

Quiz Date: 7th May 2020

Directions (1-6): In each of the given questions a statement is given in bold which is then followed by three paragraphs. You have to find the paragraph(s) from where it is inferred. Choose the option with the best possible outcome as your choice.

Q1. Targeting risk factors is key to reducing deaths due to cardiovascular diseases

(I) While most of the predominant risk factors for cardiovascular disease present no startling medical revelation, it is significant that the single largest risk factor is a low education level. Any plans that target the risk factors and prevent the onset of non-communicable diseases will clearly have to be truly game-changing and incorporate the environmental angle as well.

(II) A great amount of out-of-pocket expenditure (according to Health Ministry data for 2014-15, nearly 62.6 % of India's total health expenditure) often frustrates continuation of treatment or adherence to drug regimens. While some States have shown limited successes with government-sponsored health insurance schemes, the Centre's Ayushman Bharat Yojana will have to take much of the burden of hospitalization for complications of non-communicable diseases.

(III) In low-income countries, including India, however, CVD is still the top killer, with death three times more frequent than that due to cancer. What flies in the face of logic is that the risk burden of CVD-linked mortality is inversely proportional — lower risk but higher mortality in low-income countries, and higher risk but lower mortality in high-income countries.

- (a) Only [I]
- (b) Only [II]
- (c) Only [III]
- (d) Both [I] & [III]
- (e) None of these

Q2. A wider direct tax base is good news — but the share of direct taxes in the total is still low

(I) The steps taken by the Union government over the last few years to widen its tax base may finally be yielding some rewards. The total number of tax returns filed in the country increased by over 80% over the last four financial years, according to data released by the Central Board of Direct Taxes on Monday: from 3.79 crores in 2013-14 to 6.85 crores in 2017-18. But the contribution of direct taxes to the total amount of taxes collected by the government, which is currently 52.29%, is still below what it was when Narendra Modi became Prime Minister.

(II) Amidst increasing global tax competition, India is likely to face pressure to bring down corporate tax rates if it wants to maintain its stature as an attractive investment destination. Efforts to draft a new direct tax code, however, are yet to yield fruit due to bureaucratic delays. The government will do well to address this issue.

(III) This year, direct tax collection increased at a higher rate compared to the collection of indirect taxes. Going forward, a further increase in the share of direct taxes will help the government to lower regressive indirect taxes that impose a significant burden on the poor. Direct taxes are also a better choice from the standpoint of economic efficiency as they help avoid the severe distortionary effects of indirect taxes such as the Goods and Services Tax.

- (a) Only [I]
- (b) Only [II]

- (c) Only [III]
- (d) Both [I] & [III]
- (e) None of these

Q3. Russia could be imagining a greater role for itself in reshaping the region's geopolitics

(I) As Kaul's cable in September 1965 to Indira Gandhi subsequently explained: "the interests of America, USSR, and India, have a common feature of being aimed at the prevention of Chinese expansion in this area. This provides an opportunity for India to reap the maximum possible advantage from both sides and strengthen herself for the future."

(II) For Anglo-American policymakers, a long-cherished dream of isolating Russia and pulling China back into their orbit became a reality. For India, the spectre of an unfriendly China being checked through a shared understanding with Washington and Moscow fell by the wayside, and New Delhi was compelled to imagine new approaches to safeguard its interests and security.

(III) In substance and without ruffling Beijing's feathers, Russia is already shaping the geopolitics of the Indo-Pacific. Having been reassured that India is not band-wagoning with the U.S. and genuinely believes in open and inclusive security and order building ideas, Russia could now begin the process of imagining a role in the Indo-Pacific that brings its vast diplomatic experience and strategic heft into the open.

- (a) Only [I]
- (b) Only [II]
- (c) Only [III]
- (d) Both [I] & [III]
- (e) None of these

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Q4. A close reading of UAPA Tribunal orders shows how fundamental principles of fair procedure are being given a miss

(I) In allowing the government vast amounts of leeway in proving its case, tribunals depart from some of the most fundamental principles of fair procedure and act as little more than judicial rubber stamps. And this is made starkly evident by a recent UAPA Tribunal Order (issued on August 23, 2019) confirming the government's ban on the Jamaat-e-Islami, Jammu, and Kashmir ("JeI, J&K").

(II) Last month, amendments to the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act ("UAPA"), India's signature anti-terrorism legislation, allowing the central government to designate individuals as "terrorists", caused a furor. Critics warned that vesting such sweeping powers in the hands of the political executive would prove to be a recipe for abuse, and for political and social persecution.

(III) One would think that such a case can be resolved straightforwardly: had the government managed to prove that there existed sufficient evidence of wrongdoing against members of the JeI, J&K, that would justify banning the organization altogether.

- (a) Only [I]
- (b) Only [II]
- (c) Only [III]
- (d) Both [I] & [III]
- (e) None of these

Q5. Errors aside, the NRC process was rigorous, methodical and did not target any particular community

(I) The National Register of Citizens (NRC), which was expected to land with a bang in Assam, seems to some as having landed with a mere whoosh. Bhartiya Janata Party (BJP) leaders are particularly upset as it has belied their hopes of netting a huge number of immigrant Muslims in a dragnet — reportedly, a majority of those left out are Hindus.

(II) The results should also set at rest the tireless campaign by certain well-meaning but ill-informed people in the academic and media circles to paint the NRC as a vicious plot by some 'xenophobic Assamese' to oppress and torture Muslims. The process was impersonal and its strict machine-like operation pre-empted the targeting of any particular community. While there may have been errors and lapses, there is no truth to the allegation of bias.

(III) Those expressing their disappointment ignore that the rigorous procedures and methodical cross-verifications were not put in place to fulfill some people's fantasies. The previous figures cited by the government in earlier times were not based on any systematic procedure.

- (a) Only [I]
- (b) Only [II]
- (c) Only [III]
- (d) Both [I] & [III]
- (e) None of these

Q6. Disaster management plans must be prioritized

(I) Amidst this dangerous setting, global leadership must act with far greater urgency, and countries, including India, ought to switch rapidly from polluting fossil fuels to cleaner renewable energy while building much stronger coastal and inland defences against climatic damage. Brazil must reverse course on the mindless destruction of the Amazon rainforest.

(II) Indeed, India should be alarmed at ecological destruction even in faraway places like Amazon. As the country that is most at risk for climate damage, it should lead in pressing the global community to take sweeping climate action. Meanwhile, the nation must reinforce its infrastructure and adapt its agriculture and industry. Equally, it also needs to replace urgently its fossil fuels with renewable energy.

(III) In the face of such danger, India is not doing enough to boost its coastal and inland defences. It also needs to do more to build resilience in the sectors of agriculture, fisheries, manufacturing, energy, transport, health, and education. The priority for spending at the national and State levels for disaster management needs to rise. Adequate resources must also be allocated for implementing climate action plans that most States have now prepared.

- (a) Only [I]
- (b) Only [II]
- (c) Only [III]
- (d) Both [I] & [III]
- (e) None of these



Directions (7-15): In the following questions, a word is given in bold followed by three sentences. Choose the appropriate option mentioning the sentence(s) that uses the highlighted word in a grammatically correct and contextually meaningful manner.

Q7.

Extort

- (I) The owners, in turn, have called the lawyers shakedown artists bent on ruining their good reputations to **extort** money.
- (II) Other **extort** or undesired results of vaccination usually appeared in the first day or so after vaccination.
- (III) When we lose touch with our authentic desire, we become listless and **extort**.

- (a) Only (I)
(b) Only (II)
(c) Only (III)
(d) Both (I) and (II)
(e) Both (II) and (III)

Q8.

Livelihood

- (I) With businesses shut, fields untended and fishing abandoned many have lost their **livelihoods** as well as their homes, our correspondent says.
- (II) People who do not travel into cities to work are much less likely to **livelihoods** restaurants, theatres and shops.
- (III) The streets of Saigon **livelihoods** with people, noises, and smells like no other city in Asia.

- (a) Only (I)
(b) Both (I) and (III)
(c) Only (II)
(d) Both (I) and (II)

(e)None of these

Q9.

Capricious

(I) The taiga and tundra of this region **capricious** with birds and animals, and bloom with wildflowers in early summer.

(II) Her admirers were **capricious**, returning to her at times, and then holding aloof again; and as for suitors, they entirely disappeared.

(III) Sponsorships like these keep the store's name firmly in the minds of local bow hunters and motivate them to **capricious** the store.

(a) Both (I) and (III)

(b) Only (II)

(c) Only (I)

(d) Both (I) and (II)

(e) None of these

Q10.

Innate

(I) The songs are a little more raw this time around, though not drastically enough to **innate** long-time fans.

(II) It's obvious that bad character traits such as anger, jealousy, and pride **innate** a person from others.

(III) In other words, one of our most essential abilities as humans, reading is the product of a combination of **innate** and learned traits.

(a)Both (I) and (III)

(b)Only (I)

(c)Only (III)

(d)Both (I) and (II)

(e)None of these

Q11.

Decorum

(I)Wishing to observe **decorum** she invited him to stay for supper, though absolutely nothing had been prepared for a guest.

(II) Although I deal with people at all levels, I maintain a level head and a certain level of **decorum** even when I am very friendly with colleagues.

(III) Sadie **decorum** acknowledgement that the woman was her mother.

(a)Both (I) and (III)

(b)Only (I)

(c)Only (II)

(d)Both (I) and (II)

(e)None of these

Q12.

Infallible

(I) In its native habitat, the Canary Islands, the bird is a nondescript greenish songster with a melodious **infallible**.

(II) But conductors are no more **infallible** than other people, and once in a blue moon in going through a train they miss a passenger.

(III) As box-office receipts have proven that he is no longer **infallible**, it should be a breeze to walk up to him and become his friend in a jiffy

(a) Both (I) and (III)

(b) Only (I)

(c) Only (II)

(d) Both (II) and (III)

(e) None of these

Q13.

Monetary

(I) A hundred years ago, **monetary** policy – control over interest rates and the availability of credit – was viewed as a highly contentious political issue.

(II) Our landlord had neglected to provide screens, and I was unable to open the windows, lest flies **monetary** the house.

(III) Moreover, in many countries the US dollar exists alongside the local currency as the preferred **monetary** unit.

(a) Both (I) and (III)

(b) Only (I)

(c) Only (II)

(d) Both (I) and (II)

(e) None of these

Q14.

Suppliant

(I) The colonists asked for nothing but what was clearly right and asked in the most respectful and even **suppliant** manner.

(II) Breaking on the right, he cut in and hit a low, hard shot which the keeper could only **suppliant** into the net.

(III) A few yards away, a South African officer has found one of the small but highly poisonous scorpions which **suppliant** the area.

(a) Both (I) and (III)

(b) Only (I)

(c) Only (II)

(d) Both (I) and (II)

(e) None of these

Q15.

Emulation

(I) **Emulation** begins very naturally in infancy when the baby apes the parent in speech and behavior.

(II) Before more money and effort go down the drain, it is time the “smart city leaders” **emulate** the Canadian model.

(III) There is a stark misinformation **emulation** launched by the Centre and the Governor’s administration.

- (a) Only (I)
- (b) Only (II)
- (c) Only (III)
- (d) Both (I) and (II)
- (e) All of the above



Solutions:

S1. Ans. (a)

Sol. Here, paragraph (I) deduces the given statement quite well. Other options do not have any relevance with the given sentence. Hence, option (a) is the right answer.

S2. Ans. (a)

Sol. Here, the paragraph (I) clearly deduces the given statement. Other options are either out of context or they don’t contain complete information about the given statement. Hence, option (a) is the right answer choice.

S3. Ans. (c)

Sol. Here, paragraph (III) deduces the given statement. Other options do not fit the context of the statement. Hence option (c) is the right answer choice.

S4. Ans. (a)

Sol. Here, paragraph (I) deduces the given statement clearly. Other options are out of context. Hence, option (a) is the right answer choice.

S5. Ans. (b)

Sol. Paragraph (II) clearly deduces the given statement while the rest of the options are out of context. Hence, option (b) is the right answer choice.

S6. Ans. (c)

Sol. Paragraph (III) justifies the given statement. Rest of the options do not contain proper information regarding the same. Hence, option (c) is the right answer choice.

S7. Ans. (a)

Sol. The term 'extort' means 'obtain by coercion or intimidation'.

S8. Ans. (a)

Sol. 'Livelihood' means 'the financial means whereby one supports oneself'.

S9. Ans. (b)

Sol. 'Capricious' means 'given to sudden and unaccountable changes of mood or behaviour'

S10. Ans. (c)

Sol. 'Innate' means 'inborn; natural'.

S11. Ans. (d)

Sol. 'Decorum' means 'propriety in manners and conduct'.

S12. Ans. (d)

Sol. The term 'infallible' refers to 'incapable of failure or error'.

S13. Ans. (a)

Sol. 'Monetary' means 'relating to or involving money'.

S14. Ans. (b)

Sol. 'Suppliant' refers to 'humbly entreating'.

S15. Ans. (d)

Sol. The term 'emulation' means 'Effort to match or surpass a person or achievement, typically by imitation'.

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