

# CogAT Verbal

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**Antonyms**


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Read each question carefully and select the word that is most similar or dissimilar in meaning to the word provided.

1. delirious is most similar to
  - A) manic
  - B) calm
  - C) tasty
  - D) suspicious
2. infirm is most similar to
  - A) hospital
  - B) weak
  - C) short
  - D) fortitude
3. cautious is most dissimilar to
  - A) reasonable
  - B) careful
  - C) illogical
  - D) reckless
4. lure is most similar to
  - A) tickle
  - B) decoy
  - C) resist
  - D) suspect
5. perilous is most dissimilar to
  - A) disciplined
  - B) similar
  - C) safe
  - D) honest
6. isolation is most similar to
  - A) fear
  - B) plentitude
  - C) solitude
  - D) disease
7. lull is most similar to
  - A) pause
  - B) noise
  - C) boring
  - D) mark
8. outfit is most similar to
  - A) indoors
  - B) strong
  - C) special
  - D) furnish
9. punctual is most dissimilar to
  - A) close
  - B) tardy
  - C) sloppy
  - D) precious
10. delude is most dissimilar to
  - A) drought
  - B) clever
  - C) enlighten
  - D) enrage
11. omit is most similar to
  - A) recluse
  - B) neglect
  - C) mistake
  - D) destroy
12. resilient is most dissimilar to
  - A) stubborn
  - B) careless
  - C) substantial
  - D) flimsy
13. mutiny is most similar to
  - A) rebellion
  - B) currency
  - C) sailor
  - D) hassle

14. naive is most similar to  
 A) rural  
 B) secular  
 C) unsophisticated  
 D) sultry
15. entice is most dissimilar to  
 A) piece  
 B) repulse  
 C) attract  
 D) repeat
16. solemnity is most similar to  
 A) lightheartedness  
 B) gravity  
 C) diligence  
 D) sleepiness
17. stingy is most dissimilar to  
 A) wasteful  
 B) democratic  
 C) spiteful  
 D) liberal
18. malign is most similar to  
 A) evil  
 B) malicious  
 C) slander  
 D) grandiose
19. impudent is most similar to  
 A) cautious  
 B) haphazard  
 C) gleeful  
 D) insolent
20. vacillate is most dissimilar to  
 A) decide  
 B) teeter  
 C) dilate  
 D) please
21. kinetic is most dissimilar to  
 A) cold  
 B) static  
 C) lewd  
 D) foolish
22. lambaste is most similar to  
 A) marinade  
 B) commotion  
 C) censure  
 D) tickle
23. kowtow is most dissimilar to  
 A) snub  
 B) pull  
 C) fawn  
 D) forage
24. rudimentary is most similar to  
 A) crass  
 B) gracious  
 C) deliberate  
 D) primitive
25. pitched is most similar to  
 A) undone  
 B) retracted  
 C) heated  
 D) lovely
26. tepid is most dissimilar to  
 A) dispassionate  
 B) scalding  
 C) crisp  
 D) clever
27. largesse is most similar to  
 A) greatness  
 B) generosity  
 C) miniscule  
 D) clumsiness

28. insidious is most dissimilar to  
 A) repellant  
 B) pure  
 C) charming  
 D) delicious
29. decorum is most similar to  
 A) etiquette  
 B) merit  
 C) parliament  
 D) slipshod
30. succor is most dissimilar to  
 A) genius  
 B) abet  
 C) injure  
 D) deciduous
31. enjoin is most dissimilar to  
 A) sever  
 B) dislike  
 C) permit  
 D) divorce
32. tumid is most similar to  
 A) swollen  
 B) fetid  
 C) aggressive  
 D) despondent
33. jejune is most similar to  
 A) youthful  
 B) insipid  
 C) charming  
 D) quick
34. ecumenical is most dissimilar to  
 A) spiritual  
 B) humanistic  
 C) secular  
 D) parochial
35. sinecure is most similar to  
 A) cakewalk  
 B) serpentine  
 C) evil  
 D) dishonest
36. castigate is most similar to  
 A) neuter  
 B) punish  
 C) banish  
 D) celebrate
37. reconnoiter is most dissimilar to  
 A) disarm  
 B) disassemble  
 C) distance  
 D) disregard
38. obloquy is most similar to  
 A) tirade  
 B) dependence  
 C) oval  
 D) circumlocution
39. recondite is most dissimilar to  
 A) give  
 B) obscure  
 C) patent  
 D) hardy
40. querulous is most similar to  
 A) nauseous  
 B) fretful  
 C) curious  
 D) dizzy

**Analogies**

Select the best match for each of the following analogies.

41. drudgery : work :: cacophony : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) noise  
 B) orchestra  
 C) telephone  
 D) dissonance
42. drummer : orchestra :: minister : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) voter  
 B) constituency  
 C) department  
 D) cabinet
43. Dryads : tree :: Naiads : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) rock  
 B) fire  
 C) sky  
 D) water
44. dullness : scintillating :: calm : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) erudite  
 B) boisterous  
 C) cautious  
 D) exalted
45. ear : cochlea :: eye : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) sinus  
 B) mollusk  
 C) fovea  
 D) fontanel
46. earth : axis :: wheel : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) rubber  
 B) car  
 C) road  
 D) hub
47. eat : gobble :: accept : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) deny  
 B) embrace  
 C) acquiesce  
 D) infer
48. Edo : Tokyo :: Ceylon : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) China  
 B) Sri Lanka  
 C) Mt. Fuji  
 D) Vietnam
49. efficacious : powerless :: asocial : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) corrupt  
 B) hidden  
 C) social  
 D) limited
50. egg : omelet :: cocoa : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) toast  
 B) coffee  
 C) brownies  
 D) pizza
51. eject : welcome :: persist : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) habituate  
 B) quit  
 C) torment  
 D) pest
52. El Cid : Spain :: Alexander : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) Alexandria  
 B) Britain  
 C) Germany  
 D) Macedonia
53. elated : despondent :: enlightened : \_\_\_\_\_  
 A) aware  
 B) ignorant  
 C) miserable  
 D) tolerant

54. element : argon :: compound : \_\_\_\_\_  
A) copper  
B) water  
C) oxygen  
D) lead
55. elevator : transport :: rickshaw : \_\_\_\_\_  
A) train  
B) bicycle  
C) carry  
D) slip-shod
56. elucidate : clarity :: illuminate : \_\_\_\_\_  
A) memory  
B) problem  
C) oblivion  
D) light
57. endure : continue :: entreat : \_\_\_\_\_  
A) plead  
B) segue  
C) purchase  
D) surrender
58. energy : indefatigable :: wisdom : \_\_\_\_\_  
A) illustrious  
B) sagacious  
C) enervated  
D) experienced
59. enfeeble : fortify :: concede : \_\_\_\_\_  
A) dispute  
B) close  
C) expect  
D) surrender
60. epaulet : shoulder :: cravat : \_\_\_\_\_  
A) head  
B) arm  
C) neck  
D) foot

**Sentence Completion**

61. Anna Freud's impact on psychoanalysis was \_\_\_\_\_ coming not from one brilliant discovery but from a lifetime of first-rate work.  
 A) indiscernible  
 B) cumulative  
 C) premature  
 D) exorbitant
62. Critics say that the autobiographical work *Brothers and Keepers* by John Edgar Wideman is surprising in that it celebrates and yet \_\_\_\_\_ his own role in the life of his brother.  
 A) exacerbates  
 B) duplicates  
 C) censures  
 D) explores
63. Unwilling to commit to any field of study or type of work, Margie was labeled a \_\_\_\_\_ by her advisors at school.  
 A) logician  
 B) firebrand  
 C) opportunist  
 D) dilettante
64. Inbreeding can promote the expression of \_\_\_\_\_ genes, those that make an animal subject to disease or impair reproductive efficiency.  
 A) consummate  
 B) presumptive  
 C) articulated  
 D) deleterious
65. The emotions of love and hate, though opposites, can be found even in the most \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ character in Shakespeare's plays.  
 A) wholesome .. despicable  
 B) contemptible .. decent  
 C) elderly .. malicious  
 D) virtuous .. steadfast
66. The longer you \_\_\_\_\_ without making your mind up definitely one way or the other, the more difficult it will be to reach a(n) \_\_\_\_\_ decision.  
 A) concur .. mature  
 B) cajole .. inconceivable  
 C) argue .. inequitable  
 D) vacillate .. valid
67. He \_\_\_\_\_ apart, for he prefers \_\_\_\_\_ to the company of others.  
 A) stays .. throngs  
 B) lives .. books  
 C) dwells .. solitude  
 D) remains .. vivacity
68. One of the simple guidelines of public speaking is that good presentations require \_\_\_\_\_ preparation.  
 A) fretful  
 B) partial  
 C) solitary  
 D) thorough
69. Concrete is \_\_\_\_\_ of many materials, a composite of rocks, pebbles, sand, and cement.  
 A) an amalgamation  
 B) a distillation  
 C) a concordance  
 D) an aberration

70. Because of the rigors of mountain climbing, the team needs equipment that is both \_\_\_\_\_ and reliable when setting out for the peak.  
 A) consistent  
 B) sturdy  
 C) weighty  
 D) innovative
71. Because the pandas had already been weakened by disease and drought, a harsh winter would have had \_\_\_\_\_ consequences for them.  
 A) catastrophic  
 B) regressive  
 C) preventive  
 D) unforeseen
72. The Neanderthals of Krapina were \_\_\_\_\_ hunters, possessing great strength and prowess.  
 A) unsuitable  
 B) timid  
 C) formidable  
 D) unstable
73. Due to the author's \_\_\_\_\_ handwriting, the typist had a difficult time \_\_\_\_\_ the manuscript.  
 A) illegible .. deciphering  
 B) careful .. reading  
 C) perfect .. transcribing  
 D) readable .. translating
74. Her dislike of \_\_\_\_\_ made her regard people who tried to win her approval through praise as \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A) tyrants .. connoisseurs  
 B) adulation .. superiors  
 C) flattery .. sycophants  
 D) defiance .. toadies
75. The author \_\_\_\_\_ the last act of her play to appease those critics who \_\_\_\_\_ the work for its brevity.  
 A) expanded .. disparaged  
 B) eliminated .. extolled  
 C) intensified .. glorified  
 D) condensed .. censured
76. After the legal \_\_\_\_\_, the loser of the case was required to pay \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A) affray .. jurisdiction  
 B) parable .. prospectus  
 C) confrontation .. reparation  
 D) precursor .. gallantry
77. The maid, while \_\_\_\_\_ to the guests of the hotel, was rather \_\_\_\_\_ with her boss.  
 A) submissive .. pleasant  
 B) indifferent .. rude  
 C) reliable .. obedient  
 D) obsequious .. obstinate
78. The company was accused of selling milk that had been \_\_\_\_\_ by the addition of water.  
 A) endangered  
 B) adulterated  
 C) improved  
 D) condensed
79. They use language not to explain but to \_\_\_\_\_; each statement is like a reflection in a warped mirror.  
 A) negate  
 B) preserve  
 C) distort  
 D) enlighten
80. Sally was a lighthearted and even-tempered woman; she had none of her sister's \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A) cruelty  
 B) resilience  
 C) affability  
 D) composure



**Synonyms and Antonyms Matching**

Find the word matching each synonym group, then find the word matching each antonym group.

81. A) compact  
B) fanatical  
C) ferocious  
D) impious  
E) juvenile

Synonyms:

1. young, tender
2. bunched, thick
3. narrow-minded, biased
4. irreligious, unholy
5. cruel, fierce

Antonyms:

1. loose, diffuse
2. pious, devout
3. liberal, tolerant
4. dotage, antiquated
5. gentle, sympathetic

82. A) befogged  
B) blunt  
C) humble  
D) jovial  
E) trivial

Synonyms:

1. becloud, dim
2. meek, timid
3. dull, insensitive
4. frolicsome, cheerful
5. trifling, insignificant

Antonyms:

1. proud, assertive
2. significant, veteran
3. clear headed, uncloud
4. solemn, morose
5. keen, sharp

83. A) authentic  
B) clandestine  
C) immense  
D) knave  
E) solicit

Synonyms:

1. huge, enormous
2. dishonest, scoundrel
3. covert, fruitive
4. accurate, credible
5. entreat, implore

Antonyms:

1. protest oppose
2. paragon, innocent
3. open, legal
4. fictitious, unreal
5. puny, insignificant

84. A) awkward  
B) comic  
C) monotonous  
D) nonchalant  
E) scanty

Synonyms:

1. indifferent, negligent
2. rude, blundering
3. clown, jester
4. scarce, insufficient
5. irksome, tedious

Antonyms:

1. attentive, considerate
2. varied, pleasant
3. lavish, multitude
4. adroit, clever
5. tragic, tragedian

**Sentence Completion**

Select the best match to complete each of the following sentences.

85. Irony can, after a fashion, become a mode of escape: to laugh at the terrors of life is in some sense to \_\_\_\_\_ them.  
 A) evade  
 B) overstate  
 C) license  
 D) revitalize
86. Residents of the secluded island fear that \_\_\_\_\_ commercial development will \_\_\_\_\_ their quiet way of life.  
 A) waning .. harm  
 B) further .. aid  
 C) diminishing .. reform  
 D) encroaching .. disturb
87. The magician's \_\_\_\_\_ astonished us; her deft performance proved the old saying that the hand is quicker than the eye.  
 A) tenacity  
 B) discernment  
 C) insecurity  
 D) adroitness
88. The author's use of copious detail, though intended to \_\_\_\_\_ the reader's appreciation of a tumultuous era, was instead regarded by many as a barrage of \_\_\_\_\_ information.  
 A) reverse .. accurate  
 B) excite .. illuminating  
 C) deepen .. trivial  
 D) curtail .. boring
89. Cathedrals usually take decades, even centuries, to complete; thus, no one expected the National Cathedral to be built with \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A) presumption  
 B) durability  
 C) reverence  
 D) dispatch
90. Few composers for the musical stage were as \_\_\_\_\_ as Frank Loesser, whose "Guys and Dolls" includes burlesque numbers, a Latin dance sequence, revival tunes, and a tender Irish ballad.  
 A) disciplined  
 B) versatile  
 C) prolific  
 D) gifted
91. The hypocrite \_\_\_\_\_ feelings that he does not possess but that he feels he should display.  
 A) condones  
 B) simulates  
 C) decries  
 D) betrays
92. The professor argued that every grassroots movement needs \_\_\_\_\_: without this public declaration of motives, there can be no cohesive organization.  
 A) a prospectus  
 B) an invocation  
 C) a manifesto  
 D) an arbitration
93. The reviewer characterized Madonna Swan-Abdalla's autobiography as a portrait of an \_\_\_\_\_ person, one who prevailed against great odds.  
 A) astute  
 B) expeditious  
 C) idiosyncratic  
 D) indomitable

94. In planting the kitchen garden, our goal was to become totally \_\_\_\_\_ so that we no longer needed to depend upon the \_\_\_\_\_ quality and inconsistencies of the commercial food wholesalers.  
 A) self-sufficient .. unreliable  
 B) egalitarian .. unflinching  
 C) agrarian .. admirable  
 D) cultivated .. impeccable
95. To avoid being \_\_\_\_\_, composer Stephen Sondheim strives for an element of surprise in his songs.  
 A) informal  
 B) erratic  
 C) idiosyncratic  
 D) predictable
96. The \_\_\_\_\_ of animated films on college campuses is evident from the \_\_\_\_\_ books analyzing cartoon classics that have been sold in college bookstores.  
 A) predominance .. incidental  
 B) reduction .. scholarly  
 C) suppression .. overdue  
 D) popularity .. numerous
97. Today's high-technology education scare resembles the Sputnik scare of the 1950s, which led to federal programs in support of science education; in both cases, some national \_\_\_\_\_ was needed to focus popular attention on the needs of our \_\_\_\_\_.  
 A) alarm .. schools  
 B) consensus .. scientists  
 C) fear .. cities  
 D) crisis .. people
98. Although Jack and Mary Lynch are often \_\_\_\_\_ to strangers, they show only \_\_\_\_\_ to a pack of nearly extinct buffalo wolves, working seven days a week to help save the endangered species.  
 A) gruff .. kindness  
 B) rude .. exasperation  
 C) agreeable .. gentleness  
 D) gracious .. disdain
99. The developing brain can be likened to a highway system that \_\_\_\_\_ use: less traveled roads may be abandoned, popular roads broadened, and new ones added where they are needed.  
 A) evolves with  
 B) buckles  
 C) suffers from  
 D) detours around
100. Although the late Supreme Court Justice Thurgood Marshall had \_\_\_\_\_ that his papers be available only to scholars, the Library of Congress \_\_\_\_\_ his wishes and exhibited them to the general public.  
 A) implied .. publicized  
 B) stipulated .. disregarded  
 C) denied .. repealed  
 D) revealed .. executed
101. On the verge of financial collapse, the museum was granted a \_\_\_\_\_, receiving a much-needed \_\_\_\_\_ of cash in the form of a government loan.  
 A) rebate .. advance  
 B) procurement .. account  
 C) hearing .. security  
 D) reprieve .. infusion

102. Although it stayed in business for several months, the company was actually \_\_\_\_\_ and met its financial obligations only by engaging in \_\_\_\_\_ activities.
- A) autonomous .. subordinate
  - B) bankrupt .. charitable
  - C) prudent .. speculative
  - D) insolvent .. fraudulent
103. Once the principal \_\_\_\_\_ that the fire alarm had been set off by accident, she apologized to the suspected students and announced that they had been \_\_\_\_\_.
- A) confirmed .. obligated
  - B) understood .. apprehended
  - C) denied .. reprimanded
  - D) realized .. exonerated
104. The residents of the town lived \_\_\_\_\_ lives; no one indulged in wild or \_\_\_\_\_ behavior.
- A) irreverent .. animated
  - B) secluded .. scrupulous
  - C) circumscribed .. impulsive
  - D) rambunctious .. indecent

# Answer Key

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| 1. A<br>delirious means marked by frenzied excitement, or manic   | 12. D<br>resilient means capable of withstanding shock; flimsy means lacking in physical strength or substance              | hesitate among choices, or to waver; decide means to choose  |
| 2. B<br>infirm means feeble from age, or weak   | 13. A<br>mutiny means resistance to lawful authority, or rebellion  | 21. B<br>kinetic means relating to motion, or dynamic; static means at rest, or stationary               |
| 3. D<br>cautious means careful; reckless means lacking caution  | 14. C<br>naive means unaffectedly simple, or unsophisticated  | 22. C<br>to lambaste means to attack verbally, or to censure   |
| 4. B<br>a lure is used to attract animals into a trap, like a decoy   | 15. B<br>to entice means attract seductively, or to lure; to repulse means to cause aversion to, or to disgust              | 23. A<br>to kowtow means to show fawning deference; to snub means to treat with contempt                 |
| 5. C<br>perilous means dangerous, therefore safe is the opposite  | 16. B<br>solemnity means formal or ceremonious observance, or seriousness; gravity means dignity of bearing, or seriousness | 24. D<br>rudimentary means crude or primitive  |
| 6. C<br>isolation means the state of being alone or withdrawn, or solitude  | 17. D<br>one meaning of liberal is giving freely, or generous; stingy means lacking generosity                              | 25. C<br>pitched means intensely fought; one meaning of heated is marked by anger                        |
| 7. A<br>a lull is a temporary pause   | 18. C<br>to malign means to speak false or harmful things of, or to slander   | 26. B<br>tepid means lukewarm; scalding means boiling hot  |
| 8. D<br>to outfit means to supply or to furnish   | 19. D<br>impudent means contemptuously bold or cocky, or insolent   | 27. B<br>largesse means liberal giving or generosity   |
| 9. B<br>punctual means on time; tardy means late  | 20. A<br>vacillate means to   | 28. A<br>insidious means harmful but enticing or seductive; repellant means arousing aversion or disgust |
| 10. C<br>to delude means to mislead the judgment of someone, or to trick; to enlighten means to give knowledge to someone |   | 29. A<br>decorum means   |
| 11. B<br>to omit means to leave out, to fail to perform, or to neglect  |   |  |

- conduct required in social life, or etiquette
30. C  
to succor means go to the aid of, or relieve; to injure means to harm
31. C  
enjoin means to forbid or prohibit, therefore permit is the opposite
32. A  
tumid means puffy or swollen
33. B  
jejune means lacking in substance or interest; insipid means lacking in qualities to excite or interest
34. D  
ecumenical means of or relating to the whole body of churches, or universal; parochial means of or relating to a parish, or limited in scope or range
35. A  
a sinecure is a job for which little or no work is expected; a cakewalk is a one-sided competition
36. B  
to castigate means to subject to severe punishment
37. D  
reconnoiter means to gain information or to explore; disregard means to pay no attention to
38. A  
obloquy means abusive language; tirade means harshly censorious language
39. C  
recondite means hidden from sight or obscure; patent means readily visible or intelligible
40. B  
querulous means habitually complaining, or fretful
41. A  
42. D  
43. D  
44. B  
45. C  
46. D  
47. B  
48. B  
49. C  
50. C  
51. B  
52. D  
53. B  
54. B  
55. C  
56. D  
57. A  
58. B  
59. A  
60. C  
61. B  
62. C  
63. D  
64. D  
65. D  
66. D  
67. C  
68. D  
69. A  
Some related words with mnemonic joy.  
amalgam: an alloy of mercury with another metal or metals.  
magma: molten mixture from volcanic eruption
70. B  
71. A  
72. C  
prowess: exceptional power, valor, and bravery.
73. A  
74. C  
75. A  
76. C  
reparation: fee for repairing some damages.
77. D  
“rather” necessitates two words in opposite meaning.  
obsequious: showing servile complaisance or deference.
78. B  
79. C  
80. A  
81. syn key: E A B D C  
ant key: A D B E C  
82. syn key: A C B D E  
ant key: C E A D B  
83. syn key: C D B A E  
ant key: E D B A C  
84. syn key: D A B E C  
ant key: D C E A B  
85. A  
86. D  
87. D  
88. C  
89. D  
90. B  
91. B  
92. C  
93. D  
94. A  
95. D  
96. D  
97. A  
98. A  
99. A  
100. B

- 101. D
- 102. D
- 103. D
- 104. C