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Fillers - Learn Rules and Practice Previous Year Questions

Welcome to our blog on Fillers, an essential topic in English Language that plays a crucial role in all competitive exams. Approximately 3 - 4 questions are certain to appear from this topic in the exam, making it imperative for you to grasp the concepts of Fillers thoroughly and practice a variety of questions.

In this blog, we will comprehensively cover all the theoretical concepts and rules of this topic. Additionally, we have included previously asked questions from various competitive exams, to help you get a feel for what to expect. So, let's dive into the world of Fillers and boost your exam preparation.



[Source: KD Live]

What are Fillers?

In a given sentence, candidates need to fill in the blank space with a word (out of the options given) that goes along with the sentence. These are called 'Filler Words'.

There are three types of filler word questions –

- I. Single Fillers – one word in each option
- II. Two statement fillers – two words in each option, these options will be in the correct sequence of the blanks in the question.
- III. Multiple Statement Fillers – three or more words in each option, these options will be in the correct sequence of the blanks in the question.



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How to solve questions of 'Fillers'?

a) Focus on word usage

When you read the sentence, you will get an idea of what the sentence is trying to convey. So, try to put in a word by making sense of the sentence without looking at the options. This will help you pick the correct option. When you pick the option, make sure to read it again and analyze whether it has a sensible meaning.

b) Try the elimination method

Certain questions will require you to utilize your vocabulary (words, idioms, phrases, etc.) For instance, if a sentence has a positive meaning and the given options have 3 negatively associated words, you can eliminate the three instantly.

However, you must re-read the sentence after using it with the 4th option despite being sure of your choice. Sometimes, you may miss the subtle difference and mistake the essence of the sentence.

For example: It was a bright sunny day, yet her mood was _____.

(a) Happy (b) Inauspicious

(c) Gloomy (d) Cheerful

In this sentence, the first half has a positive essence - 'it was a bright sunny day' but the second part is a contradiction. So, we can easily assume that it would be a word that would reflect an antonym/an opposite sounding word. By the method of elimination, we can cancel out happy and cheerful. Now, although inauspicious acts as an antonym, one's mood cannot be inauspicious. It caters to a situation or a condition. Hence, the last word 'gloomy' is the correct answer.

c) Use of Grammar Rules

Knowledge of some basic grammar rules will help choose the right option to fill in the blank.

For example -

· If the blank has the article 'a' before it, the word will definitely start with a consonant.

· If the article is 'an', you need to fill the blank with a vowel.

Similarly, try to find clues from which you can directly pinpoint the answer without much hassle. Hence, it's time to brush up some basic rules of grammar.

d) Identify the sentence connotation

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When it comes to the essence of a word, we need to understand the undertone. Sometimes, a word may have a positive connotation while its synonym may not.

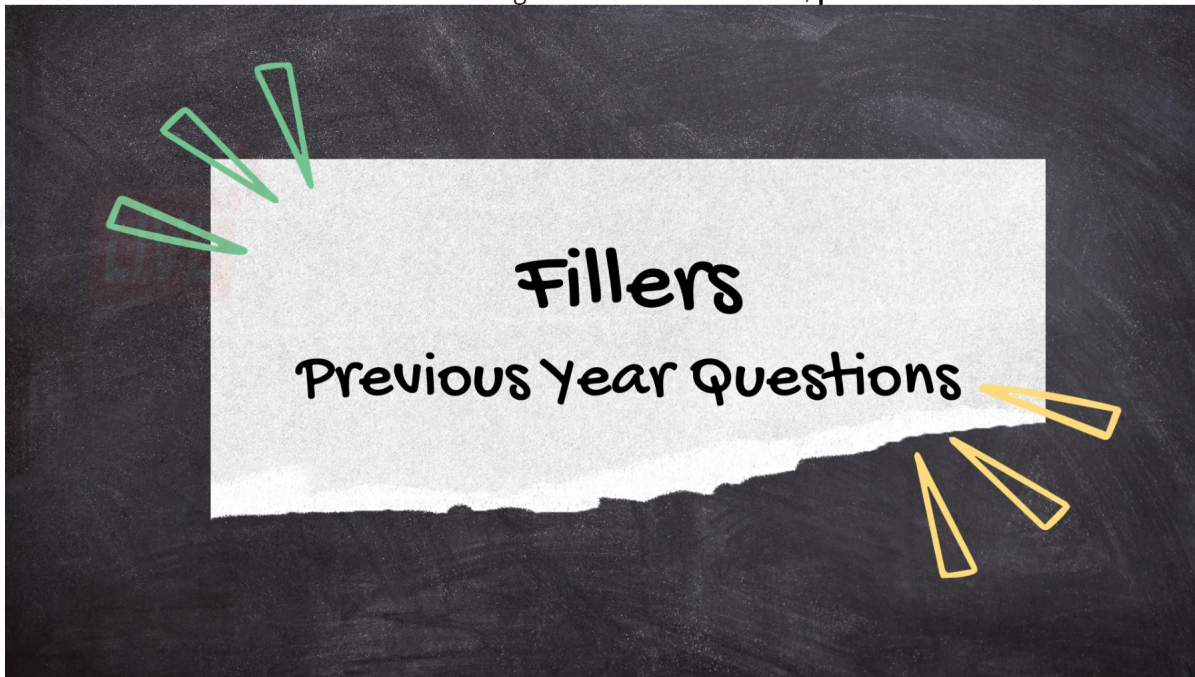
For example – Unique, Different, Peculiar mean a similar quality. They can be called synonyms. However, the difference lies in their connotations –

- Unique has a positive connotation
- Different has a neutral connotation
- Peculiar has a negative connotation

Let us solve a question based on this method –

Abby's fearless attitude and jolly nature was known throughout the town. But, her disappearance without a word seems _____.

The first part of the sentence reflects Abby's characteristic as being fearless and jolly reflects appreciation. The second sentence starts with a 'but' which means it would denote a negative connotation. Hence, **peculiar** would be best suited here.



[Source: KD Live]

Fillers - SSC Previous Year Questions



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Direction (Q:1 - Q:10): Select the most appropriate option to fill in the blank.

Q:1 The contingent managed to _____ successfully. [SSC CGL Tier I 2022]

- 1.park the deal
- 2.close the deal
- 3.heal the deal
- 4.catch the deal

Q:2 The monster trucks have very _____ engines, they can probably pull a train coach without any problem. [SSC CGL Tier I 2022]

- 1.dominant
- 2.forceful
- 3.impressive
- 4.powerful

Q:3 Sometimes a person's intelligence is not fully appreciated he/she gets an opportunity. [SSC GD Const 2020]

- 1.upto
- 2.later
- 3.until
- 4.unless

Q:4 There is a high degree of _____ from e-mail based to social-media based messaging globally. [SSC CGL Tier I 2021]

- 1.transition
- 2.process
- 3.transaction
- 4.method

Q:5 Ram was praised for his _____ leadership. [SSC CGL Tier I 2022]

- 1.imaginary
- 2.visionary
- 3.magical



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4.broad

Q:6 The angles are equal, consequently the sides are _____. [SSC CGL Tier I 2022]

- 1.equal
- 2.unequal
- 3.larger
- 4.smaller

Q:7 I like both tea and coffee but prefer the _____. [SSC CGL Tier I 2020]

- 1.least
- 2.latter
- 3.last
- 4.later

Q:8 Fights between these huge serpents and the crocodiles which infest all the rivers are _____ not uncommon. [SSC CGL Tier I 2021]

- 1.said to being
- 2.said to be
- 3.saying to be
- 4.say to be

Q:9 The wind system is expected to reach the capital _____ the usual date of June 27. [SSC CHSL 2021]

- 1.around
- 2.along
- 3.across
- 4.within

Q:10 If you are the one who is planning to lose weight, remember to keep your snacking _____. [SSC CGL Tier I 2022]

- 1.outgoing
- 2.prejudiced
- 3.uncontrolled



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4.moderate

Single Fillers - Bank Memory Based Questions

Direction (1 to 5) : Select the most appropriate word to fill in the blank.

Q:1 The ____ of the new novel has been praised for its ability to captivate readers and keep them engaged from beginning to end. [SBI PO Mains 2022]

- 1.tenor
- 2.ardor
- 3.prose
- 4.rancor
- 5.None of these

Q:2 The renowned ____ made significant contributions to the field of mathematics that are still studied and applied today. [SBI Clerk Prelims 2022]

- 1.savant
- 2.polymath
- 3.dilettante
- 4.pundit
- 5.none of these

Q:3 The ____ effect of the lecture made it difficult to stay awake. [SBI Clerk Prelims 2022]

- 1.exciting
- 2.engaging
- 3.soporific
- 4.stimulating
- 5.none of these

Q:4 The ____ leather on the sofa was starting to peel after only a few months of use. [SBI Clerk Prelims 2022]

- 1.genuine



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- 2.ersatz
- 3.synthetic
- 4.authentic
- 5.none of these

Q:5 The ____ of the terms in the contract made it difficult to understand the obligations of each party. [SBI Clerk Prelims 2022]

- 1.clarification
- 2.obfuscation
- 3.elucidation
- 4.simplification
- 5.none of these

Double Fillers - Bank Memory Based Questions

Direction (1 to 5): Select the most appropriate option to fill in the given blanks.

Q:1 The Balakot factor could be an _____ point in shifting sentiments in favour of a strong, majority government returning to power in _____ to a rag-a-tag coalition. [RRB PO Mains 2022]

- 1.turning, accordance
- 2.inflection, preference
- 3.intentional, reference
- 4.important, diffidence
- 5.None of these

Q:2 As the _____ of jobs is changing worldwide, the private sector is unable to _____ absorb the entrant workforce. [RRB OA Mains 2022]

- 1.mood, fully
- 2.qualification, maximum
- 3.nature, adequately

Fillers - Learn Rules and Practice Previous Year Questions

4.value, rightly

5.Both B and D

Q:3 State governments have simply not given rules the necessary momentum, and the producers of plastic articles that are _____ used just for a few minutes have shown little _____ about their negative environmental impact. **[RRB OA Mains 2022]**

1.regularly, assistance

2.invariably, concern

3.hardly, hope

4.habitually, support

5.rarely, makeover

Q:4 Four of the most popular forms i.e., Facebook, Twitter, Snapchat, Instagram of social media _____ great damage to young people's mental health. These four platforms have a negative effect because they can _____ children's and young people's body image worries, and worsen bullying, sleep problems, anxiety, depression and loneliness. **[RRB OA Mains 2021]**

1.desecrate, mitigate

2.impious, alleviate

3.inflct, exacerbate

4.perpetrating, effectuate

5.None of the above

Q:5 International schools remain popular with _____ families, particularly those who have _____ for work and plan to return home. **[SBI PO Mains 2021]**

1.royal - shifted

2.vehement - migrated

3.derogatory - moved

4.expatriate - relocated

5.None of these

Multiple Fillers - Bank Memory Based Questions



Fillers - Learn Rules and Practice Previous Year Questions

Direction (1 to 4): In the given question, a statement with one blank, followed by three alternatives, is given. Out of the given three alternatives, any one or more than one can fill the given blank. Choose the set of words from the given options which can be used to fill the blank.

Q:1 Corvus is a widely distributed genus of medium-sized to large birds in the family Corvidae. The genus includes species commonly known as crows, ravens, rooks and jackdaws; there is no consistent distinction between "crows" and "ravens", and these appellations have been assigned to different species chiefly on the basis of their size, crows generally being smaller than ravens. Crows are_____.

A. learned how to eat the toxic cane toad by flipping the cane toad on its back and violently stabbing the throat where the skin is thinner.

B. Among the world's most intelligent animals.

C. One of the few nonhuman animals capable of displacement. [RRB PO Mains 2022]

1. Only A & B

2. Only B & C

3. Only A

4. Only C

5. All of the given alternative

Q:2 In a tense super over, once again it was Anukul Roy and Ishan Kishan _____ fence thrice while Shahbaz Nadeem successfully defended 24 off six balls. Hyderabad could only score 14/1.

i. Who cleared

ii. Has been clear all

iii. Who had been cleared [IBPS PO Mains 2022]

1. Only i

2. Only ii

3. Both ii and iii

4. Both i and ii

5. All of the given alternative

Q:3 Garlic is native to Central Asia and northeastern Iran and has long been a common seasoning worldwide, with a history of several thousand years of human consumption and use. Its Scientific name is Allium sativum. It grows_____.



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A. in the wild in areas where it has become naturalized.

B. in hot climates.

C. up to 1.2 m (4 ft) in height. **[RRB OA Mains 2020]**

1. Only A & B

2. Only B & C

3. Only A & C

4. Only B

5. All of the given alternative

Q:4 One of the most noteworthy characteristics of the modern workplace is 'remote working'. Many organizations today allow employees to connect remotely or from their home, enabling flexibility, freedom and even better quality of living and working. _____. Video calls, collaboration and communication apps are all common and make it possible for teams in different locations and time zones to come together.

A. Technology has made remote working much easier.

B. Connecting remotely also raises important questions on productivity.

C. Reduced commuting and less stress, and the ability to balance their lives and work better. **[IBPS PO Mains 2022]**

1. Only B

2. Only A

3. Only C

4. Only A and B

5. Only B and C

Fillers Solutions - SSC Previous Year Questions

Q:1 (2) The sentence indicates that the contingent has successfully done something related to a deal. Out of the given options, "close the deal" is the most appropriate one to fill in the blank as it is a commonly used phrase that means to successfully finalize or complete a business agreement or transaction.

Q:2 (4) The blank is referring to the engines of monster trucks. The most appropriate word to fill in the blank is "powerful," as it directly conveys the idea of the engines being able to exert a great amount of force and energy.



Fillers - Learn Rules and Practice Previous Year Questions

Q:3 (3) "Until" is a conjunction that is used to refer to the time that took place before an incident while the word "unless" is a conjunction that is used in the same manner as the words "if" and "except." The given statement talks about the time hence, "Until" will be the correct choice here.

Q:4 (1) "Transition" which means "a change from one state or form to another" fits in the context appropriately.

Q:5 (2) "Visionary" is often used to describe leaders who have a forward-thinking and innovative approach to problemsolving and decision-making.

Q:6 (1) As per the statement "The angles are equal", it is also implied that the sides are also equal. Therefore, the most appropriate option to fill in the blank is "equal".

Q:7 (2) **Latter**- used to show the second things of the two. **Former** directs us to the first of these two things, and **latter** directs us to the second (or last) of them.

Q:8 (2) The given statement does not have an active doer hence, we need to write the statement in passive voice. "**Be + past participle**" will be the correct passive verb phrase. "**To + v1**" is the correct infinitive form. Hence, "**Said to be**" will be the correct phrase.

Q:9 (1) "Around" which means "approximately" fits in the context appropriately.

Q:10 (4) The sentence is suggesting that if someone is planning to lose weight, they need to control or moderate their snacking. Based on this, the most appropriate option to fill in the blank would be "moderate".

Single Fillers Solutions - Bank Memory Based Questions

Q:1 (3) "Prose" refers to written or spoken language in its ordinary form, without poetic structure or meter. In this context, the sentence is referring to the writing style of the new novel, suggesting that it is well-written and engaging.

Q:2 (2) A "polymath" is a person who is knowledgeable in many different fields of study. The word is often used to describe someone who has expertise in several areas of academia, such as mathematics, philosophy, and science. In this context, the sentence is referring to a mathematician who made significant contributions to the field, suggesting that they had a deep understanding of the subject matter and likely had knowledge in other areas as well.

Q:3 (2) The word "soporific" means tending to induce drowsiness or sleep. In this context, the sentence is saying that the lecture had a drowsy and sleep-inducing effect, making it difficult to stay awake.

Q:4 (2) The word "ersatz" means not genuine or synthetic; an inferior substitute. In this context, the sentence is saying that the synthetic leather on the sofa was starting to peel after only a few months of use.

Q:5 (2) The word "obfuscation" means the action of making something obscure, unclear, or unintelligible. In this context, the sentence is saying that the unclear terms in the contract made it difficult to understand the obligations of each party.



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Double Fillers Solutions - Bank Memory Based Questions

Q:1 (2) 'Inflection' which means 'a turning' when used in the first blank denotes 'a turning point or a game-changer, which absolutely matches the context.

Q:2 (3) Both the words of **option 3** i.e. 'nature, adequately' fit the respective blanks perfectly.

Q:3 (2) The second blank is regarding the "negative environmental impact" of the plastic bag. The only word that makes the sentence meaningfully correct is "concern" indicating that the producers are hardly worried about the impact of plastic.

Q:4 (3) "Inflict" means 'cause something unpleasant or painful by someone or something' and it aptly fits the context and makes the sentence a meaningful one. "Exacerbate" means 'make a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling worse' and is apt as it fits in the blank perfectly.

Q:5 (4) The words that are coherent with the sentence are "**expatriate - relocated**". The word '**expatriate**' means 'a person who lives outside their native country' and the word '**relocated**' means 'move to a new place and establish one's home or business there'.

Multiple Fillers Solutions - Bank Memory Based Questions

Q:1 (2) The first statement is not suitable for the sentence, as it did not make any sense and is out of context. Rest both i.e. b and c fits best in the blank to give a meaningful sentence.

Q:2 (1) In the given sentence, the subject and verb '**it was**' is associated with '**who cleared**' because in the given sentence, past tense has been used. The rest of the options do not fit grammatically and contextually in the given blank.

Q:3 (3) As Garlic is a Rabi crop so it is a mildly cultivated plant. That is why, the second statement seems inappropriate in the blank. Rest both i.e. **a** and **c** fits best in the blank to give a meaningful sentence.

Q:4 (2) 'Technology has made remote working much easier' best suits the context of the sentence as the sentence talks about a modern workspace and we know that modernization is a subset of technological advancement.

This article has provided you with valuable insights into the world of Fillers. We sincerely hope that you have found this blog useful and that it has contributed to enhancing your understanding of this crucial topic. As you continue to gear up for your upcoming exam, we encourage you to share your thoughts, or any doubts you may have in the comments section below.



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