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தென் மாகாணக் கல்வித் திணைக்களம்
Department of Education, Southern Province

12 ශ්‍රේණිය අවසාන වාර පරීක්ෂණය - 2024 (2025)
தரம் 12 ஆண்டிறுதிப் பரீட்சை - 2024 (2025) Grade 12 Final Term Test - 2024 (2025)

General English I

කාලය / நேரம் / Time } 3 Hours

නම / பெயர் / Name } .....

විභාග අංකය / சுட்டிலக்கம் / Index No. } .....

Answer all the questions in Part A and B

Part A- Grammar and Vocabulary (35 marks)

Question 01 **(5 marks)**

Fill in the blanks in the following text using the prepositions given in the box. Use each preposition only once. There is one extra preposition.

(for, during, on, at, since, in)

I have been working at a new company (1)…… January. My office is (2) …….. a big building near the city center. I usually arrive (3)…….. time every day, around 8:30 a.m. I have been waiting (4)…….. a promotion because I have worked very hard. This job has helped me learn many new things, and I am happy (5)…… my workplace.

Question 02 **(10 marks)**

Fill in the blanks using the most suitable form of the given verb,

Last Sunday, my family and I decided to (1)_____ (spend) the day at the beach. The weather was ideal, with the sun (2) _____ (shine) brightly and a gentle breeze blowing. We (3) _____ (arrive) by mid-morning and quickly found a perfect spot near the shore. While my parents (4) _____(unpack) the picnic basket, my younger brother and I (5) _____ (run) excitedly towards the water.

After an hour of swimming and splashing around, we (6) _____ (build) a giant sandcastle, complete with towers and a moat. It (7) _____ (look) so impressive that a few people passing by stopped to admire it. Feeling hungry, we (8) _____ (gather) around the blanket to enjoy the delicious snacks my mom had prepared. Everyone (9) _____ (seem) relaxed and happy, soaking in the warm sunshine. Before heading home, we (10) _____ (take) several photos to capture the beautiful memories of the day.

Question 03 **(10 marks)**

Complete the following text. Underline the correct word from those given in brackets.

The invention of writing was a significant milestone in human history. It was a breakthrough that (i) _____ (changed / prepared / built) the way humans communicated and preserved knowledge. In early civilizations, people used (ii) _____ (books/ symbols / pens) to represent ideas before formal writing systems were developed. (iii) _____ (Gradually / Occasionally / Suddenly), they refined these symbols into alphabets and scripts. It is believed that early writing systems, such as

cuneiform, (iv) _____ (stopped /emerged / vanished) as a way to keep records of trade and events.
Once writing systems were in place, societies (v) _____ (delayed / advanced / reduced) quickly, as written communication helped in sharing ideas across generations. Eventually, man (vi) _____ (improved / forgot / ignored) these systems, making them more efficient. Writing (vii) _____ (confused / hid/ enabled) humans to document important information, which (viii) _____ (helped / ruined / lost) in developing complex societies. Today, writing remains a key tool for (ix) _____ (argument /expression / destruction) and the (x) _____ (sharing / hiding / delaying) of knowledge.

Question 04 **(05 marks)**

Underline the correct word ending, selecting from those given in brackets.

Most people would agree that social media can have both positive and negative effects on our lives. The only people who think otherwise are either denying the reality of its consequences or are extremely (1) ignor…… (ed, ant, ance). Some people claim that social media is very (2) pleas**……** (urable, ured, ure) and enjoyable, even though it can sometimes lead to unhealthy habits like addiction and loneliness. To be completely honest, what (3) enjoy…… (able, ing, ment) is gained from spending hours on these platforms? I think I have an answer.

Social media gives a sense of instant (4) satis……. (fying, factory, faction). The reason why social media is so popular among teenagers is because it offers a sense of connection and a place to fit in with their peers. I have only one piece of advice for these users: Please, be (5) responsib……. (le, ility, ly) with how you use social media and ask yourself why you spend so much time online. For sure, teenagers won't be able to give a thoughtful answer to justify their actions. And "It's fun!" is not an intelligent answer at all.

Question 05 **(05 marks)**

Underline the correct word from those given within brackets.

) There is a…… of fruit on the kitchen counter. (cup, bundle, bunch, box)
ii) After thinking it over, I…….. that I should apologize for my behavior. (realized, rectified, repeated, rationalized)
iii) The teacher asked the student to speak in a……. tone. (calm, bitter, harsh, lazy)
iv) The professor gave us……...advice on how to improve our essays. (free, useful, useless, costly,)
v) The conversation was interrupted by a loud…….. outside the building. (argument, noise, gesture, movement)

Part B – Reading and Writing

Question 06 **(05 marks)**

Underline the option that best expresses the meaning of the sentences given below.

1) Despite being tired, she decided to go for a run.
i. She went for a run although she was tired.
ii. She was too tired to go for a run.
iii. She decided not to run because she was tired.
iv. She didn't go for a run because of her tiredness.

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Past Papers Wiki

(2) He always wakes up early to exercise before work.
i. He wakes up late and skips exercising.
ii. He wakes up early, but he doesn't exercise before work.
iii. He wakes up early so that he can exercise before work.
iv. He sleeps in and misses his workout.

(3) Even though the weather was rainy, we decided to go hiking.
i. The weather was rainy, so we cancelled our hiking plans.
ii. The weather was bad, but we still went hiking.
iii. We stayed inside because the weather was rainy.
iv. The weather was fine, so we went hiking.

(4) She loves reading books when she has free time.
i. She prefers watching TV to reading books.
ii. She only reads books in her free time.
iii. She enjoys reading books whenever she has time.
iv. She doesn't read books at all.

(5) The team practiced every day to improve their performance.
i. The team practiced a lot and saw no improvement.
ii. The team practiced daily to enhance their performance.
iii. The team never practiced, but they improved.
iv. The team didn't practice regularly.

Question 07 **(10 marks)**

Read the following text and answer the questions.

Polyglots are individuals who can speak and understand multiple languages fluently. Many polyglots learn languages out of passion, curiosity, or necessity, while others find it a useful skill in their professional or personal lives. For a polyglot, learning a new language isn't just about memorizing words and grammar rules; it's also about understanding the culture behind the language. Polyglots often develop a love for languages early in life, and their interest grows as they continue to explore new languages and their corresponding cultures.

One key feature of polyglots is their strong motivation to keep learning. They set personal goals for each language they want to learn and often immerse themselves in the language by reading books, watching movies, or listening to music in that language. Many polyglots recommend practicing speaking with native speakers as the best way to become fluent. They also emphasize the importance of consistency—dedicating a little time each day to language practice rather than cramming all at once. Additionally, polyglots believe in the importance of learning through real-life experiences such as travel and meeting new people. They view language learning as a lifelong journey, where each new language learned opens up new opportunities for both personal growth and cultural connection.

(a) 1.What motivates polyglots to learn new languages?
……. (1 mark)
2. Mention two strategies polyglots use to become fluent in a language.
…… (1 mark)
3. Why do polyglots learn about the culture of a language?
…….. (2 marks)
4.What is the key feature that sets polyglots apart from other language learners?
……... (1 mark)

(b) Do the following statements agree with the information given in the above text?

Write in the blanks, True, False, or Not Given.

True, If the statement is correct.

False, If the statement is wrong.

Not Given, If there is no sufficient information.

Statements

(i) Polyglots only learn languages out of necessity. …….

(ii) Watching movies in the target language is a method recommended by polyglots. ……

(iii) Polyglots do not need to speak with native speakers to improve fluency. …….

(iv) Consistency is important for polyglots when learning languages. …….

(v) Polyglots believe in cramming all language practice at once. ……. (1x5=5)

Question 8 **(10 marks)**

Write a paragraph beginning with the given sentence. Use about 75-100 words. <u>Do not exceed the word limit.</u> Do not write more than one paragraph.

Technology helps us in many ways.

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தென் மாகாணக் கல்வித் திணைக்களம்
Department of Education, Southern Province

12 ශ්‍රේණිය අවසාන වාර පරීක්ෂණය - 2024 (2025)
தரம் 12 ஆண்டிறுதிப் பரீட்சை - 2024 (2025) Grade 12 Final Term Test - 2024 (2025)

General English II

කාලය / நேரம் / Time 3Hour

නම / பெயர் / Name .....

විභාග අංකය / சுட்டிலக்கம் / Index No. .....

Answer all the questions

Part A- Reading skill

Question 01 **(10 marks)**

Read the following text in which some words are given in bold type. Then, underline the meaning that is most appropriate to the context for the words given in bold type from (1) – (10).

TikTok has become one of the most popular social media (1) **platforms** in the world, allowing users to create and share short videos with a wide audience. One of the key (2) **features** of TikTok is its ability to quickly spread (3) **viral** trends, often through catchy music, challenges, or humorous content. The platform appeals to a wide range of users, from teenagers to adults, and offers endless possibilities for entertainment and creativity. TikTok's algorithm (4) **ensures** that users are constantly discovering new content, which keeps them (5) **engaged** for hours.

For businesses, TikTok offers a unique opportunity to reach younger (6) **audiences,** as many influencers and brands use the platform to (7) **promote** their products. While TikTok has its benefits, such as (8) **fostering** creativity and connection, it also has its drawbacks. Many users find themselves spending too much time scrolling through the app, which can lead to wasted time. Additionally, there are (9) **concerns** about privacy and the security of user data, as TikTok has been criticized for its data-sharing practices.Despite these concerns, TikTok's popularity continues to grow, and it remains one of the most (10) **influential** platforms in the social media landscape.

1. platforms	flat	sites	internet	science
2. **features**	aspects	products	tools	basic
3. **viral**	contagious	popular	infectious	different
4. **ensures**	confirms	makes	do	questions
5. **engaged**	bored	interested	distracted	unpleasant
6. **audiences**	people	users	secrecy	app
7. **promote**	encourage	present	watch	visit
8. **fostering**	boosting	reducing	hindering	safety
9. **concerns**	issues	flexible	strict	week
10. **influential**	powerful	worries	unimportant	similar

Question 02 **(10 marks)**

Read the article and answer the questions that follow.

William Shakespeare, often called the "Bard of Avon," was a renowned English playwright and poet who lived in the 16th and 17th centuries. Born in Stratford-upon-Avon, a small town in England, Shakespeare's life and works have had a profound impact on English literature and culture.

While we know some facts about his life, many details remain unknown, adding a touch of mystery to his story. He wrote a vast collection of plays, including tragedies like "Hamlet" and "Romeo and Juliet," comedies like "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Twelfth Night," and historical dramas that explored the lives of English kings.

Shakespeare's plays are celebrated for their rich language, complex characters, and timeless themes. He delved into the depths of human emotions, exploring love, loss, ambition, jealousy, and the struggle for power. His characters, from the tragic Hamlet to the mischievous Puck, are so vividly portrayed that they seem to come alive on the stage.

Shakespeare's influence extends far beyond the world of theater. His words and phrases have become ingrained in everyday English. Expressions like "break the ice," "vanish into thin air," and "once in a blue moon" originated from his plays. His works continue to be studied and performed worldwide, **inspiring** countless artists, writers, and filmmakers.

Even today, centuries after his death, Shakespeare's plays remain relevant and captivating. They offer a window into the human condition, prompting audiences to reflect on their own lives and the complexities of the world around them.

(a) Do the following statements agree with the information given in the above text? In boxes (1) –(8), write True or False.

True	If the statement is correct
False	If the statement is wrong

1 Shakespeare was born in London, England. **…….**
2. "Hamlet" is one of Shakespeare's most famous plays……..
3. He primarily wrote comedies. **……..**
4. Shakespeare's works are no longer relevant to modern audiences……
5. Shakespeare was an actor as well as a playwright. **……**
6. All of Shakespeare's plays have happy endings. **……..**
7. Shakespeare's plays are studied in schools around the world. **……**
8. The "Bard of Avon" is a nickname given to William Shakespeare. **…… (01mark each**)

(b) What does the phrase "break the ice" mean? (01 mark)

a) To make a situation less formal.
b) To melt a large block of ice.
c) To destroy something very fragile

(c). The word '**inspiring**' means in the fourth paragraph 01 mark)

a) motivating b) boring c) exciting d) confusing

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Past Papers Wiki

Question 03 **(05 marks)**

Read the following poem and underline the most appropriate response to each of the questions from (1) – (5)

The Journey of Dreams

Dreams are the stars in the midnight sky,
Guiding us forward, as we aim high.
They sparkle and shine, though distant they seem,
Whispering softly, "Follow your dream."

Through valleys of doubt, and mountains of fear,
Dreams lead the way, always near.
They're not just illusions, not just in our sleep,
But the hope in our hearts, the promises we keep.

When the road gets tough and the sky turns grey,
Our dreams are the light that shows us the way.
So hold on tight, don't let them slip,
For dreams are the wind that gives life its lift.

The journey may be long, the path unclear,
But with dreams in our hearts, there's nothing to fear.
Keep moving ahead, with courage and might,
For the dreams you hold will guide you to light.

1. What are dreams compared to in the poem?

   A) The sun
   B) The stars
   C) The moon
   D) The clouds

2. According to the poem, what do dreams provide when the road gets tough?
   A) Light
   B) Food
   C) Money
   D) Friendship

3. What does the poem suggest about dreams?
   A) They are illusions
   B) They are only for children
   C) They are something to hold on to
   D) They are a waste of time

4. What does the poem say about the journey of dreams?
   A) It's always easy
   B) It's short
   C) It may be long and unclear
   D) It's always clear

5. What do dreams represent in the poem?
   A) Fear
   B) Hope and promises
   C) Frustration
   D)Doubt

Question 04 **(5 marks)**

Complete the summary meaningfully and appropriately, using one word only from the passage for each blank.

Sunflowers are one of the most recognizable flowers in the world. They are known for their bright yellow petals and tall stems, often reaching heights of over 10 feet. The flowers grow best in areas with plenty of sunlight, which is why they are commonly found in fields during the summer. Sunflowers are not only beautiful but also useful. Their seeds can be eaten or processed into oil. In addition to their nutritional benefits, sunflowers play a crucial role in nature by attracting pollinators like bees and butterflies. These flowers can also help improve soil quality by absorbing toxins and adding nutrients to the ground. Sunflowers are grown all over the world, and they have become a symbol of happiness and positivity.

Sunflowers are known for their yellow petals and (i) _____ stems. They are typically found in areas with lots of (ii) _____. These flowers are not only (iii) _____ but also provide (iv) _____, which can be used in food and oil production. In addition, sunflowers help in attracting (v) _____ and improve the soil quality by absorbing toxins.

Question 05 **(20 marks)**

Read the following text and write correct answers for the questions that follow.

Education is a key to success, but it is not just about passing exams or obtaining degrees. The purpose of education is to prepare individuals for life. While it is essential to learn various subjects in school, it is equally important to learn life skills that will help us in our careers, relationships, and daily lives. Education should be a tool for personal growth, enabling individuals to become responsible, contributing members of society.

In recent years, the debate over the best type of education system has become more prominent. In some countries, there is a strong emphasis on academic qualifications, with many students pushing themselves to attain higher degrees. However, this does not guarantee a successful life. There are many individuals who excel in hands-on jobs or creative fields without having attended university. On the other hand, some highly educated people fail to find jobs that match their qualifications.

In Sri Lanka, as in many other countries, a large number of people live in poverty. The government is working to provide education to all, but the challenge is not just providing education, but also making it relevant and practical. Education should empower individuals to find work and support their families. For example, vocational training in fields like plumbing, carpentry, or agriculture can provide immediate opportunities for work. Such skills are equally important as academic degrees, as they contribute to the functioning of society and the economy.

Moreover, education should not lead to a sense of superiority over others. All jobs are necessary for the smooth running of a country. We should never be ashamed of our profession, whether we work with our hands, in an office, or in a classroom. Everyone's role in society is valuable, and education should help us recognize that.

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(a) Mention "true" or "false"

(1) Education is only about passing exams. .....
(2) Education should help individuals become responsible members of society. .....
(3) In some countries, the focus is solely on academic qualifications. .....
(4) It's unnecessary to learn life skills in education. .....
(5) In Sri Lanka, most people live in wealth. .....
(6) Academic degrees are the only way to succeed. .....
(7) Vocational training is only useful for low-skilled jobs. .....
(8) Education should make people think all jobs are important. .....
(9) People should be ashamed of doing physical labour. .....
(10) Hands-on jobs can be as valuable as office jobs. .....

(b) Write the words from the passage which give similar meanings for the following.
(5 marks)

1.Success – _____

2.Valuable – _____

3.Discuss – _____

4.Important – _____

5.Encourage – _____

(c) Complete these sentences by using phrases from the passage. (5 marks)

1. Education should prepare individuals to _____.
2. The system should focus on making education _____.
3. A problem in Sri Lanka is _____.
4. Education can encourage people to _____.
5 It is important to understand that _____

Part B - Dialogues

Question 06 **(5 marks)**

(1). Write the response that you would give for each of the following situations.

1. You are late for school and want to enter the classroom. How would you ask for permission?
   "May I…… "
2. Your friend helped you carry your books. How would you thank him/her?
   "Thank you…… "
3. You accidentally stepped on someone's foot. What would you say to apologize?
   "I'm really…… "
4. You want to invite your cousin to go on a picnic with you. How would you invite him/her?
   "Would you like to…… "
5. Your teacher praised your group for completing the class project well. How would you respond?
   "Thank you, ……"

Question 07 **(5 marks)**

Sahan meets his old school friend Raveen and they talk about their families and recent activities. Complete the missing parts of the dialogue. Do not use more than two sentences/questions in each blank.

Sahan: Hey, Raveen! It's been a long time since we last met. How are you?
Raveen: Hi, Sahan! I'm doing well. How about you?

Sahan: (1) .....
Raveen: That sounds fun. How's everyone at home?

Sahan: (2) .....
Raveen: Glad to hear that! Oh, by the way, guess what? I started working as a graphic designer.

Sahan: (3) .....
Raveen: Thanks! It's been an exciting journey so far. I enjoy designing logos and posters for different companies.

Sahan: (4) .....
Raveen: Sure! I'll show you some of my recent work tomorrow when we meet.

Sahan: (5) .....
Raveen: Great! Let's meet tomorrow.

Question 08 **(15 marks)**

Your English teacher asks you to take part in an English drama. You feel nervous and don't want to do it, but your teacher encourages you to try. Write out the conversation you had with your teacher. **Each one must speak at least five times.**

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Part C - Writing Skill (65 marks)

Question 09 **(05 marks)**

Select any five words from the list of nouns, verbs, adjectives and adverbs given below and use each one of them in a meaningful sentence. You may use the verbs in any tense. You may use the plural form of the nouns. But do not change the form of the other word.

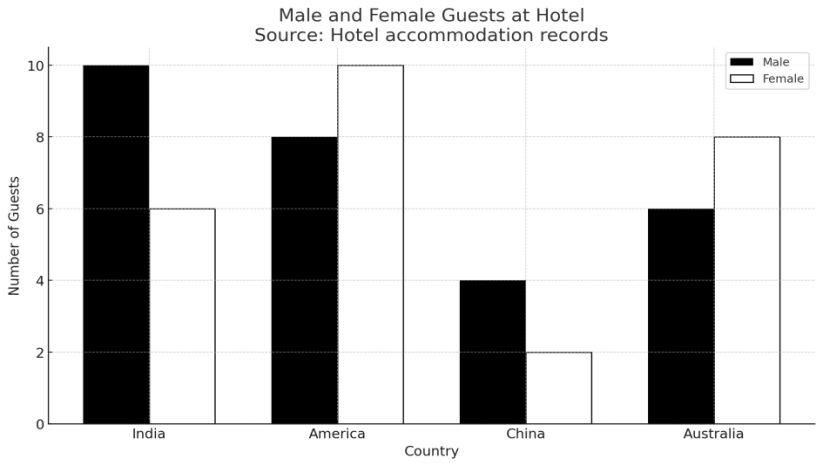
Nouns - manager, traveller, creativity
Verbs - make, believe, decide
Adjectives – tired , strong, ancient
Adverbs - always, carelessly ,neatly

1.……
2.……
3.……
4.……
5.……

Question 10 **(10 marks)**

The following bar chart gives some information regarding the number of guests who got accommodation in a hotel. Write a description about it using the words given below. Use about 75 words.

(many, more, less, most, least, equal, a few, majority, minority)



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Question 11 **(15 marks)**

Imagine you are the secretary of the Art Club of your school. Your club has decided to organize a competition for the students of the school. You wish to have a meeting to discuss the event. Write a suitable notice to be put up on the school notice board, inviting all interested students to participate in it. Use about 50-75 words. Do not exceed the word limit.

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Question 12 **(15 marks)**

Write a letter to one of your cousins who lives in Kandy, telling him/her that you would like to spend a few days with him/her during the upcoming holidays. Use about 75-100 words. Include the following:

- your plans for the trip
- reason for your visit
- other relevant details

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Question 13 **(20 marks)**

Write an essay on **"Road Accidents, a Big Threat to Sri Lankans."** Use about 150-200words.

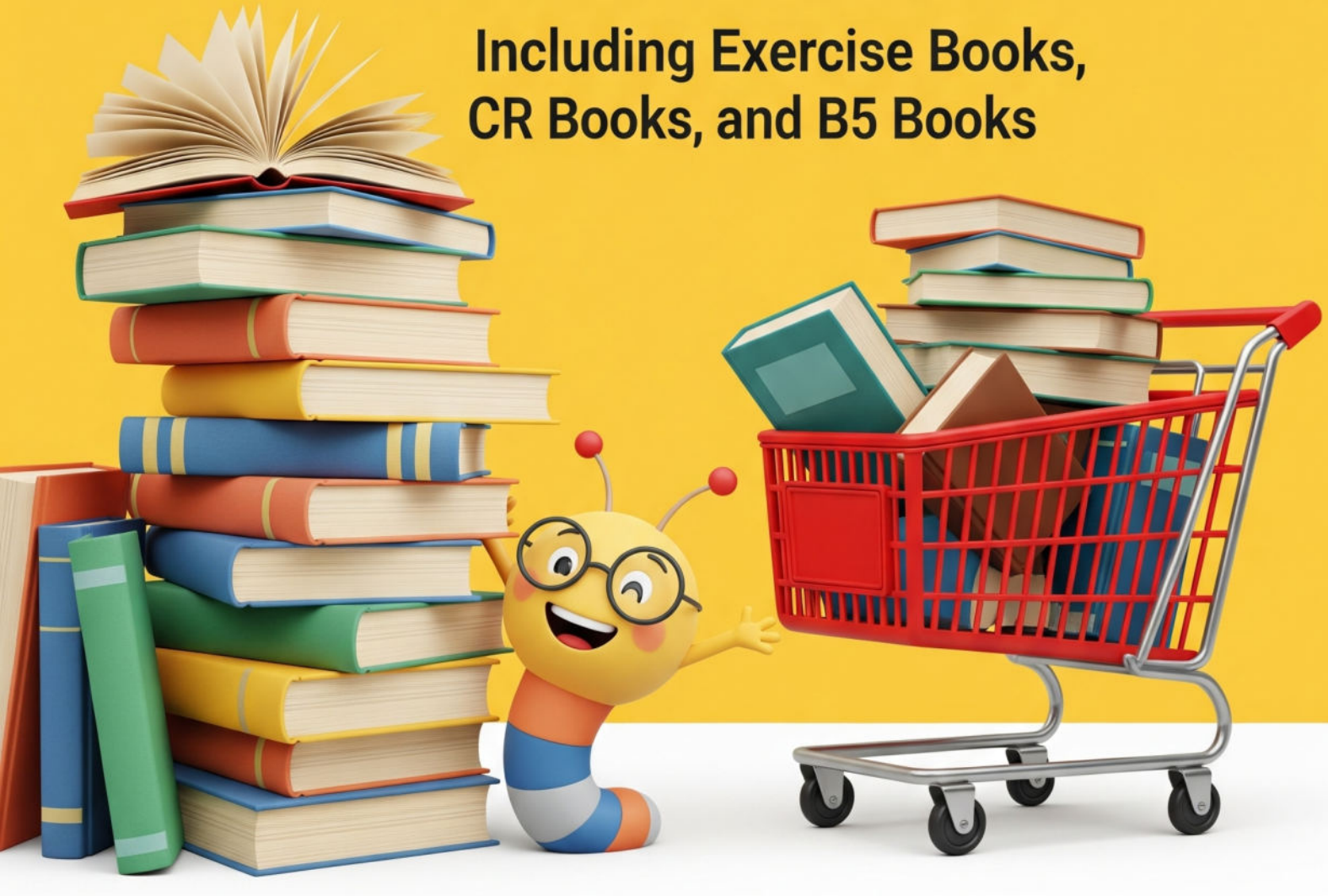
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