual. If you aspire to play sports at the collegiate level, academic performance becomes even more critical, as recruiters look for well-rounded students who excel in both areas.

35. Which of the following weekly schedules best reflects the balanced approach recommended in the passage? (2m)

- a. Six days of intensive training with very little time for study or rest
- b. Regular training combined with planned study time, adequate rest and some social or recreational activities
- c. Daily academic study with no organised physical activity
- d. Intensive sports training whenever possible, with studies completed only when there is free time

36. Which statement is NOT supported by the passage? (2m)

- a. A student-athlete needs to manage time carefully.
- b. Balancing sport and academics can require sacrifices.
- c. Academic success should always be given up when sporting opportunities arise.
- d. Rest and recovery are important for maintaining performance.

37. What inference can be made about the importance of academics for student-athletes aspiring to play at the collegiate level? (2m)

- a. Academic performance is critical as recruiters look for well-rounded students.
- b. Student-athletes should focus solely on sports.
- c. Academic performance is less important than athletic skills.
- d. Academic performance is irrelevant to athletic success.

38. What theme is primarily reflected in the passage? (2m)

- a. The challenges of being a professional athlete.
- b. The importance of managing time effectively.
- c. The benefits of playing sports in high school.
- d. The relationship between physical fitness and academic success.

39. Which strategy does the passage suggest for enhancing time management skills? (2m)

- a. Ignoring homework until the last minute
- b. Using smartphone apps to record your daily routine
- c. Developing a daily or weekly schedule
- d. Utilising free time in planning your future

40. Why is it important for student-athletes to build in time for relaxation and rest, according to the passage? (2m)

- a. It contributes to their overall growth as individuals.
- b. It allows them to play more sports.
- c. It helps them avoid injuries during games.
- d. It ensures they have more free time.

41. Which of the following best summarises the overall message of the passage? (2m)

- a. Physical distances that separate people.
- b. Balancing academics and athletics requires careful planning, communication, and self-care.
- c. Academics are unimportant compared to athletic achievements.
- d. Time management is irrelevant for student-athletes.

Read the poem and answer questions 42 to 45.

Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep,
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

– By Robert Frost

42. Why does the speaker's decision to stop in the woods create a conflict within the poem? (2m)

- a. He wants to enjoy the beauty of the woods but knows he has responsibilities to fulfil.
- b. He dislikes the woods but is forced to remain there.
- c. He wants to meet the owner but is afraid of the horse.
- d. He wants to travel further but has forgotten his destination.

43. What does the description of the “darkest evening of the year” contribute to the atmosphere of the poem? (2m)

- a. It creates a mysterious and contemplative mood.
- b. It creates a cheerful and celebratory mood.
- c. It suggests the speaker is attending a festival.
- d. It shows that the speaker is lost because of a storm.

44. What theme can be inferred from the poem as a whole? (2m)

- a. The importance of nature over human responsibilities
- b. The conflict between personal desires and societal obligations
- c. The joy of winter activities
- d. The beauty of rural life

45. Why is the repetition of “And miles to go before I sleep” significant to the poem's meaning? (2m)

- a. It emphasises that the speaker has responsibilities and cannot remain in the woods indefinitely.
- b. It shows that the speaker is physically exhausted from travelling.
- c. It suggests that the speaker has forgotten where he lives.
- d. It indicates that the speaker wants to avoid returning home.

SECTION 4: Challenger's Section**46. “The negotiations remained at an impasse for weeks, as neither party was willing to compromise on the key terms.” Based on the context, what does "impasse" most likely mean? (4m)**

- a. A situation of steady progress
- b. A deadlock where no agreement can be reached
- c. A friendly disagreement
- d. A final decision

47. "The athlete had trained consistently throughout the season. She was unable to compete in the final because she suffered an injury during practice." Choose the option that combines the sentences most effectively while preserving the meaning and showing the correct logical relationships. (4m)

- a. The athlete had trained consistently throughout the season, so she was unable to compete in the final because she suffered an injury during practice.
- b. Although the athlete had trained consistently throughout the season, she was unable to compete in the final because she suffered an injury during practice.
- c. The athlete had trained consistently throughout the season because she was unable to compete in the final, although she suffered an injury during practice.
- d. The athlete had trained consistently throughout the season, and she was unable to compete in the final although she suffered an injury during practice.

48. "Maria checked her watch for the third time in five minutes, then glanced anxiously toward the entrance of the auditorium. She clutched the bouquet of flowers tightly, occasionally smoothing the wrinkles from her dress." What can be inferred about Maria's situation? (4m)

- a. She is bored and wants to leave.
- b. She is waiting nervously for someone or something important.
- c. She is upset about losing the flowers.
- d. She is preparing to give a speech.

49. Which word has a more negative connotation than the others, even though all four share a similar core meaning? (4m)

- a. Thrifty
- b. Economical
- c. Miserly
- d. Frugal

50. She said, "You must submit the report by Friday." Convert into reported speech. (4m)

- a. She said that I must submit the report by Friday.
- b. She said that I had to submit the report by Friday.
- c. She told that I must submit the report by Friday.
- d. She said that I would submit the report by Friday.

