

ALLAMA IQBAL OPEN UNIVERSITY

Compulsory English-I (Course Code: 1423 / 5404 / 9407)

MASTER QUESTION BANK — EXAM QUESTION STATEMENTS ONLY
Compiled from Past Papers, Solved Guess Papers, & Assignments

SECTION A: ESSAY WRITING PROMPTS

Write a comprehensive, well-structured essay (200–250 words) on any one of the following topics:

- Q1.** Write an essay discussing the **Role of AI in Education** and how technology is transforming modern classrooms.
- Q2.** Write an essay on **Internet: Merits, Demerits, and Impact on Youth** in contemporary society.
- Q3.** Write a descriptive essay on **A Trip to a Mountainous Area / A Trip to Murree**, detailing your personal experience, journey, and natural scenery.
- Q4.** Write an essay on **Living in a Village: Issues and Challenges**, comparing rural lifestyle with urban facilities.
- Q5.** Write an essay on the famous proverb **Health is Wealth**, emphasizing the importance of physical and mental well-being.
- Q6.** Write an essay analyzing **Parents' and Teachers' Role in Child Education and Character Building**.
- Q7.** Write a multi-topic essay addressing major social issues such as **Corruption, Terrorism, Unemployment, Poverty, Social Injustice, Rising Prices, and Pollution**.
- Q8.** Write an argumentative essay on **Artificial Intelligence: A Threat or Boon to Employment?**
- Q9.** Write an essay examining the **Impact of Social Media on Teenage Mental Health**.
- Q10.** Write an analytical essay on the **Causes and Effects of Social Problems** in developing nations.
- Q11.** Write an essay discussing the **Future of Print Media** in the digital age.

SECTION B: DIALOGUE WRITING PROMPTS

Construct realistic, grammatically correct dialogues (at least 10–12 exchanges) for the following situations:

- Q1.** Write a dialogue between two friends discussing the **Merits and Demerits of Cell Phones / Mobile Phones**.
- Q2.** Write a dialogue between two friends on the **Importance of Reading Newspapers Daily** for academic success.
- Q3.** Write a formal dialogue between a **Teacher and a Student regarding Exam Preparation** and overcoming difficulties in studies.
- Q4.** Write a dialogue between you and your mother (using the **Present Perfect Tense**) explaining what household tasks you have completed in her absence.
- Q5.** Write a dialogue between two classmates comparing **Online Learning vs. Traditional Classroom Learning**.
- Q6.** Write a dialogue between two friends discussing the **Positive and Negative Impacts of Social Media** on young adults.

- Q7.** Write a dialogue between two friends reflecting on the **Role of Social Media and Online Education During COVID-19 Lockdowns**.
- Q8.** Write a polite dialogue between a **Shopkeeper and a Customer** bargaining over fruit prices.
- Q9.** Write a formal dialogue between a **Traffic Policeman and a Driver** stopped for over-speeding in a school zone.
- Q10.** Write an advisory dialogue between two friends where one advises the other on **Why and How to Quit Smoking**.

SECTION C: FORMAL APPLICATIONS & LETTERS

Part I: Formal Job Applications

- Q1.** Write a formal job application letter with your detailed resume/CV for the post of **English Language Teacher / Secondary School Teacher**.
- Q2.** Write a job application letter for the post of **Project Manager / Software Engineer** at an IT and Telecommunication firm.
- Q3.** Write a job application letter for the post of **Maths, Chemistry, or Physics Teacher** at a renowned college.
- Q4.** Jack & Jill High School, Federal B Area, Karachi requires an English and Science Teacher (Masters degree with 5 years experience). Write a formal application to the Principal applying for the post.
- Q5.** Sarhad Rural Development Agency, Peshawar requires a Project Manager for web and product development. Write a formal application letter addressed to Asfandiyar Khan, HR Department.
- Q6.** Write a formal application for the post of **Waiter** at Majestic Hotel, Peshawar.

Part II: Formal Letters & Official Correspondence

- Q1.** Suppose as a product manager of Alibaba Online Store you delivered a damaged product by mistake. Write a formal letter of apology for delivering a damaged product to your customer.
- Q2.** Write a formal letter to the District Police Officer (DPO) informing him/her about the rising crime rate in your locality and requesting immediate measures to control street robbery.
- Q3.** Write a formal letter of apology to your boss/manager explaining your inability to attend an official luncheon meeting given in honour of foreign delegates due to an unavoidable car breakdown.

Part III: Informal Personal & Advisory Letters

- Q1.** Write an informal letter to your elder brother sharing updates about your school, teachers, recent excursions, and daily activities.
- Q2.** Write a letter to your father informing him about your progress in studies and exam preparation.
- Q3.** Write a letter of gratitude to your father expressing heartfelt appreciation for his continuous educational support and sacrifices.
- Q4.** Write an informal letter to your friend sharing your personal experience of visiting Murree in the Winter Season.
- Q5.** Write a personal letter to your friend living in Karachi inviting him/her to spend the winter vacation with you in Islamabad.
- Q6.** Write an informal letter inviting your best friend to attend your brother's marriage ceremony.

- Q7.** Suppose your friend invited you to his/her wedding or birthday party but you could not attend. Write an informal letter of apology explaining the reason.
- Q8.** Write a congratulatory letter to your friend on his/her birthday.
- Q9.** Write an informal letter to your friend sharing your future career ambitions and study plans.
- Q10.** Write an informal letter to a friend explaining how you are preparing for your upcoming university examinations.
- Q11.** Write an advisory letter to your younger brother/sister suggesting practical methods to improve English language skills.
- Q12.** Suppose your friend Asad is a chronic smoker. Write a letter giving him advice on why and how to quit smoking.
- Q13.** Write a letter to your younger brother advising him regarding the vital importance of following traffic rules for safety on the road.
- Q14.** Suppose your nephew received a job offer from Australia. What kind of advice and suggestions would you give him to make his stay fruitful?
- Q15.** Suppose your younger brother gets admission in a foreign university. Write a letter offering useful advice and guidance for living abroad successfully.

SECTION D: ACTIVE & PASSIVE VOICE

Part I: Change the active voice sentences given below into passive voice.

- Children cannot open these bottles easily.
- The government built a road right outside their front door.
- Mr. Butt broke the antique vase as he walked through the store.
- The construction workers are making street repairs all month long.
- The party will celebrate his retirement.
- The teacher explained the lesson.
- The manager approved the application.
- The colleagues will celebrate her promotion.
- His professors were discussing his oral exam right in front of him.
- My son ate all the homemade biscuits.
- Shakespeare wrote Hamlet.
- We built our house last year.
- They will inform you tomorrow.
- My parents taught me to read and write.
- My mother bore me in 1980.
- They are playing hockey.
- We love Pakistan.
- They have finished their project.
- Catches win matches.
- No one is hearing the sound.

21. Somebody can mend this door easily.
22. They will hold a reception in his honor.
23. Somebody has already shut the door.
24. Buy a pen from your pocket money.
25. Who has eaten the cake?
26. Beginners make such mistakes.
27. Someone opened the door suddenly.
28. The boy kicked the ball.
29. A mechanic is repairing my car.
30. The committee endorsed the proposal.
31. Ayesha gave you a presentation.

Part II: Change the passive voice sentences given below into active voice.

1. The house had been broken into by someone while the owners were on vacation.
2. A child was being carried downstairs by a strong firefighter.
3. The streets had been blocked off by the police.
4. My books were stolen by someone last week.
5. Titanic was destroyed by an iceberg.
6. These bottles cannot be opened easily by children.
7. A road was built right outside their front door by the government.
8. The antique vase was broken by Mr. Butt as he walked through the store.
9. Street repairs are being made by the construction workers all month long.
10. His retirement will be celebrated by the party.
11. The homework was completed by the students.
12. The letter was written yesterday.
13. The room is cleaned every day by the servant.
14. These books had been left in the classroom by a careless student.
15. Have you seen the new movie that was directed by Steven Spielberg?
16. The Mona Lisa was painted by Leonardo da Vinci.
17. The experiment was conducted under controlled conditions by scientists.

Part III: Fill in each blank with the correct passive past participle form.

1. Romeo and Juliet _____ Shakespeare. (write)
2. Traffic accidents _____ rash driving more than anything else. (cause)
3. The Mona Lisa _____ Leonardo da Vinci. (paint)
4. Rice _____ Koreans, Chinese, and Japanese. (grow)
5. The light bulb _____ Edison. (invent)

6. The Law of Gravity _____ Newton. (discover)
7. The moons of Jupiter _____ Galileo. (see)
8. Everest _____ Sir Edmund Hillary. (climb)
9. The pyramids _____ the Pharaohs. (build)

Part IV: Dual Active & Passive Topic Sentences

Write one active sentence and one passive sentence for each of the following topics:

1. Sunken Ships (Titanic)
2. Destroyed Cities (Troy)
3. Agricultural Production (Bananas)
4. Uses of Materials (Leather)

Part V: Conceptual Theory Question

Q. Why do we use passive voice transformation in our communication? Explain your answer with suitable examples.

SECTION E: DIRECT & INDIRECT SPEECH (REPORTED SPEECH)

Part I: Rewrite the following direct speech statements into indirect (reported) speech.

1. The teacher said, "You must complete your homework by tomorrow."
2. Ali said, "I will participate in the debate competition next week."
3. She asked, "Have you submitted your assignment?"
4. The principal said, "I am very proud of your performance."
5. He said, "I can help you prepare for the presentation."
6. He said, "I live in Peshawar."
7. She said, "I am cooking dinner."
8. He said, "I have visited London twice."
9. He said, "I went to New York last week."
10. He said, "I am going to find a new job."
11. Mr. Khan said, "I will give Jameel a call."
12. He said, "I have been working on that project for over two weeks."
13. Maria said, "I can come tonight."
14. Ajmal said, "I may buy a new car."
15. He said, "I might go to Hyderabad."
16. Sheema said, "Talha is studying."
17. Musa said, "Haroon has left already."
18. Naila said, "I will be here tomorrow."
19. Emad said, "I will be visiting my family in England."
20. Bano said, "I was watching television."
21. Naureen said, "I had already eaten."

22. Sophia said, "I have been cooking."
23. Sami said, "I can work on Saturday."
24. Sana said, "I may buy a new car."
25. Rosy said, "I am happy."
26. He said, "I write a poem."
27. Ahmed said, "I am reading a novel."
28. My mother said, "I have finished my work."
29. They said, "We have been working since morning."
30. My friend said, "Honesty is the best policy."

Part II: Rewrite the following direct questions and commands into reported speech.

1. Mr. Salman said, "Are you a student?"
2. Mr. Salman said, "What is your name?"
3. Mr. Salman said, "Stand up, please, Marium."
4. Mr. Salman said, "Don't speak now, Marium."
5. Mr. Salman said, "One month ago, I asked you to study for the test."
6. I asked, "When does the train leave?"
7. My mother asked, "Who did you see at the party?"
8. My friend asked, "How did you get to college?"
9. My host asked, "Are you enjoying yourself?"
10. The lady asked, "Does your family live here?"
11. He asked, "What do you like doing in your free time?"
12. She asked, "Are you going to the film tomorrow?"
13. She asked, "Do you want to come with me?"
14. Dilshad asked, "Where did you go last weekend?"
15. He asked, "Why are you studying English?"
16. Sana asked, "Do you know her?"
17. He asked, "Do you know me?"

SECTION F: ADVICE & SUGGESTIONS QUESTIONS

- Q1.** Suppose your nephew received a job offer from Australia. What kind of advice and suggestions would you like to give him to make his life and his stay a fruitful one?
- Q2.** Suppose your younger brother gets admission in a foreign university. What kind of advice and suggestions would you like to give him to make his life and his stay a fruitful one?
- Q3.** Suppose your best friend is going to Australia for immigration. What kinds of advice and suggestions would you like to give him/her to make his/her immigration successful?
- Q4.** Advise your younger brother regarding the importance of following traffic rules for safety on the road.

- Q5.** Suppose your friend Asad is a chronic smoker. Write a letter giving him advice on why and how to quit smoking.
- Q6.** Write a letter to your younger brother/sister suggesting some practical methods of improving his/her English.
- Q7.** Imagine one of your friends is feeling stressed because of poor time management and exam pressure. Write a paragraph in which you give him/her useful advice related to study planning, healthy habits, and staying motivated using expressions like *you should*, *it is better to*, and *I suggest*.
- Q8.** Write a short informal letter to an Agony Aunt sharing a personal or study problem, and write the Agony Aunt's advisory response using expressions like *'If I were you...'*, *'I think you should...'*, and *'Why don't you...'*.
- Q9.** Rewrite the following sentence using an appropriate modal verb to express advice:
Statement: It is advisable to respect your elders.
- Q10.** Write five sentences using the modal verb **Should** or **Ought to** to give advice or suggestions.

SECTION G: WH-QUESTIONS & QUESTION TAGS

Part I: WH-Questions (Formulate questions asking for specific information)

1. Ask for Time: The concert starts at 8 PM.
2. Ask for Time: I arrived at 5 PM.
3. Ask for Time: My birthday is in June.
4. Ask for Time: The movie will begin at 7 PM.
5. Ask for Place: I parked the car in the garage.
6. Ask for Place: They are going to the mall.
7. Ask for Place: He lives in London.
8. Ask for Place: You can find a pharmacy near the market.
9. Ask for Reason: She is crying because she lost her keys.
10. Ask for Reason: I missed the bus.
11. Ask for Reason: He left early due to an emergency.
12. Ask for Reason: Exercise keeps us healthy.
13. Ask for Object: I am cooking pasta for dinner.
14. Ask for Object: He bought some fruits from the market.
15. Ask for Object: My favorite hobby is reading.
16. Ask for Object: I want an omelet for breakfast.
17. Ask for Possession: This notebook belongs to Ali.
18. Ask for Possession: It is Sara's bag on the table.
19. Ask for Possession: It was Ahmed's phone that rang.
20. Ask for Possession: It is my uncle's car parked outside.
21. Ask for Person: Maria won the competition.
22. Ask for Person: Your sister is calling you.
23. Ask for Person: My best friend is Ali.

24. Ask for Person: Mr. Khan teaches me mathematics.
25. Ask for Person: I met my uncle at the station.
26. Ask for Manner: I fixed the computer by restarting it.
27. Ask for Manner: You mix the ingredients and bake it to make a cake.
28. Ask for Choice: I prefer fiction books over non-fiction.

Part II: Interviewing a Prominent Personality using WH-Questions

Formulate 10 suitable WH-Questions to conduct an interview with a famous sportsman, politician, or scholar regarding their career, achievements, and advice for youth.

Part III: Tag Questions (Complete each statement with an appropriate Question Tag)

1. Hira is a grandmother, _____?
2. Hussain is a doctor, _____?
3. I'm here, _____?
4. It's windy today, _____?
5. You and I are busy right now, _____?
6. He failed the exam, _____?
7. He won't come here to live, _____?
8. You don't live here, _____?
9. You have started a new job, _____?
10. It wasn't a good film, _____?
11. They can swim well, _____?
12. He never tells lies, _____?
13. We should help the poor, _____?
14. She has a pet cat, _____?
15. They weren't at home, _____?
16. The sun rises in the east, _____?
17. You didn't call me, _____?
18. She is coming tomorrow, _____?
19. They weren't sleeping, _____?
20. Let's go for a walk, _____?
21. Tahir is an accountant, _____?
22. I am a good worker, _____?
23. Arifa is a grandmother, _____?
24. Kamran is a doctor, _____?
25. Jawad and Ali are students, _____?
26. He didn't steal the money, _____?

27. You like ice cream, _____?

SECTION H: PARAGRAPH WRITING PROMPTS

- Q1.** Write a paragraph describing the venue, people, community, roads, and buildings of your locality.
- Q2.** Write a descriptive paragraph (150–180 words) on **'My Favourite Teacher'**, using sequence markers to describe appearance, teaching style, and personality.
- Q3.** Write a descriptive paragraph detailing a room or a certain area of your house that you particularly like.
- Q4.** Write a paragraph describing a public venue or place you visited recently (such as a local market, museum, park, or zoo).
- Q5.** Write a paragraph expressing your admiration and appreciation for working women and homemakers in Pakistan.
- Q6.** Write a paragraph (150–180 words) expressing appreciation for students performing in a school cultural program.
- Q7.** Write a narrative paragraph on **'The Happiest Day of My Life'** using past tense verbs.
- Q8.** Write a concise paragraph based on your school activities and childhood memories.
- Q9.** Write a narrative paragraph describing your daily routine, morning habits, study hours, and evening activities.
- Q10.** Write a narrative paragraph detailing an interesting incident that occurred during a family excursion trip.
- Q11.** Write a narrative paragraph about a rainy day off from school and how you spent your unexpected free time.
- Q12.** Write a paragraph discussing **'Our Traffic Problems'**, focusing on causes of congestion and practical solutions.
- Q13.** Write a paragraph on **'Women's Rights in Pakistan'**, highlighting educational opportunities and social challenges.
- Q14.** Write a lengthy paragraph (150–180 words) giving advice to a friend suffering from exam pressure and poor time management.
- Q15.** Write a short paragraph analyzing the causes and effects of **Unemployment, Pollution, or Rising Prices**.

SECTION I: CRITICAL ANALYSIS & READING SKILLS

Part I: Fact vs. Opinion Classification

Classify each of the following statements as either a Fact (objective truth) or an Opinion (subjective belief):

1. Computers are not as useful as everyone says they are. [_____]
2. The Empire State Building in New York is 1,250 feet tall. [_____]
3. American astronauts landed on the Moon in 1969. [_____]
4. Being at college is much more enjoyable than working a job. [_____]
5. Water boils at 100 degrees Celsius at sea level. [_____]
6. Artificial Intelligence will soon replace human teachers entirely in classrooms. [_____]
7. The human heart beats more than 100,000 times a day in a healthy adult. [_____]
8. Online education is far superior to traditional classroom learning. [_____]
9. The moon revolves around the Earth once approximately every 27.3 days. [_____]

10. Reading printed books is better for the mind than reading digital e-books. [_____]

Part II: Cause and Effect Critical Analysis

- Q1.** Critically analyze the primary root Causes and resulting societal Effects of **Unemployment** in developing nations.
- Q2.** Critically analyze the primary Causes and environmental impacts of **Environmental Pollution**.
- Q3.** Critically analyze the factors driving economic **Inflation and Price Hikes** and their impact on fixed-income families.
- Q4.** Critically analyze the structural Causes and daily impacts of **Urban Traffic Congestion** in major cities.

Part III: Compare and Contrast Evaluation

- Q1.** Perform a balanced critical comparison evaluating the features, advantages, and drawbacks of **Online Learning vs. Traditional Classroom Learning**.
- Q2.** Perform a balanced critical comparison evaluating the educational quality, facilities, and accessibility of **Private Schools vs. Government / Public Schools**.

Part IV: Textual Reading & Comprehension Skills

- Q1.** Explain the critical distinction between the reading techniques **Skimming** and **Scanning** with examples.
- Q2.** What does **Making Inferences** mean when analyzing an unseen reading passage?
- Q3.** Explain how a reader can identify the **Main Idea** and **Supporting Details** in a structured paragraph.