

## 200 Questions for IBPS PO Mains 2022 - English Language

**Directions (1-15):** In the following questions, a sentence is given in bold. Then three paragraphs are given. From the given paragraphs you need to choose those that help us to infer the given bold sentence.

**Q1. Business growth of the entities is thwacked due to liquidity crisis**

(I) Bank lending for most housing finance companies has dried up and as a result, cost of funds for these lenders have gone up substantially. Some of the home loan companies have either defaulted on repayment or have deferred payment due to the liquidity crisis. According to a study by rating agency Crisil, growth of asset under management of housing finance companies halved in the second half of the 2018-19.

(II) The liquidity crisis post the IL&FS default has hit the assets under management (AUM) of Housing Finance Companies (HFC) and also curtailed their disbursements, a report by rating agency Crisil said, adding that it expects growth to revive to 12 per cent to 14 per cent for these companies in the current and next fiscal.

(III) Housing finance companies are expecting higher refinance limits from the National Housing Bank, in the Budget, to tide over the current liquidity crisis they are facing. Some of the mortgage lenders and business leaders have written to the Finance Ministry requesting that their proposal be considered, the chief executive officer of a housing finance company

- (a) only II
- (b) only I
- (c) both II and III
- (d) both I and III
- (e) all I, II, III

**Q2. Only traditional aid and government finance are not enough for the scale of the developmental challenge**

(I) Traditional aid is often provided by means of supporting local development aid projects. In these projects, it sometimes occurs that no strict code of conduct is in force. In some projects, the development aid workers do not respect the local code of conduct. For example, the local dress code as well as social interaction. In developing countries, these matters are regarded highly important.

(II) Britain's statements around severing of aid to middle-income countries including China and India created the impression that it had stopped all funding to the countries, when in fact the government is still giving both nations millions of pounds. Critics of UK aid often point out that India and China, which receive some UK aid, have active space exploration programmes.

(III) An estimated \$7 billion has been spent under corporate social responsibility (CSR) programmes run by government in the last four years until March 2019 in India. That is a substantial sum spent for development. Recently, Wipro's Azim Premji also committed \$7.5 billion to charity. The estimated investment gap that requires to be bridged to achieve our sustainable development goals (SDGs) worldwide is \$2.5-3 trillion annually. This makes it imperative to unlock new funding sources, debt and equity, for development. It is in this context that one should look at the emergence and increasing use of social impact and development impact bonds (SIBs/DIBs).

- (a) only II
- (b) only III
- (c) both II and III
- (d) only I
- (e) None of these

**Q3. Cooperation between the centre and state is a must for agricultural reforms**

(I) Nearly 70pc of subsidies, taxes and other financial transfers involving farmers come from policies that heavily distort markets, notably by creating an artificial gap between domestic and world prices, the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development said in an annual survey of agriculture policy. After significant steps in the early 2000s to reduce subsidies supporting production and prices, which the OECD sees as wasteful and preventing structural investments in farming, reform progress "has largely stalled" in the past decade, it said in the report published this week.



(II) An expert committee on land leasing constituted by the NITI Aayog had come out with the Model Agricultural Land Leasing Act, 2016. Land leasing reforms, if carried out by state governments, will contribute immensely towards inclusive growth. However, it has been adopted fully in only a few states of India so far. Agriculture being a state subject, the central government formulates policy guidelines, advises, and allocates funds. Cooperation between the Centre and the states is a sine qua non for the expeditious implementation of reforms in the agriculture sector. Hence, a structured mechanism based on the philosophy of cooperative federalism is the need of the hour.

(III) The 'Agriculture Export Policy, 2018' seeks to double farm exports to \$60 billion by 2022 from \$30 billion last year, and will invest INR 1,400 crore to set up specialised clusters in different states for different produce to push exports. It also pushes for marketing reforms for doubling agricultural exports to \$60+ billion by 2022.

- (a) only II
- (b) only I
- (c) both II and III
- (d) both I and III
- (e) None of these

**Q4. A blow-hot-blow-cold pattern marks almost all of Trump's relations with countries the US is at odds with**

(I) The trouble is not just Trump's brazen disregard for international rules and past agreements, it is also the volatility that markets are made to suffer by all the frequent shifting of America's stance. Financial markets around the world have been roiled on several occasions by a statement from Trump, only to find their assumptions outdated shortly afterwards.

(II) President Trump's first steps on the global stage have sent shivers through the world. He is openly arguing with autocrats, while fighting a trade war with China and Europe and pulling out of international treaties. To many, his decisions are severely damaging the global standing of the US.

(III) Trump's talks with North Korea have bounced in every direction possible, and nobody knows if a deal is on its way to being struck or coming apart. On China, US trade negotiations had collapsed not long ago. Now Trump is ready to talk again, with the threat of slapping a 25% tariff on some \$300 billion worth of imports from the People's Republic kept aside—for the moment.

- (a) only II
- (b) only III
- (c) both II and III
- (d) both I and III
- (e) None of these

**Q5. Humans have lost the ability to press the correct action button owing to the usage of machines**

(I) Automated systems are improving so rapidly that they will soon be able to do everything we can and more. Despite this, we still feel the need to always have a human in the loop—to take over in case something untoward happens. We do this because we believe that humans will always be able to apply some instinctual intelligence to find solutions where machines can't.

(II) Reliance on automation has led to disaster in many situations. There have been people who have trusted their navigation systems so implicitly that, despite the evidence of their eyes, they have driven their cars off cliffs or into inhospitable deserts without so much as a raised eyebrow. We are so accustomed to turn-by-turn navigation that we've lost the art of finding our way by looking for waypoints and landmarks along the way.

(III) The pilots, in accordance with standard procedure, switched the flight to autopilot within four minutes of take-off. The computer, which had been programmed to hand over control to human pilots when it didn't have enough data to safely fly the plane, disengaged itself from the controls after telling the pilots that they would have to fly it like a conventional aircraft. Which is why, a pilot who, until now had rarely ever flown the plane at any time other than take-off and landing, had to suddenly take control of the aircraft mid-flight. Based on flight recorder evidence, his inexperience began to show almost immediately: The plane began rocking from side to side and then inexplicably went into a steep climb and crashed.

- (a) only II
- (b) only I
- (c) both II and III
- (d) both I and III
- (e) None of these

**Q6. Coaching institutions undermine mainstream education and impose a huge cost on students**

(I) Rising aspirations, combined with the falling quality of mainstream education, have meant that examination-oriented tuitions have taken over the lives of most school and college students in India. The coaching industry also generates employment. However, since it is unregulated and unorganised for the most part, it is difficult to estimate exactly how many people are employed in this line of work.

(II) Coaching institutions are imposing a huge emotional cost to society. They crush creativity. In most cases, they only help a student to swiftly secure marks in some entrance exam. To signal merit, exams are only one criterion, and not necessarily the best one. So, coaching institutions exist to help people achieve only one idea of merit. They do not enhance human capital. Confining students in classrooms and making them study subjects they often hate destroys their natural talent. Hence, the social cost of these institutions outweighs their benefit by far.

(III) In May, a deadly fire at a coaching centre in Surat snuffed out 22 young lives. The rate of suicides in Kota, where many students converge to prepare for entrance exams, remains high. And yet, the coaching industry is rapidly growing. Data from the National Sample Survey Office's 71st round reveal that more than a quarter of Indian students take private coaching. Also, it is providing with the information regarding employment in this sector.

- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Only (iii)
- (d) Both (i) and (iii)
- (e) None of these.

**Q7. Capital infusion is the key reason in improvement of capital of banks**

(I) In its latest monetary policy report, the RBI said recapitalisation of public sector banks and the ongoing improvement in their financials, and resolution of stressed assets under the insolvency and bankruptcy code are expected to improve bank credit offtake and support investment and aggregate demand.

(II) With the number of banks having more than 20% gross NPAs coming down in March 2019, RBI said this implied a broader improvement in asset quality. Credit growth of public sector banks were at 9.6% while private lenders continue to robust growth of 21%. Overall credit growth marginally improved to 13.2% in March 2019 from 13.1% in September 2018.

(III) Following infusion by the government in public sector banks, the overall capital ratio of commercial banks ameliorated from 13.7% in September 2018 to 14.3% in March 2019, with state-run banks' CAR ameliorating from 11.3% to 12.2% during the period. However, there was a marginal decline in the CAR of private sector banks.

- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Only (iii)
- (d) Both (i) and (iii)
- (e) None of these.

**Q8. The new bankruptcy code yields its first success, but many wrinkles remain.**

(I) The Finance Ministry now expects banks to recover more than ₹1 lakh crore from the resolution of the other cases referred by the RBI to the NCLT. If the banks do indeed recover funds of this scale, it would considerably reduce the burden on taxpayers, who would otherwise have to foot the bill for any recapitalisation of banks.

(II) The resolution of case of Bhushan Steel, should not deflect attention from the many challenges still plaguing the bankruptcy resolution process. The IBC, as the government itself has admitted, remains a work in progress. This is a

welcome piece of legislation to the extent that it subsumes a plethora of laws that confused creditors; instead it now offers a more streamlined way to deal with troubled assets. But issues such as the proposed eligibility criteria for bidders have left it bogged down and suppressed its capacity to help out creditors efficiently.

(III) The strict time limit for the resolution process as mandated by the IBC is an area that has drawn much attention, and it merits further review in order to balance the twin objectives of speedy resolution and maximising recovery for the lenders. To its credit, the government has been willing to hear out suggestions.

- (a) Only [III]
- (b) Both [I] & [III]
- (c) Only [II]
- (d) Both [I] & [II]
- (e) All [I], [II], [III]

**Q9. Slide of the currency and a widening trade deficit present the RBI with a huge dilemma**

(I) India's macroeconomic threats lie exposed as it grapples with the rupee's slide. The currency sunk to a closing low of 68.07 against the U.S. dollar, its lowest level in 16 months. Meanwhile, despite a depreciating currency, India's merchandise exports are stumbling instead of gaining from the opportunity. A hike in the RBI's benchmark interest rates could stem the capital exodus, but with core inflation picking up and the government keen on a rate cut as a growth catalyst, the RBI has an unenviable dilemma on its hands.

(II) The trade deficit has consequently widened to \$13.7 billion in April, compared to \$13.25 billion in the same month in 2017. The value of oil and petroleum product imports increased by 41.5% from last year to hit \$10.4 billion. U.S. sanctions following Washington's withdrawal from the Iran nuclear deal and a June 22 meeting of OPEC should drive oil price trends hereon. Oil prices apart, the tightening of U.S. monetary policy has almost always spelled trouble for emerging market economies hooked to Western capital inflows.

(III) The Indian rupee has been one of the worst performing major emerging market (EM) currencies in 2018, and the worst in Asia-Pacific. A Mint analysis shows that the rupee's troubles can be traced back to concerns about India's rising current account deficit. Given that the current account deficit is likely to remain under pressure, the rupee is likely to remain weak for some time, raising external funding costs for Indian firms even as it feeds into domestic inflation.

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

**Q10. The Windrush scandal marks another episode in Europe's hardening politics on immigration.**

[I] EU citizens elect the European Parliament and participate in its work, thus exercising treaty rights, enhancing Union democracy, and reinforcing its citizenship. Noting the ECJ's view of Union citizenship as a 'fundamental status' of nationals of Member States, and that Brexit will strip millions of EU citizens of this status and their vote in European elections, requests the Commission propose means to avoid risk of collective loss of EU citizenship and rights, and assure all EU citizens that, once attained, such status is permanent and their rights acquired.

[II] EU nationals risk being caught in a repeat of the Windrush immigration scandal unless the Home Office makes urgent changes to its post-Brexit "settled status" scheme, a UK parliament committee has warned. The programme — which has been in operation for nearly two months and received over 600,000 applications — is intended to guarantee the legal rights of over 3.5m EU citizens who are resident in the UK after Britain leaves the bloc. The problems faced by the Windrush generation showed how easily individuals can fall through gaps in the system through no fault of their own and how easily lives can be destroyed if the government gets this wrong

[III] The scandal over the targeting of Britons of Caribbean origin is the latest twist in Europe's recent politics over immigration, denting the continent's image as being open, liberal and tolerant. The Windrush generation, named after one of the many vessels that ferried some half a million people from the Caribbean islands to the U.K. in the late 1940s, has fallen victim to a ruthless policy that stipulates annual net immigration objectives. In its wake, people with cultural links to the region but who have lived all their lives in the U.K. are having to provide proof of residence for every year of their stay of up to 60-70 years.

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

**Q11. China's famed model of growth is under pressure due to fall in exports and investment**

[I] China's quarterly GDP numbers, while useful in many ways, don't reveal very much about the underlying challenges facing the country. One is the need to improve the credibility of data released by the Chinese government. The high-growth years of the Chinese economy were made possible by the huge amount of liquidity provided by the Chinese state and the large and affordable workforce that helped build China into an export powerhouse.

[II] The Chinese economy is seeing the first signs of trouble after long years of sustained growth that rode on cheap labour and high volumes of exports. Data released by the National Bureau of Statistics on Monday revealed that the economy grew by 6.2% in the second quarter, its slowest pace in 27 years. The faltering growth rate was due to a slump in exports in June amidst China's ongoing trade war with the United States and the downturn witnessed by sectors such as housing construction, where investor sentiments play a major role.

[III] Many economists believe that the worst may not yet be over for China and that economic growth could further worsen in the coming quarters. But just as growth seems to be faltering, the latest growth figures also showed that the retail sales and industrial output components of the growth numbers witnessed steady growth, suggesting that domestic demand may be compensating for the dropping appetite for Chinese exports weighed down by high tariffs.

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

**Q12. The forecast is optimistic, but changing monsoon trends are a challenge.**

[I] The most recent assessment put out by the India Meteorological Department, that the southwest monsoon will be "normal" after a short break, comes as a relief. At the end of two months the total rainfall has met the criteria for 'normality,' although there are wide variations in the patterns of showers, leaving some districts hit by drought as others face floods. Altered rainfall trends in terms of intensity and variations across regions pose a new challenge. A future-ready approach should therefore focus on augmented storage and greater participation of the farming community in managing the vital resource.

[II] India Meteorological Department has released its Monsoon Forecast to be near normal at 96 percent of the Long Period Average (LPA) with a model error of +/- 5%. IMD has also mentioned that these rains will be quite beneficial to the farmers in the country during the kharif season. Scientists contend that the alluvial soil of the northern States benefit more from slow precipitation, while the hard-rock geography of the south needs heavy showers for groundwater recharge. Yet, many districts have been receiving short, heavy spells and not steady rain. This indicates a change in the monsoon pattern.

[III] The IMD has issued a "normal" outlook for August, which is encouraging, and there are signs of fresh monsoon activity in Odisha, south Chhattisgarh, north coastal Andhra Pradesh and parts of Telangana. If the forecast is accurate, and the trends of favourable climate conditions in the Indian Ocean continue, a further normal course of the season through September can be expected.

- (a) Both [II] & [III]
- (b) Both [I] & [III]
- (c) Only [III]
- (d) Only [I] and (II)
- (e) All [I], [II], [III]

**Q13. The health emergency declared by the WHO can counter the risk of a global spread**

[I] The spread of Ebola to Congo's neighbour Uganda last month did not seem to change the way the WHO assessed the situation. Even when a handful of Ebola cases were confirmed in Uganda, all the infected people had travelled from Congo and there had been no local transmission or spread within Uganda — one of the criteria used by the WHO to assess if an outbreak is a global emergency. This is the fifth time that the WHO has declared a global emergency. The global emergency now declared may probably bring in the funding and control further spread of the virus.

[II] After holding itself back on three occasions, the World Health Organization has declared the Ebola virus disease outbreak in the Democratic Republic of the Congo a Public Health Emergency of International Concern. While cases in other areas are reducing, Beni is the new hotspot. The announcement of the health emergency comes amid renewed concerns that the virus could spread to other countries. A single imported case of Ebola in Goma, a city in Congo with two million people and with an international airport bordering Rwanda, served as a trigger to finally declare a global emergency. Declaring an event as a global emergency is meant to stop the spread of the pathogen to other countries and to ensure a coordinated international response.

[III] Though the vaccine has not been licensed in any country, the ring vaccination strategy where people who come into contact with infected people, as well as the contacts of those contacts are immunised, has helped. Of the nearly 94,000 people at risk who were vaccinated till March 25, 2019, only 71 got infected compared with 880 unvaccinated who got infected. The vaccine had 97.5% efficacy; a majority of those who got infected despite being vaccinated were high-risk contacts.

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

**Q14. Policymakers must address the structural problems behind the NBFCs crisis.**

[I] The precipitous crash of shares of Dewan Housing Finance Ltd. has been the defining moment of the present crisis. It is worth noting that the rise of NBFCs was fuelled primarily by the demise of traditional banks which have been unable to lend as they were bogged down by non-performing loans. Meanwhile, NBFCs with strong pricing power, which can somehow successfully achieve the transfer of higher borrowing rates to their own borrowers, may still survive rising interest rates.

[II] The default of Infrastructure Leasing & Financial Services (IL&FS) on several of its debt obligations over the last couple of months has raised serious questions about how regulators missed the growing debt pile of a systemically important financial institution. But apart from the obvious failure of regulators to do their jobs, the IL&FS saga has also exposed the underlying weaknesses in the non-banking financial company (NBFC) sector as a whole. The response of policymakers to the ongoing crisis, which seems warranted if its purpose is to prevent a wider systemic crisis, is fraught with other risks. Policymakers should focus on steps necessary to widen the borrower base of NBFCs which have been banned from accepting deposits.

[III] The Reserve Bank of India, the National Housing Bank and the State Bank of India last week decided to increase the supply of liquidity in the market to keep interest rates under control. The RBI has also urged NBFCs to make use of equity rather than debt to finance their operations. This is apart from the government's decision to replace IL&FS's management and commitment to providing the company with sufficient liquidity.

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

**Q15. The water crisis in Chennai needs holistic and widely resonant solutions.**

[I] Chennai's aspirations to grow into a global economic hub appear considerably weakened as it struggles to find water. The shadow of drought from 2018 has stretched into the torrid summer this year, evaporating not just the city's reservoirs, but the prosperity of its residents who are forced to hunt for tankers, pay bribes and spend hours even at night waiting for trucks to dispense some water. A time-bound plan is needed to augment the resources in the Greater Chennai region encompassing the neighbouring districts of Thiruvallur and Kancheepuram.

[II] The government made rainwater harvesting mandatory quite early, but failed to follow it up with an institutional mechanism to help citizens implement it. The government should give monetary incentives to NGOs, as NITI Aayog proposed in its Water Index report, to encourage them to install systems and show quantifiable recharge outcomes. On the consumer side, devices and practices to reduce wastage should be promoted, especially on commercial premises.

[III] Given the large base of tanks and reservoirs in Greater Chennai — over 4,000 waterbodies of significance — prudent rainfall management can help it through withering summers and weak monsoons. A white paper with a full assessment of these wetlands and their storage potential should be a priority for the State's Sustainable Water Security Mission.

Deepening storage in the four major reservoirs must get priority. Such a project must quantify the increase in storage and set an early deadline of a year.

- (a) Only [I]
- (b) Only [II]
- (c) Both [I] & [III]
- (d) Both [II] & [III]
- (e) All [I], [II], [III]

**Directions (16-20):** In the passage given below there are blanks which are to be filled with the options given below. Find out the appropriate pair of words in each case which can most suitably complete the sentence without altering the meaning of the statement. Both the pair must fill the blank.

**Q16.** In religious discourses, we often hear that the five \_\_\_\_\_(16) we should avoid are Kam (lust), Krodh (anger), Lobh (greed), Moh (attachment) and Ahankar (ego). However, these emotions are as natural as love and \_\_\_\_\_(17). A wonderful book by \_\_\_\_\_(18) psychologist, Dr. Clarissa Pinkola Estes, titled Women who run with the Wolves made the point that many of the psychological problems in women – and to a lesser extent in men, \_\_\_\_\_(19) from the fact that society discouraged them from expressing themselves in a natural way. There were a great number of \_\_\_\_\_(20) and codes of behavior laid down and adhering to the more rigid of these artificial impositions created psychological stress and complexes in women.

- (a) vices/ evils
- (b) actions/ reactions
- (c) talks/ perceptions
- (d) honors / virtues
- (e) felonies / purities

**Q17.** In religious discourses, we often hear that the five \_\_\_\_\_(16) we should avoid are Kam (lust), Krodh (anger), Lobh (greed), Moh (attachment) and Ahankar (ego). However, these emotions are as natural as love and \_\_\_\_\_(17). A wonderful book by \_\_\_\_\_(18) psychologist, Dr. Clarissa Pinkola Estes, titled Women who run with the Wolves made the point that many of the psychological problems in women – and to a lesser extent in men, \_\_\_\_\_(19) from the fact that society discouraged them from expressing themselves in a natural way. There were a great number of \_\_\_\_\_(20) and codes of behavior laid down and adhering to the more rigid of these artificial impositions created psychological stress and complexes in women.

- (a) anger/ frustration
- (b) family / foe
- (c) friendship/ affection
- (d) enmity / greed
- (e) racism / amity

**Q18.** In religious discourses, we often hear that the five \_\_\_\_\_(16) we should avoid are Kam (lust), Krodh (anger), Lobh (greed), Moh (attachment) and Ahankar (ego). However, these emotions are as natural as love and \_\_\_\_\_(17). A wonderful book by \_\_\_\_\_(18) psychologist, Dr. Clarissa Pinkola Estes, titled Women who run with the Wolves made the point that many of the psychological problems in women – and to a lesser extent in men, \_\_\_\_\_(19) from the fact that society discouraged them from expressing themselves in a natural way. There were a great number of \_\_\_\_\_(20) and codes of behavior laid down and adhering to the more rigid of these artificial impositions created psychological stress and complexes in women.

- (a) renowned / famous
- (b) obscure/ unsung
- (c) distinguished / inferior
- (d) anonymous / important
- (e) prominent / regular

**Q19.** In religious discourses, we often hear that the five \_\_\_\_\_(16) we should avoid are Kam (lust), Krodh (anger), Lobh (greed), Moh (attachment) and Ahankar (ego). However, these emotions are as natural as love and \_\_\_\_\_(17). A wonderful book by \_\_\_\_\_(18) psychologist, Dr. Clarissa Pinkola Estes, titled Women who run with the Wolves made the point that many of the psychological problems in women – and to a lesser extent in men, \_\_\_\_\_(19) from the fact that society discouraged them from expressing themselves in a natural way. There were a great number of \_\_\_\_\_(20) and codes of behavior laid down and adhering to the more rigid of these artificial impositions created psychological stress and complexes in women.

- (a) promoted/ accepted
- (b) provoked / invited
- (c) raised / sanctioned
- (d) stemmed / originated
- (e) emanated / repressed

**Q20.** In religious discourses, we often hear that the five \_\_\_\_\_(16) we should avoid are Kam (lust), Krodh (anger), Lobh (greed), Moh (attachment) and Ahankar (ego). However, these emotions are as natural as love and \_\_\_\_\_(17). A wonderful book by \_\_\_\_\_(18) psychologist, Dr. Clarissa Pinkola Estes, titled Women who run with the Wolves made the point that many of the psychological problems in women – and to a lesser extent in men, \_\_\_\_\_(19) from the fact that society discouraged them from expressing themselves in a natural way. There were a great number of \_\_\_\_\_(20) and codes of behavior laid down and adhering to the more rigid of these artificial impositions created psychological stress and complexes in women.

- (a) impositions / obligations
- (b) extortions / benefits
- (c) dictations / nuisance
- (d) regulations / artlessness
- (e) veracities/ coarseness

**Directions (21-23):** In each of the following sentence there are three blank spaces. Below each sentence there are five options and each option consists of three words which can be filled up in the blanks in the sentence to make the sentence grammatically correct.

**Q21.** \_\_\_\_\_ the India Meteorological Department \_\_\_\_\_ its monsoon forecast wrong this year, its modelling has \_\_\_\_\_ come under the spotlight.

- (a) along, taking, questionably
- (b) by, rejecting, primarily
- (c) of, acquiring, imperatively
- (d) with, getting, necessarily
- (e) over, reaching, importantly

**Q22.** The fallout of \_\_\_\_\_ on numbers to gauge a phenomenon as geographically and quantitatively \_\_\_\_\_ as the Indian monsoon is that it has ripple effects of tricking everyone from policymakers to the stock markets that a 'normal' monsoon \_\_\_\_\_ all will be well with rainfall distribution.

- (a) consolidating, blended, justifies
- (b) focusing, varied, implies
- (c) purposing, variegated, divulges
- (d) incorporating, differed, contends
- (e) regulating, diversified, explicates

**Q23.** Railway Minister Piyush Goyal has called for a quick \_\_\_\_\_ of the suburban stations to identify areas of \_\_\_\_\_, but this is something that should have been done without waiting for a disaster, and it must now be \_\_\_\_\_ to all cities.

- (a) assessment, review, radiated
- (b) examined, propensity, eloquent
- (c) survey, concern, extended
- (d) evaluation, pursuit, curtailed
- (e) estimation, avocation, faltered

**Directions (24-25):** In each of the following sentence there are three blank spaces. Below each sentence there are five options and each option consists of three words which can be filled up in the blanks in the sentence to make the sentence grammatically and coherently correct.

**Q24.** Twenty years \_\_\_\_\_, when I moved from India to Singapore with my husband, I found myself \_\_\_\_\_ at the many reminders of home after the \_\_\_\_\_ strangeness of being in a foreign city settled down.

- (a) since, wondered, subordinate
- (b) gone, surprised, final
- (c) back, pondering, followed
- (d) ago, marveling, initial
- (e) following, puzzled, open

**Q25.** India should \_\_\_\_\_ efforts to \_\_\_\_\_ China through diplomatic means and by following a give-and-take \_\_\_\_\_ in its relationship.

- (a) induct, pursue, assumptions
- (b) invest, rush, effect
- (c) set up, repulse, authority
- (d) cease, attract, rules
- (e) initiate, woo, principle

**Directions (26-30):** The sentences given in each of the following questions, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labeled with a letter. From among the five choices given below each question, choose the most logical order of sentences that constructs a coherent paragraph.

**Q26.** (A) The shift in approach in relation to Beijing is quite telling — Mr. Trump had called Beijing a currency manipulator until the other day.

(B) Washington's recent trade dialogue with Beijing, and its decision not to walk away from the North Atlantic Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) indicate a stunning about-turn of Mr. Trump's stance on specific bilateral agreements.

(C) However, it should be seen as signalling a welcome caution to eschew conflict after the shrill pre-election rhetoric and the string of executive orders after the inauguration.

(D) Conversely, his administration struck an agreement with the Chinese last week on market access in specific areas, even though there is, according to commentators, no guarantee of a reversal of the trade imbalance.

- (a) BDAC
- (b) BCAD
- (c) ABDC
- (d) ADBC
- (e) BADC

**Q27.** (A) Its objective is to reduce hunger to zero by 2030.

(B) Released every year by the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI), Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe, GHI highlights the successes and failures in reduction of hunger and provides insights into the sociological and economic reasons for the blight.

(C) It is designed to calibrate and track hunger on the basis of global, national, and regional parameters.

(D) The Global Hunger Index (GHI) is an extremely important tool for the measurement of hunger in 118 countries.

(E) By bringing forth the multifarious nuances of hunger into public discourse, GHI strives to raise awareness and understanding of regional and national differences.

- (a) DAEBC
- (b) DBCAE
- (c) DABCE
- (d) DBACE
- (e) DCBEA

**Q28.** (A) Cantillon effect explains how changes in the supply of money in an economy can affect the prices of different goods in different proportions.

(B) Cantillon proposed the idea to argue that the differential effect of changes in the money supply on prices leads to booms and busts in the economy.

(C) This is because the real purchasing power of individuals is not affected uniformly by the changes in money supply.

(D) The theory was proposed by Richard Cantillon, an Irish-French economist, as a counter to John Locke's crude quantity theory of money — which saw prices of all goods being affected proportionately by changes in money supply.

(a) ACDB

(b) ABCD

(c) BDAC

(d) ADBC

(e) ACBD

**Q29.** (A) Because of its salty taste, we cannot drink it or otherwise make use of it.

(B) This entire process, known as the hydrological cycle, takes place on a global scale.

(C) Nature has gathered this water in the seas and the oceans, at least 3.5 per cent of this seawater contains salt, which acts as a preservative.

(D) But by the workings of the laws of nature, the water in the oceans and seas rises up into the atmosphere as water vapour, being separated in this way from the salt content.

(E) Two elements which are individually gaseous in nature, combine to produce liquid water.

(F) This water vapour then collects together to form clouds, which bring rain.

(G) Rainwater is fresh water that we can put to use for our various daily needs.

(a) CDGBAFE

(b) GEADCFB

(c) ECADFGB

(d) EDCAGFB

(e) GBDFECA



**Q30.** (A) The election in the United Kingdom is primarily a trick of Theresa May to get a massive mandate to keep the extreme Eurosceptics in her party in check and to be assured of support of her countrymen during her difficult Brexit negotiations with the other 27 members of the European Union.

(B) Last year Europe was shocked by the Brexit vote and the election of Donald Trump in the United States.

(C) The German election is turning out to be the standard contest between the centre-right Christian Democrats and the centre-left Socialists, with the neo-fascist xenophobic AfD (Alternative for Germany) in total disarray.

(D) It is the uncertainty of the Brexit negotiations that is the talking point there.

(E) The forthcoming election in Britain caused barely a ripple in Europe.

(a) ABDEC

(b) CABED

(c) CADEB

(d) ADBEC

(e) ACEDB

**Directions (31-45):** In the questions given below few sentences are given which are grammatically correct and meaningful. Connect them by the word given above the statements in the best possible way without changing the intended meaning. Choose your answer accordingly from the options to form a correct, coherent sentence.

**Q31. AS**

(A) Even large parts of the capital, Patna, have been paralyzed without power and communications

(B) The State government tries to drain its streets of water, and critical rations are distributed by boat and helicopter.

(C) Other macroeconomic indicators that could potentially tie the hands of the government.

(D) It tries to tackle the slowdown have also shown signs of improvement.

(a) Both A-B and C-D

(b) Both A-D and B-C

(c) Only B-C

(d) Only A-D

(e) None of these

**Q32. AND**

(A) The monsoon is expected to withdraw after October 10, more than a month behind normal.

(B) The problem of low incomes can be tackled.

(C) It is even with less growth so long as it is of the appropriate type.

(D) Its overhang is consistent with the prevalent scientific view on the effects of a changing climate.

(a) Both A-B and C-D

(b) Both A-D and B-C

(c) Only B-C

(d) Only A-D

(e) None of these



**Q33. BUT**

- (A) Indian cities are attracting heavy investments in several spheres.
- (B) India is a country of different languages and every language has its own importance.
- (C) It is very important to have a language of the whole country which should become the identity of India globally.
- (D) State and municipal administrations have not matched their ambitions for development with capacity building and infrastructure creation.
- (a) Both A-B and C-D
- (b) Both A-D and B-C
- (c) Only B-C
- (d) Only A-D
- (e) None of these

**Q34. SINCE**

- (A) It has long been recognized that there is a crop-yield cycle related to annual variations in rainfall.
- (B) In Bihar's case, coordination with Nepal to track monsoon flows is also vital.
- (C) We are now witnessing a stagnation.
- (D) Big Gangetic rivers originate in the Himalayan region.
- (a) Both A-B and C-D
- (b) Both A-D and B-C
- (c) Only B-D
- (d) Only A-D
- (e) None of these

**Q35. WHERE**

- (A) These factors encompass land degradation involving loss of soil moisture and nutrients.
- (B) The signing of the Land Boundary Agreement in 2015 was a milestone.
- (C) The two neighbors amicably resolved a long-outstanding issue.
- (D) The drop in the water table, leading to scarcity raising the cost of cultivation.
- (a) Both A-B and C-D
- (b) Both A-D and B-C
- (c) Only B-D
- (d) Only B-C
- (e) None of these

**Q36. SUCH AS**

- (A) Removal of non-tariff barriers will help Bangladeshi exports.
- (B) We would need the expertise of agricultural scientists to confirm what exactly is responsible for this state.
- (C) Harmonizing the standards for goods accepted by India.
- (D) It would not be out of place to ask if there is not a role for ecological factors.
- (a) Only A-D
- (b) Both A-D and B-C
- (c) Only B-D
- (d) Only B-C
- (e) None of these

**Q37. WHILE**

- (A) Train services on the Dhaka-Kolkata and Kolkata-Khulna are doing well.
- (B) A third, on the Agartala-Akhaura route, is under construction.
- (C) We may be experiencing an ecological undertow.
- (D) It could defeat our best-laid plans for progress.
- (a) Only A-B
- (b) Both A-D and B-C
- (c) Only B-D
- (d) Only B-C
- (e) None of these

**Q38. HOWEVER**

- (A) It may be too soon to predict a definite turnaround.
- (B) A return to the sales levels witnessed last year.
- (C) Other high-frequency data on the economy suggest that the worst might be over.
- (D) It will require a stronger rebound in the overall economy.
- (a) Both A-B and C-D
- (b) Both A-D and B-C
- (c) Both A-C and B-D
- (d) Only A-D
- (e) None of these

**Q39. PROVIDED THAT**

- (A) We expect this measure to improve corporate earnings only in the medium term.
- (B) The basis on which our firm was created, is a series of values combined with a work philosophy.
- (C) It reflected a high level of honesty, trust and commitment to our clients.
- (D) Policymakers work in coordination with the company to remove structural constraints for both real and financial sectors.
- (a) Both A-B and C-D
- (b) Both A-D and B-C
- (c) Both A-C and B-D
- (d) Only A-D
- (e) None of these

**Q40. THOUGH**

- (A) It was formally withdrawn only eight months later.
- (B) It is our strength that we have many languages and dialects.
- (C) Gandhi's visit had achieved a resolution that was long-lasting without exacerbating social tensions.
- (D) We have to see that a foreign language does not overtake a native language
- (a) Both A-B and C-D
- (b) Both A-D and B-C
- (c) Both A-C and B-D
- (d) Only A-D
- (e) None of these

**Q41. BECAUSE**

- (A) Given the widespread resentment has been done the way in which it was done.  
 (B) We tolerate some disagreeable beliefs and practices of persons or groups.  
 (C) Even the scant support our troops received from local communities may evaporate  
 (D) We identify with many of their other beliefs and practices.  
 (a) Both A-B and C-D  
 (b) Both A-D and B-C  
 (c) Only B-D  
 (d) Only A-D  
 (e) None of these

**Q42. NOT ONLY-BUT ALSO**

- (A) The rural picture matter because the largest numbers are located there  
 (B) They matter because of their low incomes.  
 (C) National security is a critical concern for policymakers  
 (D) It is a critical concern for us, ordinary citizens.  
 (a) Both A-B and C-D  
 (b) Both A-D and B-C  
 (c) Both A-C and B-D  
 (d) Only A-D  
 (e) None of these

**Q43. WHEN**

- (A) His team now has a chance to strengthen its position in the World Test Championship.  
 (B) The three-match series against South Africa begins in Visakhapatnam on Wednesday.  
 (C) There is so much influence of English on us.  
 (D) that we cannot talk in Hindi without its help.  
 (a) Both A-B and C-D  
 (b) Only A-B  
 (c) Only B-D  
 (d) Only A-D  
 (e) None of these

**Q44. WHEREAS**

- (A) There are 18 words to refer to a relationship in Hindi.  
 (B) The fourth national tiger survey has generated much euphoria.  
 (C) The word "Uncle" is used uniformly to explain all relations in English.  
 (D) The first one in 2006 had cast a pall of gloom.  
 (a) Both A-B and C-D  
 (b) Both A-D and B-C  
 (c) Both A-C and B-D  
 (d) Only A-D  
 (e) None of these

**Q45. EVEN THOUGH**

- (A) Many of these structures have been bootstrapped to ramshackle dwellings.  
 (B) To 'tolerate' is to refrain from interference in the activities of others.  
 (C) Many do not meet construction standards.  
 (D) One finds them morally repugnant.  
 (a) Both A-B and C-D  
 (b) Both A-D and B-C  
 (c) Both A-C and B-D  
 (d) Only A-D  
 (e) None of these

**Directions (46-50): A number of sentences are given below which, when properly sequenced, form a COHERENT PARAGRAPH. Choose the most LOGICAL ORDER of sentence from the choices given to construct a COHERENT PARAGRAPH.**

- (A) It reverberates throughout the entire Universe. And you are transmitting that frequency with your thoughts!  
 (B) The frequency you transmit reaches beyond cities, beyond countries, beyond the world.  
 (C) You are a human transmission tower, and you are  
 (D) More powerful than any television tower created on earth.  
 (E) Your transmission creates your life and it creates the world.

**Q46.** Which of the following will be the **SECOND** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A  
 (b) B  
 (c) C  
 (d) D  
 (e) E

**Q47.** Which of the following will be the **FIRST** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A  
 (b) B  
 (c) C  
 (d) D  
 (e) E

**Q48.** Which of the following will be the **FOURTH** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A  
 (b) B  
 (c) C  
 (d) D  
 (e) E

**Q49.** Which of the following will be the **THIRD** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

**Q50.** Which of the following will be the **LAST(FIFTH)** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

**Directions (51-55): A number of sentences are given below which, when properly sequenced, form a COHERENT PARAGRAPH. Choose the most LOGICAL ORDER of sentence from the choices given to construct a COHERENT PARAGRAPH.**

(A) Asian economies will need alternative sources of growth to compensate for the rapid fall in demand from the western markets.

(B) But the crisis has exposed the limits of region's dominant economic-growth model.

(C) The export-led model that propelled many Asian economies so effectively for the past 30 years must be adapted to a different global economic context.

(D) Asian is less exposed to the financial turmoil than the west is, because Asian countries responded to the previous decade's regional crisis by improving

(E) Their current-account positions, accumulating reserves, and ensuring that their banking systems operated prudently.

**Q51.** Which of the following will be the **FIRST** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

**Q52.** Which of the following will be the **SECOND** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

**Q53.** Which of the following will be the **LAST(FIFTH)** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

**Q54.** Which of the following will be the **FOURTH** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

**Q55.** Which of the following will be the **THIRD** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

**Directions (56-60): A number of sentences are given below which, when properly sequenced, form a COHERENT PARAGRAPH. Choose the most LOGICAL ORDER of sentence from the choices given to construct a COHERENT PARAGRAPH.**

(A) The dangers of conflicting irrational majoritarianism with enlightened consensus are, indeed, great in developing democracy.

(B) Real democracy is about mediating the popular will through a network of institutional structure and the law of the land.

(C) While law making and governance are meant to articulate the latter, the judiciary is supposed to protect the former from any kind of excess that might occur,

(D) Unwittingly or otherwise, in the conduct of legislative and governmental functions.

(E) The principle of separation of powers is meant to embody a desirable tension between individual rights and social consensus.

**Q56.** Which of the following will be the **LAST(FIFTH)** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

**Q57.** Which of the following will be the **FIRST** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

**Q58.** Which of the following will be the **SECOND** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

**Q59.** Which of the following will be the **THIRD** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

**Q60.** Which of the following will be the **FOURTH** sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

**Directions (61-70):** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words/phrases have been printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

The hotline conversation between the Director Generals of Military Operations of India and Pakistan and their agreement "to undertake sincere measures to improve the existing situation ensuring peace and avoidance of hardships to the citizens", and to "fully implement the ceasefire understanding of 2003 in letter and spirit forthwith" is a long-awaited development. The wording of the near-identical statements issued by India and Pakistan is the most promising heard from the bilateral front in the last two years, especially the recommitment to the 2003 ceasefire. It was the ceasefire that paved the way for the Vajpayee-Musharraf statement of 2004 and a dialogue that lasted until the Mumbai attacks. What Tuesday's agreement may lead to is still uncertain. It is sufficient that the two sides have **unequivocally** said they will respect the ceasefire. Scores of civilians living along the LoC have **perished** in these incidents, which spiked after the 2016 attack on the Uri garrison and the subsequent strike by India inside PoK. In the same period, India has lost more soldiers in ceasefire violations than at any other period of peace time. On the same day as the DGMOs spoke, the Kashmiri separatist leadership, responding to Union Minister Rajnath Singh's offer of talks, indicated it was open to dialogue with the Centre, without any mention of its usual preconditions.

If all this does not square with the Pakistan Army-created kerfuffle over a book length conversation between two long retired spy bosses of India and Pakistan in which neither says anything that is not already in the public realm, it is because in India-Pakistan relations, trying to **reconcile** everything is near impossible. The Pakistan Army's decision to pull in its former DG ISI and put him on the "exit control list" for **shooting the breeze** with his friend, a former head of RAW, on Kargil among other things, should be seen as of a piece with the power struggle in Pakistan.

A general election is due to be held in Pakistan in a couple of months, and a former chief justice has been appointed to head the caretaker government. The disqualified-for-life Nawaz Sharif has been addressing rallies and public meetings, alleging the Army was behind his removal, and indeed, behind all Pakistan's problems. His remarks that "non-state actors" had been allowed to cross Pakistan's borders and kill "common people" in Mumbai have not gone down well with the Army. The former DG ISI, not particularly known as a friend of Pakistan's civilian governments, broadly **vindicates** Sharif's position in the book co-authored with his Indian friend. His former institution had to act quickly, before the carefully built up narrative against the "anti-national" Sharif started disintegrating. For the Pakistan Army, though, the real message is that narratives cannot be controlled beyond a point. That the entire drama unfolded at a time when India and Pakistan have taken steps to reduce **hostilities** only makes the self-serving nature of nationalist narratives more obvious.

**Q61.** As per the passage, Nawaz Sharif was disqualified from his duties. Whom did he allege for his disqualification?

- (a) The DG, ISI
- (b) The Government
- (c) The Army
- (d) Civilians
- (e) None of the Above

**Q62.** Which of the following statements is/are correct in context to the passage?

- (I) Ceasefire paved the way for the Vajpayee-Musharraf statement of 2004.
  - (II) The former DG ISI justifies Sharif's position in a book co-authored with his Indian friend.
  - (III) A general election is due to be held in Pakistan in a couple of months, and a former chief justice has been appointed to head the caretaker government.
- (a) Only (I)
  - (b) Only (II)
  - (c) Both (II) and (III)
  - (d) All are correct
  - (e) None of the Above.

**Q63.** As per the passage, what were the postulates of agreement that awaited development between India and Pakistan?

- (a) Improving the existing situation and ensuring peace to citizens.
- (b) Full implementation of the ceasefire understanding of 2003 in letter and spirit forthwith.
- (c) To successfully conduct general elections to be held in Pakistan.
- (d) Both (a) and (b)
- (e) All are correct.

**Q64.** What is meant by the idiom "**shooting the breeze**" used in the passage?

- (a) Enjoying a pleasant weather.
- (b) Spend time thinking about good times.
- (c) To spend time talking about things that are not important.
- (d) To do something different and amazing.
- (e) None of the Above

**Q65.** Which of the following statements cannot be inferred from the following passage?

- (I) Scores of deaths of civilians along the LOC spiked after the 2016 attack on the Uri garrison.
  - (II) India lost less soldiers in ceasefire violations than at any other period of peace time.
  - (III) Restoring friendly relations between India and Pakistan is near to impossible.
- (a) Only (I)
  - (b) Only (II)
  - (c) Both (I) and (III)
  - (d) Only (III)
  - (e) All (I), (II) and (III)

**Q66.** Choose the word which is **MOST SIMILAR** to the word given in passage.

**PERISH**

- (a) Revive
- (b) Flourish
- (c) Succumb
- (d) Thrive
- (e) Subsist

**Q67.** Choose the word which is **MOST SIMILAR** to the word given in passage.

**VINDICATE**

- (a) Refute
- (b) Exonerate
- (c) prolific
- (d) Condemn
- (e) Accuse

**Q68.** Choose the word which is **MOST SIMILAR** to the word given in passage.

**HOSTILITY**

- (a) Amiability
- (b) Empathy
- (c) Civility
- (d) Cordiality
- (e) Animosity

**Q69.** Choose the word which is **most opposite** to the following word given in bold in the passage

**RECONCILE**

- (a) Attune
- (b) Harmonize
- (c) Agitate
- (d) Resolve
- (e) Pacify

**Q70.** Choose the word which is **most opposite** to the following word given in bold in the passage

**UNEQUIVOCAL**

- (a) Assured
- (b) Inexorable
- (c) Explicit
- (d) Dubious
- (e) Certain

**Directions (71-75):** In each of the following sentence, there are two blank spaces. Below the sentences, there are five options and the blanks are to be filled with the pair of words given below to make the sentences correct. Fill up the sentences with the correct word.

**Q71.** With borrowing costs set to rise and global trade tensions adding to uncertainties for India's exporters who are yet to capitalize on the rupee weakness, policymakers will need to ..... populism and stick to policy ..... if the tenuous momentum is to be sustained.

- (a) elude; imprudence
- (b) elope; recklessness
- (c) eschew; prudence
- (d) chew; wisdom
- (e) escape; rashness

**Q72.** Due to the ..... quality of elections, the formerly fifth largest democracy is classified as an autocracy again. These developments are worrying for citizens because corruption, social exclusion and barriers to fair economic competition continue to be more ..... in autocracies.

- (a) enhance; rebellious
- (b) improve; submissive
- (c) ameliorate; dominant
- (d) deteriorate; obedient
- (e) worsened; prevalent

**Q73.** In a country which has had three-decade-long military dictatorships, ..... caretaker governments are somewhat of a .....

- (a) definite; static
- (b) eternal; innovative
- (c) permanent; complex
- (d) interim; novelty
- (e) volatile; antiquated

**Q74.** Mandatory pre-litigation mediation puts the ..... in the court of the parties involved, rather than looking at external agencies like courts, and urges them to ..... with and resolve disputes.

- (a) shuttle; release
- (b) ball; engage
- (c) sphere; fasten
- (d) globe; involved
- (e) courage; lost

**Q75.** The youth climbed over the vehicle and started ..... it with stones, then the driver sensitively ..... to take the vehicle out of the crowd.

- (a) smashing; managed
- (b) mashing; handled
- (c) break; involved
- (d) defeat; directed
- (e) hit; indulged

**Directions (76-80)** :Which of the phrases a), b), c) and d) given below each statements should be placed in the blank space provided so as to make a meaningful and grammatically correct sentence? If none of the sentences is appropriate mark e), i.e 'None of these', as the answer.

**Q76.** A confluence of adverse domestic and global factors is threatening to push the Indian rupee to historic lows, .....

- (a) encouraging people to invest in share markets.
- (b) compelling people to withdraw money from banks and keep them in their own custody.
- (c) forcing common men to purchase gold coins from banks.
- (d) making the import of crude oil and coal more expensive and aggravating the problems of the economy.
- (e) None of these

**Q77.** “ ..... that Mr.Verma was influencing any player of his team to underperform and hence resorting to spot fixing,” police said.

- (a) There is ample proof or indication yet
- (b) There is no proof or indication yet
- (c) Who said
- (d) There was no proof and indication yet
- (e) None of these

**Q78.** ..... the offences that Ranbaxy has pleaded guilty to in the US, the penalty it has paid, and the exact nature of infringements cited in the case.

- (a) No, we are still ascertaining the fact that
- (b) I read the statement, and yes, we need to consider this aspect of
- (c) We are also looking into
- (d) We would identify international events and take
- (e) None of these

**Q79.** The finance ministry has asked all government bodies to disclose the reasons for rejecting or excluding bidders from contracts awarded by them .....

- (a) in order to bring more transparency and avoid litigations from losing bidders
- (b) in order to pay compensation to losing bidders
- (c) in order to revalidate the cancelled bids
- (d) in order to cancel the licence of agitating bidders
- (e) None of these

**Q80.** The government’s decision to begin the so-called conciliation talks with Vodafone is .....

- (a) just beating about the bush
- (b) to woo the foreign investors and bring in a lot of money in India
- (c) to drive away the company from India
- (d) a sensible effort to bring to an end an episode that has bedeviled India’s investment climate
- (e) None of these

**Directions (81-85):** Each question below has two blanks,each blanks indicating that something has been omitted. Choose the set of words for each blank that best fits the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

**Q81.** The organization .....to popularize Indian classical music among the youth which has last .....with its cultural roots.

- (a) endeavors, touch
- (b) wishes, interest
- (c) efforts, experience
- (d) exerts, intrigue
- (e) need, relation

**Q82.** One of the major critiques of the examination system is that it .....to a spirit of..... competition among the students.

- (a) results, defective
- (b) accompanies, adequate
- (c) develops, intense
- (d) takes, severe
- (e) leads, unhealthy

**Q83.** Auroras are natural light displays in the sky, usually \_\_\_\_\_ at night, \_\_\_\_\_ in the polar regions.

- (a) watch, upward
- (b) noticed, peculiar
- (c) observed, only
- (d) found, most
- (e) follows, mainly

**Q84.** After the board examinations, students are \_\_\_\_\_ up for the various entrance examinations \_\_\_\_\_ for next month.

- (a) ready, mainly
- (b) gearing, scheduled
- (c) prepared, programmed
- (d) set, duration
- (e) geared, kept

**Q85.** The governmental \_\_\_\_\_ spurred dramatic improvements in the way waste management is \_\_\_\_\_ out in many hospitals.

- (a) rule, thrown
- (b) plans, conduct
- (c) crusade, one
- (d) efforts, carried
- (e) venture, disposed

**Directions (86-90):** Read the following passage and answer the following questions based on the given passage.

The Centre has announced the constitution of a committee to revisit several provisions of the Companies Act, 2013 that impose stiff penalties and, in some cases, prison terms as well, for directors and key management personnel. The 2013 law entailed the first massive overhaul of India's legal regime to govern businesses that had been in place since 1956 and was borne of a long-drawn consultative process. Now, this 10-member committee appointed by the Corporate Affairs Ministry has been tasked with checking if certain offences can be 'de-criminalised'. The panel, which includes top banker Uday Kotak, has been given 30 days to work out whether some of the violations that can attract imprisonment (such as a clerical failure by directors to make adequate disclosures about their interests) may instead be punished with monetary fines. It will also examine if offences punishable with a fine or imprisonment may be re-categorised as 'acts' that attract civil liabilities. Importantly, the committee has also been asked to suggest the broad contours for an adjudicatory mechanism that allows penalties to be levied for minor violations, perhaps in an automated manner, with minimal discretion available to officials. In fact, some of the provisions in the law are so tough that even a spelling mistake or typographical error could be construed as a fraud and lead to harsh strictures.

The government hopes such changes in the regulatory regime would allow trial courts to devote greater attention to serious offences rather than \_\_\_\_\_ (A) \_\_\_\_\_. *The decision to build in harsh penalties and prison terms for corporate misdemeanours in the 2013 law was, no doubt, influenced by the high-pitched anti-corruption discourse that prevailed in the country at that moment in time.* Apart from several cases of crony capitalism that had come to light during the second UPA government, massive corporate frauds reported at once-revered firms such as the erstwhile Satyam Computer Services had spooked investors and other stakeholders about the credibility of corporate India's books and governance standards. When the NDA came to power in May 2014, a comprehensive review of the Companies Act was at the top of industry's wish list as a means to revive the economy. Industry captains had red-flagged the impact of such provisions on the ease of doing business, and investor sentiment in general. Owing to the incidents corporate wrong doings, there has been a lack of trust that has developed between the industry and government but this should not hamper the normal business operations, they had argued. Four years down the line, the government is finally moving purposefully on this, a rethink perhaps triggered by the fact that private sector investment is yet to pick up steam and capital still seeks foreign shores to avoid regulatory risks. One hopes this is followed up on swiftly, before the ruling party slips into election mode.

**Q86.** What can be the possible inference drawn from the passage given above?

- (a) In India, company legislation has until recently been the main instrument for improving corporate governance.
- (b) Over the last few years, regulatory bodies have taken numerous steps towards inculcating good corporate governance practices among Indian companies.
- (c) Corporate governance has become a subject of immense importance in recent years for the state governments.
- (d) A relook at the overly harsh provisions of the Companies Act must yield action.
- (e) Corporate governance is a dynamic field of study and practice.

**Q87.** Which of the following phrases can appropriately fill in the blank (A) to make it contextually and grammatically correct?

- (a) consider management as completely obsolete and discard it to give way to what is called governance
- (b) taking into consideration all the factors it was necessary to ascertain the awareness of general public
- (c) get overloaded with cases as zealous officials blindly pursue prosecutions for even minor violations
- (d) a, b and c
- (e) governance has no justification to override management because management is not worth its name

**Q88.** What was the topmost expectation of the corporate sector when the UPA government lost the power in Centre?

- (a) New standards for corporate governance
- (b) Companies Act, 2013, which is a milestone on corporate governance, should not be altered.
- (c) Review of Companies Act for reviving the Indian economy
- (d) Reduce the administrative and regulatory burdens introduced by UPA government for corporate governance.
- (e) None of these

**Q89.** What were the basic reasons for creation of the ten members committee for revisiting the provisions of Companies Act, 2013?

- (i) To check whether any offence which is punishable through imprisonment can instead be punished on the basis of monetary fines.
  - (ii) To evaluate whether offences can be recategorised as acts which attract civil liabilities.
  - (iii) To suggest a mechanism where penalties for minor violations can be automated with minimum involvement by the officials.
- (a) Only (i)
  - (b) Only (ii)
  - (c) Both (i) & (ii)
  - (d) Both (i) & (iii)
  - (e) All (i), (ii), (iii)

**Q90.** What have been the point of view put up by industry leaders against the consequences of several corporate frauds?

- (a) The positive effect of corporate governance on different stakeholders ultimately is a strengthened economy, and hence good corporate governance is a tool for socio-economic development.
- (b) Strong governance standards focusing on fairness, transparency, accountability & responsibility are vital not only for the healthy & vibrant corporate sector growth, as well as inclusive growth of the economy.
- (c) Good corporate governance is essential for the integrity of Corporations, Financial Institutions & Markets. It ensures the health of our economies & their stability.
- (d) A trust deficit between industry and government owing to stray incidents of corporate malfeasance should not inhibit normal business operations.
- (e) None of these

**Directions (91-100):** Which of the following phrases (I), (II), and (III) given below each sentence should replace the phrase printed in bold letters to make the sentence grammatically correct without changing the meaning of the sentence? Choose the best option among the five given alternatives that reflect the correct use of phrase in the context of the grammatically correct sentence. If the sentence is correct as it is, mark (e) i.e., "No correction required" as the answer.

**Q91.** The local administration claimed that **protesters are to ignore orders banning their march**, and became violent, indulging in arson and stone-pelting.

- (I) Protesters are ignoring orders banning their march
  - (II) Protesters have to ignore orders banning their march
  - (III) Protesters ignored orders banning their march
- (a) Only (I)
  - (b) Only (II)
  - (c) Only (III)
  - (d) All of the above
  - (e) No correction required

**Q92.** Moreover, even after demonetization and implementation of the goods and services tax (GST), **which is to accelerate the conversion of** the unorganized market to organized trade and even digital adoption, traditional retailers continued to outperform.

- (I) in order to accelerating the conversion of
  - (II) which is accelerating the conversion of
  - (III) which are accelerating the conversion of
- (a) Only (I)
  - (b) Both (I) & (III)
  - (c) Only (II)
  - (d) Both (I) & (II)
  - (e) No correction required

**Q93.** Financial planning is about managing your money in line with what is best for you **hence it means investing** in a product that generates lower returns, but which is in line with your required asset allocation and risk appetite

- (I) even if it means investing
  - (II) as if it means investing
  - (III) although it means investing
- (a) Only (I)
  - (b) Only (II)
  - (c) Only (III)
  - (d) All of the above
  - (e) No correction required

**Q94.** In India there is a great concern over the retail tariffs being charged for electricity, **but similarly little attention has paid** to the components contributing to the overall costs.

- (I) but there has been paid less attention
  - (II) when similarly less attention is paid
  - (III) but ironically little attention is paid
- (a) Only (I)
  - (b) Both (I) & (III)
  - (c) Only (III)
  - (d) Both (I) & (II)
  - (e) No correction required



**Q95.** India, along with other developing countries, should make persistent efforts to fight the way WTO rules **have been rigged to suit** the developed countries.

- (I) Is rigged to suit
- (I) Has been rigged to suit
- (II) Will be rigged to suit
- (a) Only (I)
- (b) Only (II)
- (c) Only (III)
- (d) All of the above
- (e) No correction required

**Q96.** Some people **believed that Americans are upsetting** about the division of the middle class into a downwardly mobile working class and a thriving, educated upper-middle class.

- (I) are to believe that Americans were upset
- (II) believe that Americans are upset
- (III) will believe that Americans are upset
- (a) Only (I)
- (b) Both (I) & (III)
- (c) Only (II)
- (d) Both (I) & (II)
- (e) No correction required

**Q97.** India **needing to further build on** the inclusive nature of smart urbanization, which has integrated a broader set of industries and exhibited greater employment growth.

- (I) India needs to further build on
- (II) India needing to further build upon
- (III) India has a requirement of building on
- (a) Only (I)
- (b) Only (II)
- (c) Only (III)
- (d) All of the above
- (e) No correction required

**Q98.** **Desired the limited availability,** it becomes important to look at newer energy storage technologies that can find a use in mobility applications.

- (I) Given the ample availability
- (II) Managing the availability
- (III) Given the limited availability
- (a) Only (I)
- (b) Both (I) & (III)
- (c) Only (III)
- (d) Both (I) & (II)
- (e) No correction required

**Q99.** There is an attitude among some that doctors are infallible saviors, **creates a reluctance to admitting error.**

- (I) having to create a reluctance to admit error.
- (II) creating a reluctance to admit error
- (III) Of creating a reluctance to admitting error.
- (a) Only (I)
- (b) Only (II)
- (c) Only (III)
- (d) All of the above
- (e) No correction required

**Q100.** **In spite of efforts to reform the legal system of loan recovery** and build a responsible credit culture by educating borrowers, banks' asset quality in India continues to deteriorate.

- (I) Although efforts to reform the legal system of loan recovery
- (II) Despite efforts to reforming the legal system of loan recovery
- (III) Despite efforts to reform the legal system of loan recovery
- (a) Only (I)
- (b) Both (I) & (III)
- (c) Only (II)
- (d) Only (III)
- (e) No correction required

**Directions (101- 110):** Read the following passage and answer the questions as directed. There are some blanks given in the passage based on which some questions are framed, and some words are highlighted as well to help you answer some of the questions.

SMART cities are the future of urban living, **(A)** the power of three Ds—digital technologies, data, and design thinking—to boost the efficiency and effectiveness of city services. **(B)** *However, this new wave of digital transformation (1) also brings new cyber risks that could explosion (2) impact the existence of smart cities. Cyber threats have been on the rise for years, but the last few years have seen an fundamentally (3) in cyberattacks that target both data and physical (4) assets.*

As connected devices **(C)** at a breakneck speed—the number of IoT devices is expected to rise from 8.4 billion today to almost 20 billion by 2020—cyberattacks and vulnerabilities in one area can have a cascading effect on numerous other areas. The consequences could extend beyond just data loss, financial impact, and reputational damage risks—severe enough as they are—to include **(D)** such as health care, transportation, law enforcement, power and utilities, and residential services. Such disruptions can potentially lead to loss of life and breakdown of social and economic systems.

The rapid hyperconnectivity and digitization of cities are accelerating cyber threats. **(E)** *To tackle the challenge, government leaders, urban planners, and other key stakeholders should make cybersecurity principles an integral part of the smart city governing, design, and operations, not just an afterthought.*

**(F)** A smart city is a **complex (1)** ecosystem of municipal services, public and private **entities (2)**, people, **constantly (3)**, devices, and city infrastructure that **processes (4)** interact with each other. The underlying technology infrastructure of the ecosystem comprises three layers: the edge, the core, and the communication channel. The edge layer comprises devices such as sensors, actuators, other IoT devices, and smartphones. The core is the technology platform that **(G)** from the edge. The communication channel establishes a constant, two-way data exchange between the core and the edge to seamlessly integrate the various components of the ecosystem.

**(H)** *This massive amount of data exchanges, integration between disparate IoT devices, and dynamically changing processes creates new cyber threats, compounded by complexities in the other components of the ecosystem that wrap around the technology infrastructure.* For instance, data governance can be a **(I)** issue for cities as they need to think about whether the data is internal or external; whether it is transactional or personalized; whether the transactional data is collected via IoT devices; and how the data is stored, archived, duplicated, and destroyed. In addition, due to a lack of common standards and policies, many cities are experimenting with new vendors and products, which create **(J)** and integration problems on the ground and exacerbate cyber risks.

**Q101.** Which of the following words given in the options should come at the place marked as **(A)** in the above passage to make it grammatically correct and contextually meaningful? Also, the word should fill in the two sentences given below to make them contextually correct and meaningful.

(I) He explained that Ireland has the capacity to generate huge volumes of energy by \_\_\_\_\_ off-shore wind.

(II) Alexander wants to encourage a consensus among this disparate body of men and women, \_\_\_\_\_ their talents for the good of the nation.

- (a) extenuating
- (b) harnessing
- (c) exacerbating
- (d) bumbling
- (e) flushing

**Q102.** The sentence given in **(B)** has four words given in bold. Amongst the given bold words which of the followings must interchange to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct and meaningful?

- (a) (3)-(4)
- (b) (1)-(2)
- (c) (2)-(4)
- (d) (2)-(3)
- (e) (1)-(3)

**Q103.** Which of the following words given in the options should come at the place marked as **(C)** in the above passage to make it grammatically correct and contextually meaningful?

- (a) venerate
- (b) harangue
- (c) upbraid
- (d) proliferate
- (e) verisimilitude

**Q104.** Which of the following phrases should fill the blank **(D)** to make it contextually correct and grammatically meaningful?

- (a) abrogation from these sources and others for population health and care management
- (b) a view to the future might help these stakeholders anticipate how technology will transform data collection
- (c) reflects much deeper insights into the drivers of health and health care costs
- (d) disruption of crucial city services and infrastructure across a broad range of domains
- (e) None of these

**Q105.** In the above passage, a sentence **(E)** is given in Italics. There may or may not be an error in one part of the sentence. Choose the part which has an error in it as your answer. If there is no error, then choose option (e) as your answer.

- (a) To tackle the challenge, government leaders, urban planners, and other key stakeholders should make cybersecurity
- (b) principles an integral part of the smart city governing,
- (c) design, and operations, not just an afterthought
- (d) design, and operations, not just an afterthought
- (e) No error

**Q106.** The sentence given in **(F)** has four words given in bold. Amongst the given bold words which of the followings must interchange to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct and meaningful?

- (a) (2)-(3)
- (b) (1)-(2)
- (c) (3)-(4)
- (d) (1)-(4)
- (e) (2)-(4)

**Q107.** Which of the following phrases should fill the blank **(G)** to make it contextually and grammatically meaningful and correct respectively?

- (a) have appointed technology-focused board members
- (b) most people who serve on the board of public companies
- (c) goes beyond the information technology bucket
- (d) might happen and explaining how the team is mitigating risks
- (e) processes and makes sense of the data flowing



**Q108.** In the above passage, a sentence (**H**) is given in Italics. There may or may not be an error in one part of the sentence. Choose the part which has an error in it as your answer. If there is no error, then choose option (e) as your answer.

- (a) This massive amount of data exchanges, integration
- (b) between disparate IoT devices, and dynamically changing processes
- (c) creates new cyber threats, compounded by complexities in the other components
- (d) of the ecosystem that wrap around the technology infrastructure.
- (e) No error

**Q109.** Which of the following words given in the options should come at the place marked as (**I**) in the above passage to make it grammatically correct and contextually meaningful?

- (a) lambaste
- (b) dogmatic
- (c) thorny
- (d) reticent
- (e) decorous

**Q110.** Which of the following words given in the options should come at the place marked as (**J**) in the above paragraph to make it grammatically and contextually meaningful and correct? Also, the word should fill the two sentences given below to make them contextually correct and meaningful?

- (I) The Company announced its support for the multi-vendor switch \_\_\_\_\_ initiative in storage area networks
- (II) The lack of \_\_\_\_\_ across storage products from different vendors is severely limiting the growth of the virtualization market.

- (a) predilection
- (b) platitude
- (c) gall
- (d) interoperability
- (e) aesthete

**Directions (111-115):** In the questions given below a sentence is given with two blanks in each. Corresponding to each question two columns are given with three words in each column. Which combination of words from the two columns will perfectly fit into the blanks to make the sentence contextually correct and meaningful.

**Q111.** The \_\_\_\_\_ loss of an estimated 153 billion hours of labour during 2017 due to rising temperatures around the globe is a reminder to governments that they are not doing enough to \_\_\_\_\_ curb greenhouse gas emissions.

Column I Column II

- (A) unrelenting (D) gloriously
- (B) staggering (E) conversely
- (C) combating (F) dramatically
- (a) C-E
- (b) B-D and C-F
- (c) B-F
- (d) A-D
- (e) B-D

**Q112.** There has been little appreciation of the \_\_\_\_\_ for Moscow from NATO's continued expansion into the former Eastern Europe and the erstwhile USSR. The geopolitical \_\_\_\_\_ of greater engagement with Moscow has never been more urgent, as hawks in the U.S. administration make no secret of their preference for confrontation over dialogue.

Column I Column II

- (A) provocation (D) stemming
- (B) aberration (E) imperative
- (C) veneration (F) venality
- (a) A-F
- (b) B-D
- (c) B-F
- (d) A-E
- (e) C-D

**Q113.** India has suffered from a major burden of malaria for decades, with high levels of \_\_\_\_\_ and death. But the declining trend of the \_\_\_\_\_ shows that sustained public health action can achieve good results.

Column I Column II

- (A) egregious (D) scourge
- (B) morbidity (E) galvanize
- (C) ambiguity (F) aberration
- (a) A-E
- (b) B-D
- (c) C-F
- (d) A-F
- (e) C-D

**Q114.** One issue that requires monitoring in India is \_\_\_\_\_ to combination therapy using artemisinin. Recent reports indicate that some patients in West Bengal became resistant to the treatment protocol used for the falciparum parasite, which causes \_\_\_\_\_ cerebral malaria and leads to a high number of deaths.

Column I Column II

- (A) prevaricated (D) debilitating
- (B) acrimonious (E) perplexing
- (C) resistance (F) weaning
- (a) B-D
- (b) C-F
- (c) C-D
- (d) B-E
- (e) A-E

**Q115.** To understand what this clash of the global economic titans \_\_\_\_\_ for the world trading system, it is instructive to examine the path of their mutual conflict thus far. The troubles began over the summer when US and China started taxing \$50 billion worth of the other's imports, followed by the U.S. slapping \$200 billion of Chinese exports with a 10% tariff, to be \_\_\_\_\_ up to 25% by the year-end.

Column I Column II

- (A) chastises (D) castigated  
(B) enervates (E) demurred  
(C) portends (F) ratcheted  
(a) A-F  
(b) C-F  
(c) C-D  
(d) B-D  
(e) A-E

**Directions (116-120):** In the following passage against each number four words are suggested in bold which may or may not fit into the sentence contextually. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five options are given. Find out the most inappropriate option reflecting the word which must be replaced to give a contextual meaning to the paragraph. If no such error is there mark (e) i.e. "All are correct", as your answer choice.

(116) As Yudhishtira **contemplates** the consequence of this **innocuous** game of dice, Shakuni **prods** him, taunts him and finally pushes him to **wager** his queen. Yudhishtira, the eldest of the Pandavas has already lost his brothers and all that he owns and is now on the verge of ruin. (117) A feeling of **disgust** fills the **veracious** halls of Dhritarashtra's palace. The Rajasuya **ceremony** is quickly becoming the **undoing** of the greatest warriors on the face of the planet. Time stands still as Shakuni grins. Yudhishtira cannot decline Shakuni's wager. He agrees—"I will play you for her." Shakuni heaves and rolls the dice and in an instant, he screams for joy—"We have won" and thus begins the epic saga of Mahabharata. (118) Gambling is a terrible **vice** and our history is filled with references carefully highlighting the destruction **prevaricated** by the game of chance. From Rig Veda to Manusmriti, Shakuni to Chanakya, gambling is **expounded** upon **extensively** so that people fully understood the grave implications of rolling dice. (119) However, we are a company that deals with information on stocks and financial markets and **galvanizing** the complex moral dilemmas **implicit** in gambling is frankly beyond our limited **intellectual** capacity. So, our focus today isn't on the moral or the social impact of gambling. Instead, we will focus on how gambling has evolved in India and use Delta Corp, a listed gaming company as a blueprint to understand the current **dynamics** of the country's Gambling Industry. (120) Delta Corp Limited ("Delta Corp") is the only listed company that currently **operates** both physical and online casinos in India. It has over 1800 **gaming** positions and is quickly becoming a favourite among investors at Dalal Street. But before we look into the physical operations of the company, we need to **vindicate** a more modern **phenomenon**—Online Gaming and Delta Corp's gambit in occupying the top place.

- Q116. (a) contemplates  
(b) innocuous  
(c) prods  
(d) wager  
(e) All are correct

- Q117. (a) disgust  
(b) veracious  
(c) ceremony  
(d) undoing  
(e) All are correct

- Q118. (a) vice  
(b) prevaricated  
(c) expounded  
(d) extensively  
(e) All are correct

- Q119. (a) galvanizing  
(b) implicit  
(c) intellectual  
(d) dynamics  
(e) All are correct

- Q120. (a) operates  
(b) gaming  
(c) vindicate  
(d) phenomenon  
(e) All are correct

**Directions (121-125):** Each of the following questions has a paragraph from which one sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

- Q121. When the Reserve Bank of India conducted a special investigation (Asset Quality Review 2015–16) into the quality of loans dispensed by big banks, few could have foreseen the lasting impact of the fallout that came afterwards. It forced banks to do away with the opaque policies\_\_\_\_\_. It was a moment of reckoning for the banking industry and it severely crippled many incumbents, except a certain HDFC Bank.  
(a) of the puzzle begins with understanding commodities  
(b) to financial institutions as well because like commodities, money behaves remarkably similar to one  
(c) adopted to conceal bad loans and severely hampered their ability to grow  
(d) financial metrics, metrics that help us understand things as they stand today  
(e) to add market share by offering a better product

**Q122.** At the turn of the new millennium, Yogesh Mahansaria, a bright-eyed 25-year-old was asked to take control of a small tyre manufacturer in Aurangabad. He had been working there for a few years with his father and \_\_\_\_\_ and when his chance came, he did it with style. And then in 2006 when it seemed like the humble tyre company was just about to take off, he was abruptly asked to leave.

- (a) inherent investment opportunity we need to take a small detour
- (b) principal contention was that while food production would grow linearly, population growth would be exponential
- (c) most controversial ideas of the 18th century there was considerable fear about humanity's ability to survive
- (d) was seen as someone who could turn around the company's fortunes
- (e) ushered in a new era and it's now on a quest to reach a billion dollars in annual turnover

**Q123.** Today instead of looking at complicated operational metrics and financial performance of airline companies, we will do something different. We will instead look at air travel and why flying is a terrible experience. Why we have great fund managers [Buffett, Lynch] \_\_\_\_\_ in general and through it, you, fellow investor.

- (a) practice is usually followed to fill up the seats left vacant by late or last minute cancellations
- (b) confirmed-ticket customers check-in well in time for the flight to take off
- (c) voluntarily vacating seats, which gives you some relief like booking on a later flight
- (d) travel on the flight and reported for the flight well within the specified time
- (e) hating on the airline industry and how all of this is connected to airfares

**Q124.** Overbooking is another menace that often ruins the flight experience. Airlines consistently overbook—meaning they book more passengers than the actual capacity of the flight in an attempt to maximize their profit-making potential. They do this by \_\_\_\_\_. But in the process of overbooking, customers often get bumped out of flights that they legally paid for.

- (a) later time and other benefits or facilities according to the airline's discretion.
- (b) accounting for the total number of passengers who are unlikely to show up
- (c) the request of the airline, it is taken as refusal to cooperate with safety procedures
- (d) passenger can only be allowed to check into a flight with a boarding pass
- (e) passengers do not vacate seats, the airline can deny them booking

**Q125.** Steel Manufacturers in China largely relied on Blast Furnaces to produce their steel. These old furnaces take in hot air and convert iron ore into steel under \_\_\_\_\_. In a world that was moving closer to environmentally friendly alternatives, this was seen as problematic.

- (a) long-term contracts could not fully capitalise on the new found riches
- (b) terrible market scenario that prevailed in the Graphite Electrode
- (c) extremely high temperatures and are considered to be prime polluters in Beijing
- (d) severe depression crippled the entire industry
- (e) stock as a worthwhile investment opportunity until the Chinese sneezed

**Directions (126-130):** In the following questions a sentence is given, some words are given in bold which may have grammatical or spelling error or they may be contextually incorrect. Two columns (I) and (II) are given, column (I) consists of bold words of the sentence and column (II) consists of the appropriate replacement for the bold words. Match the correct replacements. If the sentence is correct mark no error as your answer.

**Q126.** For its part, the IT department fears that start-ups may be used as convenient tools to **launder** illegally acquired money, so a tax on investments beyond a certain threshold is necessary to **entrench** such shady operations. But while the intent of such an angel tax may be **justifiable**, the arbitrary nature of it means the cost of unintended consequences could be larger than the supposed benefits.

COLUMN I COLUMN II

- (A) launder (D) chortle
- (B) entrench (E) deter
- (C) justifiable (F) preclude
- (a) (A)-(D)
- (b) (B)-(E) & (C)-(F)
- (c) (A)-(D) & (B)-(E)
- (d) (B)-(E)
- (e) No error

**Q127.** Popular deposit schemes such as chit funds and gold schemes, usually do not come under the **purview** of government regulators. But these unregulated schemes have also been misused by some miscreants to **culminate** the money of depositors with the promise of unbelievably high returns in a short period of time. The Saradha chit fund scam in West Bengal is just one example of such a **hienous** financial crime against depositors.

COLUMN I COLUMN II

- (A) purview (D) gainsay
- (B) culminate (E) swindle
- (C) hienous (F) heinous
- (a) (A)-(D)
- (b) (C)-(F)
- (c) (B)-(E) & (C)-(F)
- (d) (B)-(E)
- (e) No error

**Q128.** Finance Minister Arun Jaitley **engenders** that revenues will not be hit by the rate cut. The implicit assumption is that higher sales volumes will compensate the **rustic**. Developers may be forced to raise base prices as critical inputs, particularly cement (taxed at 28%), **eschew** high levies that can no longer be offset.

COLUMN I COLUMN II

- (A) engenders (D) reckons
- (B) rustic (E) exchequer
- (C) eschew (F) entail
- (a) (A)-(D) & (B)-(E)
- (b) (A)-(D) & (C)-(F)
- (c) (B)-(E) & (C)-(F)
- (d) (A)-(D), (B)-(E), (C)-(F)
- (e) No error

**Q129.** Another provision **envisages** a political role for the military as a guardian of the Constitution. Thursday's parliamentary vote initiating these changes will have to be **ratified** in a popular referendum, but few doubt the establishment's capacity to secure it. The economy has returned to a growth **trajectory** following an International Monetary Fund loan in 2016, in exchange for cuts in public subsidies.

COLUMN I COLUMN II

- (A) envisages (D) mitigated
- (B) ratified (E) lambasted
- (C) trajectory (F) gossamer
- (a) (A)-(D) & (C)-(F)
- (b) (B)-(E) & (C)-(F)
- (c) (A)-(D), (B)-(E), (C)-(F)
- (d) (A)-(D) & (B)-(E)
- (e) No error

**Q130.** The weakness in the farm sector is **undergrinding** the unprecedented softness in food prices. The December CPI data showed continuing deflation in food items. While the RBI's inflation **calculus** clearly benefits from the ongoing trend in price gains, the MPC is justifiably **vociferous** of the tenuousness of the assumptions it has made for its forward projections.

COLUMN I COLUMN II

- (A) undergrinding (D) undergirding
- (B) calculus (E) didactic
- (C) vociferous (F) cognizant
- (a) (A)-(D) & (C)-(F)
- (b) (A)-(D) & (B)-(E)
- (c) (B)-(E) & (C)-(F)
- (d) (A)-(D)
- (e) No error

**Directions (131-135):** Read the passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words/phrases are given in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

Nearly 74 years after his death, Gandhi remains the most widely known political leader of modern India. Gandhi's stature as a major historical figure was confirmed by his successful non-violent movement against British rule in India. Yet, what makes Gandhi so relevant and meaningful for our world is that his political legacy and his philosophical significance continue to inspire millions of people around the globe — to fight against inequality, injustice and historical wrongs. For Gandhi, politics was essentially an ethical mode of conduct. He never pretended to be a teacher of truth. However, others took him to be a guru, and there is no doubt that his attempts to encourage people to experiment with the truth were both philosophical and pedagogical. Therefore, as a practitioner of empathetic humanism and a pluralist thinker, Gandhi was an **exemplar** of a lifelong process of listening and learning. He actually played the role of an exemplar in prescribing "patience" as a means to understand and approach the other. The dialogical nature of Gandhi's culture of patience finds its roots in the idea of epistemic humility as a necessary methodology in approaching and understanding other cultures and religions.

As such, the entire Gandhian thought in the realm of religion and politics revolves around this concept of epistemic humility. That is why Gandhi had a profoundly ethical view of religions. Gandhi believed that all individuals irrespective of their religion, race and culture had the right to self-governance. Accordingly, what we can call the Gandhian moment of Swaraj was actually for him constant experimentation with modes of cross-cultural and inter-faith understanding and dialogue. In other words, the capacity to engage constructively with conflicting values was an essential component of Gandhi's practical wisdom and empathetic pluralism. As a matter of fact, Swaraj as a space of self-realization was where the ethical and the political joined in the Gandhian political philosophy. In other words, maturity for Gandhi was a state of mind and a mode of being, where one had the capacity to form one's life in a social sphere.

It was on the basis of this act of maturity that Gandhi established his political anthropology and pedagogical premises. He believed that autonomy formed by a mature judgment prepared a life according to morality. Gandhi, therefore, approached pragmatic politics as a form of character-building and not necessarily a struggle for getting elected or grasping power. Gandhi's acknowledgment of the moral imperative of maturity and his devotion to democratic transparency continues to distinguish his political psychology from most of the other discourses in Indian and world politics. As such, Gandhi's suggestion to us in relation to moral excellence and spiritual maturity presents itself at the same time as an invitation to self-respect and self-restraint. Therefore, it goes without saying that by reading Gandhi closely and correctly, we can get to the conclusion that, despite all his shortcomings, his appeal to mature and conscientious politics and nobility of spirit continues to be a strong ethical responsibility to the political issues and challenges of our time. Maybe, that is why, Gandhi remains our contemporary, while he belongs to our future.

**Q131.** Why did Gandhi see politics as primarily an ethical manner of conduct?

- (a) Gandhi did so because he encouraged participants to enjoy the truth.
- (b) Because of his philosophical and pedagogical teachings.
- (c) Because Gandhi never pretended to be a teacher of truth.
- (d) Because it served as a vehicle for combating inequity, injustice, and past evil.
- (e) None of these

**Q132.** The author describes Gandhi as a practitioner of empathetic humanism and a pluralist thinker. What exactly do these terms imply?

- (a) Someone who never professed to be a morality teacher.
- (b) A universalist philosopher who promoted compassionate human nature.
- (c) One who exemplifies a lifelong listening and learning process.
- (d) As a technique of comprehending and approaching the other.
- (e) A conceptualization of cognitive modesty as a required technique.

**Q133.** Which of the following statements is/are correct with reference to the information provided in the given passage?

- (a) In Gandhi's political thought, Swaraj was a zone of self-realization where the ethical and the political united.
- (b) Gandhi saw realistic politics as a means of developing character rather than a means of getting elected or gaining power.
- (c) Gandhi perceived constructive governance as a way of constructing personality and getting elected.
- (d) Only (a) and (b)
- (e) Only (a) and (c)

**Q134.** Based on the information in the passage, what was Gandhi's opinion on religions?

- (a) Gandhi had a deeply ethical perspective on religions.
- (b) Gandhi thought that religion gives people the ability to rule themselves.
- (c) Gandhi saw religion as a source of intercultural discord.
- (d) Gandhi viewed religion as a cognitive poverty paradigm.
- (e) All are correct

**Q135.** Choose the most appropriate antonym of the word 'EXEMPLAR', as highlighted in the given passage.

- (a) paragon
- (b) epitome
- (c) paradigm
- (d) mediocre
- (e) None of these

**Directions (136-140):** In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five options are given. Find out the appropriate word which fits the blank appropriately.

The novel coronavirus pandemic has \_\_\_\_\_(136)\_\_\_\_\_the way for a blended teaching-learning approach combining online and offline lessons. Parents, teachers, students and school management need to work together to find solutions. Positive examples have \_\_\_\_\_(137)\_\_\_\_\_ from different States such as open-air classes under trees. Despite doubts, there is no better alternative to the safe reopening of schools. The longer children are out of school, the more \_\_\_\_\_(138)\_\_\_\_\_ it would be for them to return and learn. Last month, Maharashtra's School Education Minister Varsha Gaikwad had \_\_\_\_\_(139)\_\_\_\_\_ that physical classes will resume in schools across the state on October 4. As per the standard operating procedures (SOPs) issued by the state government for the reopening of schools, it is not \_\_\_\_\_(140)\_\_\_\_\_ for students to attend physical classes. If they want to attend, they will have to submit consent letters from their parents.

- Q136.** (a) secede  
(b) paved  
(c) statute  
(d) saved  
(e) append

- Q137.** (a) apparent  
(b) ratified  
(c) emerged  
(d) culminated  
(e) descent

- Q138.** (a) suffrage  
(b) suzerainty  
(c) persuade  
(d) difficult  
(e) transitional

- Q139.** (a) legitimated  
(b) announced  
(c) ratified  
(d) arbitrary  
(e) enriched

- Q140.** (a) mandatory  
(b) sanctity  
(c) procreation  
(d) plurality  
(e) dissipation

**Directions (141-145):** In the given sentences there is an odd one. Find out which sentence is an odd one and rearrange the remaining five sentences in the proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph and then answer the questions given below.

(A) He continued by stating that now is the time to avoid unnecessary travel and large gatherings, as well as to observe low-intensity festivities.

(B) They are being treated at the hospital and their samples have been sent for genome sequencing.

(C) He informed reporters that more than 100 cases of the novel coronavirus Omicron variant have been discovered so far in 11 states.

(D) The head of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) also urged people to be cautious due to the rapid spread of the new variant.

(E) When asked if mRNA vaccines were more effective, he indicated they had a larger antibody response but a faster decrease.

(F) The Union Health Ministry's Joint Secretary, Lav Agarwal, convened a press conference for media coverage of a new virus variant.

**Q141.** Which one of the following sentences is the odd one out of all the given sentences?

- (a) F
- (b) C
- (c) E
- (d) A
- (e) B

**Q142.** Which of the following should be the FIRST sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) A
- (b) C
- (c) D
- (d) F
- (e) E

**Q143.** Which of the following should be the SECOND sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) E
- (b) D
- (c) C
- (d) B
- (e) A

**Q144.** Which of the following should be the FIFTH sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) E
- (b) D
- (c) F
- (d) A
- (e) B

**Q145.** Which of the following should be the FOURTH sentence after rearrangement?

- (a) C
- (b) D
- (c) A
- (d) F
- (e) B

**Directions (146-155):** Rearrange the following five sentences (A), (B), (C), (D) and (E) in the proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph and then answer the questions given below.

**Q146.** (A) A valid 'Living Will' facilitates passive euthanasia. A failure to legally recognize an advance medical directive inconveniences the "right to smoothen the dying process", the court reasoned.

(B) It called passive euthanasia as a "mere acceleration of the inevitable conclusion." Active euthanasia, the court concluded, is unlawful.

(C) In cases of terminally ill or permanently vegetative state patients, where there is no hope for revival, priority should be given to the Living Wills and the right of self-determination.

(D) Suicide involves "overt acts" which culminates in an unnatural death.

(E) The court distinguished passive euthanasia from suicide and active euthanasia.

(a) EBDCA

(b) EBDAC

(c) BEDCA

(d) BEDAC

(e) ECBDA

**Q147.** (A) They had no idea what an elephant was, and so they decided, "Even though we will not be able to see it, we can feel it. Let's go."

(B) "Oh, no! it is like the branch of a tree," said the third man, touching the tusk of the elephant.

(C) One day the villagers were very excited, and when they asked what was happening they told them, "Hey, there is an elephant in the village today!"

(D) So, they all went to where the elephant was, and each of them touched it: "Hey, the elephant is a pillar," said the first man, touching its leg.

(E) "Oh, no! it is like a rope," said the second man, who was touching the tail.

(a) CDAEB

(b) CBADE

(c) CADBE

(d) EBDCA

(e) EDBAC



**Q148.** (A) The previous winter having been unusually severe, this spring feeling was like a form of intoxication in May, as if there were an overabundant supply of sap.

(B) Everybody I met seemed to be smiling; an air of happiness appeared to pervade everything in the warm light of returning spring.

(C) One might almost have said that a breeze of love was blowing through the city, and the sight of the young women whom I saw in the streets in their morning toilets, in the depths of whose eyes there lurked a hidden tenderness, and who walked with languid grace, filled my heart with agitation.

(D) One morning on waking I saw from my window the blue sky glowing in the sun above the neighbouring houses.

(E) The canaries hanging in the windows were singing loudly, and so were the servants on every floor; a cheerful noise rose up from the streets, and I went out, my spirits as bright as the day, to go—I did not exactly know where.

(a) ADEBC

(b) AEDBC

(c) AEDCB

(d) ADECB

(e) ABCED

**Q149.** (A) Sometimes he had flashbacks of sandstorms that used to whirl around the village, leaving behind a thick sandy layer all over the houses and even on his face.

(B) After settling down in the valley, he had adjusted to his new life by accepting the title of shepherd, something that he had never thought of doing before his forced immigration.

(C) Once the herd was settled, and busy grazing, he would sit down under his favourite tree and rest his head on the tree trunk and watch over the herd.

(D) It was his job to lead the herd to pasture and let them graze randomly on the lush green patches.

(E) He would often daydream of his beautiful village in Afghanistan: he missed the giant, dry mountains that stood erect like soldiers, as if they were guarding the village.

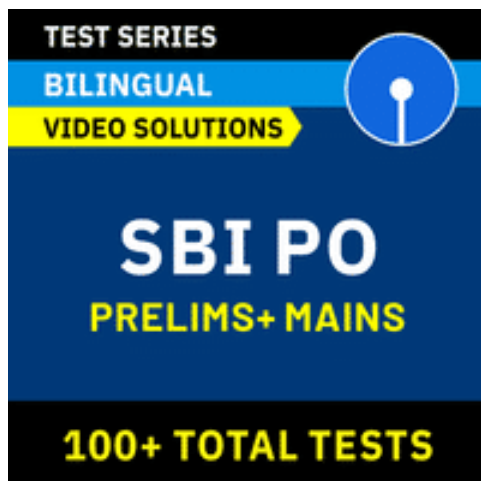
(a) BEDCA

(b) BDEAC

(c) BDCEA

(d) DBCEA

(e) CEBDA



**Q150.** (A) The tower is 324 metres (1,063 ft) tall, about the same height as an 81-storey building, and the tallest structure in Paris. Its base is square, measuring 125 metres on each side.

(B) Constructed from 1887–89 as the entrance to the 1889 World's Fair, it was initially criticized by some of France's leading artists and intellectuals for its design, but it has become a global cultural icon of France and one of the most recognizable structures in the world.

(C) The Eiffel Tower is the most-visited paid monument in the world; 6.91 million people ascended it in 2015.

(D) The Eiffel Tower is a wrought iron lattice tower on the Champ de Mars in Paris, France.

(E) It is named after the engineer Gustave Eiffel, whose company designed and built the tower.

(a) ACDEB

(b) BCDEA

(c) CBEAD

(d) EABCD

(e) DEBCA

**Q151.**(A) Examples of projects requiring a preliminary site survey include urban construction, specialized construction (such as the location for a telescope) and wireless network design.

(B) The type of site survey and the best practices required depend on the nature of the project.

(C) It can determine a precise location, access, best orientation for the site and the location of obstacles.

(D) In hydrocarbon exploration, for example, site surveys are run over the proposed locations of offshore exploration or appraisal wells.

(E) Site surveys are inspections of an area where work is proposed, to gather information for a design or an estimate to complete the initial tasks required for an outdoor activity.

(a) ABCED

(b) ABCDE

(c) BCDEA

(d) ECBAD

(e) DABCE

**Q152.** (A) Along with Anil Kapoor and Urmila Matondkar, the actress played a greedy housewife going to extreme lengths for money.

(B) Talking about her swan song, critic Subhash K. Jha wrote that Sridevi "left us with the most stunning hurrah in *Judaai*."

(C) Sridevi acted in her comeback film in Malayalam in 1996 Bharatan's *Devaraagam*, a love story in which she starred opposite Aravind Swamy.

(D) A terrible film that I've watched countless times to see her play the money-minded harridan who 'sells' her husband to Urmila Matondkar.

(E) The last major film Sridevi starred in before she took a break from the industry was *Judaai*, released in 1997.

(a) CEABD

(b) CBEAD

(c) ABCED

(d) DBAEC

(e) DECBA

**Q153.** (A) Appearing for the CBI, Additional Solicitor General Tushar Mehta had told the court that when asked for his phone password, Karti "virtually says go to hell".

(B) The son of senior Congress leader and former union minister P Chidambaram also complained about the food he was being served in custody.

(C) The CBI had told the court earlier this week that Karti Chidambaram had flatly refused to share the password to his mobile phone.

(D) Karti Chidambaram, being investigated by the CBI for corruption, stressed today that he would not turn over his phone password to the CBI, speaking to NDTV as he waited for a court hearing.

(E) Karti was arrested on February 28 on charges that he had facilitated, for a bribe, investment approvals for the INX media group in 2007 and 2008 using the influence of his father, who was then Finance Minister.

- (a) EACBD
- (b) DEABC
- (c) ABCDE
- (d) EDCBA
- (e) DBCAE

**Q154.** (A) The facility, which is a popular with tourists, also manufactures and sells tea.

(B) On Thursday night, it is believed that a fire spread from a section of the factory where green tea is processed.

(C) Fire-fighters rushed to the spot and fought the blaze for over two hours, before it was finally put out.

(D) Blustery winds near Doddabetta led to the fire quickly spreading, leading to more than 75 % of the factory being gutted, official from the Department of Fire and Rescue Services in Udthagamandalam said.

(E) Workers employed at the factory noticed the fire and informed the fire department a few minutes after the fire broke out.

- (a) ABDCE
- (b) ABDEC
- (c) AECBD
- (d) AECDB
- (e) ADBEC

**Q155.** (A) But, it's only human to not bother about the 'what if' moment that could otherwise leave one's family in a state of financial crisis.

(B) You have recently started a family or are planning to get married.

(C) You become a responsible adult by the time you reach the age of 30.

(D) You are healthy, placed with a fantastic career. The pay is decent and financial stability is around the corner.

(E) You've bought a car or bike, perhaps you've invested in buying a house too. You're travelling places.

- (a) CEADB
- (b) CBDEA
- (c) CDBEA
- (d) CEABD
- (e) CDEAB

**Directions (156-160):** In each of the question given below a/an idiom/phrase is given in bold which is then followed by five options which then tries to decipher its meaning as used in the sentence. Choose the option which gives the meaning of the phrase most appropriately in context of the given sentence.

**Q156.** He has a **chip on his shoulder** for being abandoned by his parents in his childhood.

- (a) when someone has a responsibility more than he can bear
- (b) when someone is upset about something that happened a while ago
- (c) when someone has an experience more than his age
- (d) when someone is happy after remembering the old memories
- (e) when someone is thankful for what happened a while ago

**Q157.** The little one **spilled the beans** about the surprise vacation we had planned.

- (a) to hide a secret
- (b) to reveal immediately what is meant to be revealed later
- (c) to cancel a plan
- (d) to keep any plan in abeyance
- (e) to disclose a secret

**Q158.** I have decided that **come hell or high water** I will become an engineer.

- (a) possible obstacles in your path (will not stop you)
- (b) possible opportunities in your path
- (c) possible links that makes you go higher
- (d) possible delays in completing your task
- (e) None of the above

**Q159.** She is always taunting others and hurting their sentiments. I just wish someone would give her a **taste of her own medicine**.

- (a) when someone becomes sick and has to taste a medicine
- (b) when someone suffers a bane
- (c) When someone receives the same treatment, usually negative, that he/she gives to others
- (d) when someone has to visit a doctor often
- (e) when someone has to face the consequences of what he planned for others

**Q160.** When he was detected with diabetes, he quickly **jumped on the bandwagon** and joined the Zumba dance class.

- (a) to quickly visit a doctor
- (b) to immediately join a community
- (c) to quickly start doing exercise
- (d) to board a private vehicle and leave
- (e) to join a popular activity or trend

**Directions (161-165):** In each of the questions given below an incomplete sentence which must be filled/completed with one of the options given below. Choose the correct option and complete the given sentences.

**Q161.** Ali's horse is of an excellent .....

- (a) brood
- (b) steed
- (c) breed
- (d) stood
- (e) quality

**Q162.** Her complaints ..... with the complaints we have received from others.

- (a) agree
- (b) similar
- (c) identical
- (d) tally
- (e) accord

**Q163.** His opinion ..... with the general opinion of the experts on this matter.

- (a) concurs
- (b) tally
- (c) assert
- (d) assimilate
- (e) simulate

**Q164.** The ruling party found itself in full ..... with the opposition.

- (a) opinion
- (b) accord
- (c) concord
- (d) discordant
- (e) swing

**Q165.** The jury's views ..... with those of the lawyer on the issues of crime and punishment.

- (a) coincided
- (b) ally
- (c) approve
- (d) apprise
- (e) assert

**Q166.** Her ideas do not ..... to the general definition of civilization.

- (a) review
- (b) conform
- (c) opine
- (d) confirm
- (e) contrite

**Q167.** The committee ..... of all the changes in the report.

- (a) dissent
- (b) assented
- (c) accorded
- (d) argued
- (e) accordance

**Q168.** The political ..... of the 1980s and 90s resulted in a civil war.

- (a) accord
- (b) discord
- (c) contentment
- (d) discretion
- (e) descent

**Q169.** The president has ..... to the demands to release secret documents related to the army.

- (a) acceded
- (b) refused
- (c) endorsed
- (d) vetoed
- (e) incited

**Q170.** The leading newspaper has revealed that the P.M. had ..... in the secret decision to sell arms to the dictator.

- (a) countenance
- (b) acquiesced
- (c) forewarned
- (d) accede
- (e) espionaged

**Q171.** The King has ..... to a proposal to enhance the powers of the council of ministers.

- (a) coincided
- (b) allied
- (c) assented
- (d) opined
- (e) identified

**Q172.** The disciplinary committee has ..... the use of detention after classes as a punishment for bad behavior.

- (a) extended
- (b) authorized
- (c) clamped
- (d) embargo
- (e) intended

**Q173.** The judge ..... the use of capital punishment for serious crimes.

- (a) franchised
- (b) endorse
- (c) agreed
- (d) condoned
- (e) endured

**Q174.** The committee was in favor of the proposal but the president ..... it.

- (a) vetoed
- (b) countenance
- (c) sanctioned
- (d) confirmed
- (e) assented

**Q175.** The cabinet has ..... a proposal to change the way private educational institutions are funded and managed.

- (a) acceded
- (b) actualize
- (c) endorsed
- (d) approve
- (e) franchised

**Directions (176-185):** Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words/phrases have been printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

India's water crisis is clear and present, with implications for the health of the entire population. According to the Composite Water Management Index developed by Niti Aayog, 70% of the water resources are identified as polluted. This is based primarily on data supplied by States for calculating the index. If the water accessible to millions is contaminated, the problem is infinitely worse than that of availability. The system of ratings for States is based on their performance in **augmenting** water resources and watersheds, investing in infrastructure, providing rural and urban drinking water, and encouraging efficient agricultural use. It presumes that this 'hall of fame' approach will foster "competitive and cooperative federalism". What emerges from the early assessment is that States such as Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Punjab and Telangana have initiated reforms for judicious water use, while populous ones such as Uttar Pradesh and Bihar have failed to respond to the challenge.

Tamil Nadu, which has a middling score, does well on augmentation of water sources, but is abysmally poor in ensuring sustainable use for farming. The trends that the data reflect of high to extreme stress faced by 600 million people call for speedy reforms. Two areas that need urgent measures are augmentation of watersheds that can store more good water, for use in agriculture and to serve habitations, and strict pollution control enforcement. In this context, the Committee on Restructuring the Central Water Commission and the Central Ground Water Board, chaired by Mihir Shah, has called for a user-centric approach to water management, especially in agriculture. It advocates decentralisation of irrigation commands, offering higher financial flows to well-performing States through a National Irrigation Management Fund. Clearly, awarding an index rank should help advance such schemes, making States feel the need to be competitive. Yet, such approaches may not resolve seemingly **intractable** inter-State river disputes.

As the Cauvery issue has demonstrated, State governments would rather seek judicial intervention than be accused of **bartering** away the rights to a precious resource under a shared, cooperative framework. Groundwater extraction patterns need to be better understood through **robust** data collection; less than 5% of about 12 million wells are now under study. Steady urbanisation calls for a new management paradigm, augmenting sources of clean drinking water supply and treatment technologies that will encourage reuse. Pollution can be **curbed** by levying suitable costs. These forward-looking changes would need **revamped** national and State institutions, and updated laws. A legal mandate will work better than just competition and cooperation; it would make governments accountable.

**Q176.** Which of the following statements can be inferred from the passage above?

- (a) Meeting the water-related challenges posed by population growth, climate change and other factors may require the reform of institutions in charge of water management.
- (b) Getting access to water which is contaminated is worse than the problem of availability of water.
- (c) The global population is growing fast, and estimates show that with current practices, the world will face a 40% shortfall between forecast demand and available supply of water by 2030.
- (d) Each year, more than two lakh people in India die due to water scarcity while 900 million people undergo extreme water stress due to the deprivation of water.
- (e) None of the Above

**Q177.** Tamil Nadu has a middling score and does well on augmentation of water resources, but it lacks in

- (a) Ensuring strict pollution control enforcement.
- (b) Providing Rural and Urban drinking water
- (c) Ensuring sustainable use for farming.
- (d) Advocating proper water cleaning treatments.
- (e) None of the above

**Q178.** As per the passage, the system of ratings for states is based on which of the following parameters?

- (a) Performance in enhancing water resources and water sheds.
- (b) Performance in encouraging efficient use of water in agriculture.
- (c) Performance in providing rural and urban drinking water.
- (d) Both (a) and (b)
- (e) All are correct.

**Q179.** Which of the following is the most suitable title for the given passage?

- (a) Water Pollution in India
- (b) Augmenting Water Resources
- (c) Parched or Polluted: On India's Water Crisis
- (d) Urbanization and Water Crisis
- (e) Problems of Water Scarcity

**Q180.** Choose the word which is MOST SIMILAR to the word given in passage

**AUGMENTING**

- (a) Compressing
- (b) Dominating
- (c) Retrenching
- (d) Amplifying
- (e) Synchronizing

**Q181.** Choose the word which is MOST SIMILAR to the word given in passage

**INTRACTABLE**

- (a) Amenable
- (b) Stubborn
- (c) Docile
- (d) Submissive
- (e) Manageable

**Q182.** Choose the word which is MOST SIMILAR to the word given in passage

**BARTERING**

- (a) Dickering
- (b) Amending
- (c) Advocating
- (d) Keeping
- (e) Appalling

**Q183.** Choose the word which is OPPOSITE to the word given in passage

**ROBUST**

- (a) Lively
- (b) Adamant
- (c) Vital
- (d) Resolute
- (e) Sluggish

**Q184.** Choose the word which is OPPOSITE to the word given in passage

**CURBED**

- (a) Tamed
- (b) Impediment
- (c) Raged
- (d) Permitted
- (e) Vogue

**Q185.** Choose the word which is OPPOSITE to the word given in passage

**REVAMPED**

- (a) Modified
- (b) Varied
- (c) Concentrated
- (d) Managed
- (e) Stabilized

**Q186.** In each question, a sentence is given in five parts, one of which is erroneous. Mark the option that has the error.

- (a) Some politicians in Kerala have demanded a 150 percent hike
- (b) in the excise duty of palm oil in view that the crash in price of coconut and coconut products
- (c) due to indiscriminate import of edible oils
- (d) and flooding of the market with low quality palmolein
- (e) throughout the state.

**Q187.** In each question, a sentence is given in five parts, one of which is erroneous. Mark the option that has the error.

- (a) It is awareness about tourism being
- (b) one of the largest foreign exchange earners that even so the
- (c) north-eastern states have started raising
- (d) a disconcerted voice for relaxation of visas restrictions in the region
- (e) and are seriously discussing it with the authorities.

**Q188.** In each question, a sentence is given in five parts, one of which is erroneous. Mark the option that has the error.

- (a) Your results depend not only
- (b) on how long
- (c) you have studied but also on how long you have read
- (d) carefully the entire syllabus
- (e) No error

**Q189.** In each question, a sentence is given in five parts, one of which is erroneous. Mark the option that has the error.

- (a) The choice
- (b) of the cuisine
- (c) could be left to the
- (d) women them self
- (e) like always

**Q190.** In each question, a sentence is given in five parts, one of which is erroneous. Mark the option that has the error.

- (a) The reason is
- (b) because of suits being so
- (c) expensive, it is relatively economical
- (d) to buy casual wear
- (e) in India

**Directions (191-195):** Given below are four sentences which are divided into several parts. Answer the following questions based on these given statements.

- (A) In most developing countries over the past 30 years(1)/ according to the Food and Agriculture Organisation (2)/ has resulted in low productivity and stagnant production(3)/ insufficient investment in the agriculture sector (4)
- (B) In the Economic Survey this year (1)/ a \$5-trillion economy by 2024 is now in the open (2)/with a 'blue sky' vision envisaged (3)/ India's dream of becoming (4)
- (C) Investments reforms in primary sectors (1)/ however, unless there are adequate (2)/ growth in other sectors would be futile (3)/step taken to augment (4)
- (D) The document lays down a clear strategy to augment (1)/ in terms of macroeconomic stability to expand growth (2)/ as the current economic conditions are smooth (3)/ the growth of key sectors by shifting gears (4)

**Q191.** Which of the following is the correct sequence of the rearrangement of the sentence **(A)**?

- (a) 1432
- (b) 4123
- (c) 2413
- (d) 3412
- (e) None of these.

**Q192.** Which of the following is the correct sequence of the rearrangement of the sentence **(C)**?

- (a) 1432
- (b) 2143
- (c) 4213
- (d) 3412
- (e) None of these.

**Q193.** Which of the following is the correct sequence of the rearrangement of the sentence **(B)**?

- (a) 1432
- (b) 2143
- (c) 4231
- (d) 3412
- (e) None of these.

**Q194.** Which of the following is the correct sequence of the rearrangement of the sentence **(D)**?

- (a) 1432
- (b) 2143
- (c) 2413
- (d) 3412
- (e) None of these.

**Q195.** Rearrange the given four sentences in the proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph and also choose the one which doesn't match the theme of the passage so formed.

- (a) DBA; C
- (b) CBA; D
- (c) BDC; A
- (d) ACD; B
- (e) None of these.

**Directions (196-200):** In the questions below a statement is given with two blanks in it. For each blank three alternatives are provided in the columns. Choose the alternative from the corresponding column that would fit the give blanks to make the given sentence grammatically correct and contextually meaningful.

**Q196.** Turkey has been a long-standing member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation and a/an \_\_\_\_\_[I]\_\_\_\_\_ part of the American-led alliance whose principal goal was and continues to be to prevent the \_\_\_\_\_[II]\_\_\_\_\_ of Russian influence and power.

[I]  
(A) Integral  
(B) Mandatory  
(C) Sanctions

- (a) B-E
- (b) C-D
- (c) A-F
- (d) C-F
- (e) A-E

[II]  
(D) Impingement  
(E) Distinguished  
(F) Expansion

**Q197.** Pegasus is an invasive tool that can reportedly \_\_\_\_\_[I]\_\_\_\_\_ on a target's cell phone camera and microphone, and access data on it, \_\_\_\_\_[II]\_\_\_\_\_ turning the phone into a pocket spy

[I]  
(A) Pious  
(B) Ripen  
(C) switch

- (a) B-D
- (b) C-E
- (c) A-F
- (d) C-F
- (e) A-D

[II]  
(D) Imminent  
(E) effectively  
(F) Deter

**Q198.** The forensic audit report on credit rating agencies (CRAs) of IL&FS has alleged serious \_\_\_\_\_[I]\_\_\_\_\_ on the part of such agencies that had concerns related to the \_\_\_\_\_[II]\_\_\_\_\_ of the entity way back in 2012 but chose to downgrade ratings only in 2018.

[I]  
(A) lapses  
(B) brawl  
(C) Lofty

- (a) B-D
- (b) C-E
- (c) A-F
- (d) C-F
- (e) A-E

[II]  
(D) hauled  
(E) operations  
(F) prone

**Q199.** India's dream of \_\_\_\_\_[I]\_\_\_\_\_ a \$5-trillion economy by 2024 is now in the open with a 'blue sky' vision \_\_\_\_\_[II]\_\_\_\_\_ in the Economic Survey this year.

[I]  
(A) becoming  
(B) Misleading  
(C) Evokes

- (a) B-D
- (b) C-E
- (c) A-E
- (d) C-F
- (e) A-D

[II]  
(D) Influence  
(E) envisaged  
(F) Devious

**Q200.** With the Supreme Court-led process of \_\_\_\_\_ [I] \_\_\_\_\_ the National Register of Citizens in Assam nearing its deadline of July 31, the \_\_\_\_\_ [II] \_\_\_\_\_ involved in the gargantuan exercise have dawned upon the executive.

- |               |                  |
|---------------|------------------|
| [I]           | [II]             |
| (A) Altercate | (D) complexities |
| (B) Duping    | (E) Doctrine     |
| (C) updating  | (F) Perspicuous  |

- (a) B-E  
(b) C-E  
(c) A-F  
(d) C-F  
(e) C-D



## Solutions

### S1. Ans.(e)

**Sol.** Thwacked means “strike forcefully with a sharp blow; hit”, so, the sentence given becomes, “**Business growth of the entities is hit due to liquidity crisis**”. The statement (I) clearly tells that the banks lending for housing financing companies has been vanished and the cost of funds for these businesses have gone up. These home financing businesses have defaulted away. All this happened because of the liquidity crisis. So, statement (I) is correct.

As, for the statement (II), it is given that the IL&FS crisis led to liquidity crisis which impacted the growth of HFCs. Therefore, the given inference can be driven from the paragraph (II).

In the statement (III), the housing finance companies are hit by liquidity crisis. They are asking the finance minister to increase the refinance limits from the NHB. Thus, this paragraph can be used to infer the given sentence.

Hence, option (e) is the correct answer choice.

### S2. Ans.(b)

**Sol.** From the given paragraphs, only the (III) paragraph can be used to infer the given sentence. About \$14.5 billion are spent for development but still there is about \$2.5-3 trillion required to achieve the SDGs. So, to achieve this target new funding sources are required like SIBs/DIBs.

As for the other two paragraphs, the (II) paragraph tells that the UK government has stopped the aid to middle income countries. Nothing is mentioned about the insufficiency of the traditional aid to achieve the development. So, this paragraph is irrelevant as per the given sentence.

For the (I) paragraph the information given is about traditional aid and the problem with it. But nothing is mentioned about development goals. Therefore, this paragraph can't be used as well.

Thus, option (b) is correct answer choice.

### S3. Ans.(a)

**Sol.** Federalism means “the mixed or compound mode of government, combining a general government with regional governments in a single political system.” So, the sentence given means that central and state governments should together work to bring reforms in agriculture sector.

In the (I) paragraph the survey information of Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development is given which is irrelevant as per the given sentence.

The paragraph (II) discusses about the relief benefits provided by the Indian government for crop losses and damages caused by natural calamities. The state governments should work with centre to provide the benefits to the farmers. The given sentence can be easily inferred from the given paragraph (II).

As for paragraph (III) the Agri Export Policy is discussed and nothing is discussed about reforms.

Thus, paragraph (II) is correct and hence, option (a) is correct answer choice.

### S4. Ans.(b)

**Sol.** The idiom “**blow-hot-blow-cold**” means “to be sometimes interested in something and sometimes not”. And “**at odds with**” means “quarrelling or not agreeing with.” So, the given sentence means that Trump is acting in a blow hot and cold way with the various countries. Only the paragraph (III) can be used to infer the given sentence. The deal with North Korea is uncertain. As well, the trade negotiations between China and US had collapsed not long ago, but now Trump is ready to talk again.

The paragraph (II) discusses about the various steps of trump that are damaging the relations of US with the world.

The paragraph (I) explains that because of the actions of Trump the markets are suffering.

Hence, option (b) is correct answer choice

**S5. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The paragraph (I) discusses about the need of human in spite of automation.

The paragraph (II) tells us that human rely on automated systems unnecessarily. Sometimes, this technology oriented approach leads to disastrous situations. So, humans must know when to use these automated systems.

For paragraph (III), a situation is given about a crash that happened because of the automation errors. The automation system of the plane shifted the controls to the pilots. And pilots didn't have the knowledge to fly the plane. Hence, the plane crashed. In normal situation, autopilot used to fly the plane. So, pilots didn't have the knowledge to fly the plane and relied on the autopilot. Which, in this case resulted in a disaster.

Therefore, paragraphs (II) and (III) can be used to infer the given sentence. Hence, option (c) is correct answer choice.

**S6. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Going through the options, we can see that option (I) is talking about the reason for the rise in the examination oriented tuitions or coaching. So from this, first part of the statement can be inferred but it fails to provide any fact supporting the second part of the given statement.

The second option seems appropriate answer choice because there is mention of emotional demerits and loss of creativity in the students. Also, the given passage is highlighting that coaching institutes only focus on securing marks in some entrance exam only which is opposite to the idea of main stream education which means practice of placing students with special education services in a general education classroom during specific time periods based on their skills. Hence, the given statement can be clearly inferred from this option.

Option (III) is discussing about the rise in the coaching industry even with so many ruinous events that occurred in the past.

So the most appropriate answer choice is option (b)

**S7. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The given statement can be inferred from the first and third paragraphs. In the first paragraph it is clearly mentioned that recapitalization of the PSB is expected to improve the bank credit which is similar to the Capital Adequacy Ratio. Also, in option (III), ameliorating means make something better. So the given statement can be inferred easily from the given statements. Hence, the correct answer choice is option (d)

**S8. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Among the given paragraphs, only the second paragraph justifies the inference mentioned above. The paragraph clearly states the resolution of Bhushan Steel under IBC and further it mentions the shortcomings that still prevail within the system. The other two paragraphs provide incomplete information in context of the inference. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S9. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Here, only the first paragraph justifies the inference mentioned above. The second paragraph mention the trade deficit faced by India but there is no mention of the fall in currency value and RBI's stance. Similarly, the third paragraph provides incomplete information in context of the inference. Hence, option (b) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S10. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The inference given above can be justified in both paragraph [II] and [III]. Both the paragraphs illustrate how ruthless Windrush scandal has become a political tool and marks the weaknesses of European government. The first paragraph provides irrelevant information in context of the inference. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S11. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Among the paragraphs given above, only paragraph [II] clearly justifies the given inference. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S12. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Among the given paragraphs, only the information provided in paragraph [I] and (II) clearly justify the inference mentioned above. Also, the (III) paragraph only satisfy the former part of the given inference and have no reference with the latter part. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S13. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Among the given paragraphs, both the paragraphs [I] and [II] clearly justify the given inference. They mention the spread of Ebola virus and WHO's declaration of global health emergency which may help curb the spreading of virus. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S14. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Here, only the paragraph [II] satisfies the given inference as it clearly mentions the NBFC crisis and the drawbacks in the NBFC sector as a whole. Also, it further suggests the role of policymakers in addressing the issue. The other two paragraphs only mention about the crisis and have no discussion regarding addressing the drawbacks. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S15. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Here, the paragraphs [I] & [III] clearly justify the given inference as they mention the water crisis in Chennai and the steps needs for Chennai to recover from the loss. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.



**S16. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Option (a) is the right choice. Here the words 'vices' and 'evils' both are showing the negative character which is required in this blank. 'vices' and 'evils' are used here as noun and they are used to show some immoral and wicked behaviour.

**S17. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Option (c) is the correct choice. The usage of 'However' in the beginning of the sentence is introducing a statement that contrasts with or seems to contradict something that has been said previously. Thus, the apt words that would fill the blank are 'friendship' and 'affection'.

**S18. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Option (a) is the correct choice. 'Renowned' and 'famous' words are adjectives used to describe the doctor later mentioned in the paragraph.

'Obscure' means not clearly expressed or easily understood.

'Prominent' means important; famous.

**S19. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Option (d) is the right choice. 'Stemmed' and 'originated' aptly fit to the theme of the paragraph.

'Emanated' means to originate from; be produced by.

'Repressed' means to restrained or oppressed.

**S20. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Here 'implications' and 'obligations' are used a noun. 'imposition' means the action or process of imposing something or of being imposed. 'obligations' means the condition of being morally or legally bound to do something. Thus, these words aptly justify the given blank making option (a) correct.

**S21. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** 'with, getting, necessarily' is the correct set words making the sentence meaningful.

**S22. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** 'focusing, varied, implies' is the correct set words making the sentence meaningful.

Variegated means marked by variety.

Explicates means analyse and develop.

Contentends means struggle to surmount.

**S23. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** 'survey, concern, extended' is the correct set words making the sentence meaningful.

Avocation means a hobby or minor occupation.

Curtailed means reduce in extent or quantity, impose a restriction on.

Faltered means lose strength or momentum.

**S24. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** "*ago, marveling, initial*" is the correct set of words that fits perfectly into the provided blanks giving a logical meaning to the sentence. Other set of words are not that appropriate to provide the proper and grammatically correct meaning to the sentence. Hence option (d) is the correct choice.

**Marvel** means be filled with wonder or astonishment.

**Initial** means existing or occurring at the beginning.

**Ponder** means think about (something) carefully, especially before making a decision or reaching a conclusion.

**Subordinate** means of less or secondary importance.

**S25. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** "*initiate, woo, principle*" is the correct set of words that fits perfectly into the provided blanks generating a contextual meaning to the sentence. Other set of words are inappropriate in terms of adding proper meaning to the sentence. Some of them also lack the correct grammar agreement with the sentence. Hence option (e) is the correct choice.

**Initiate** means cause (a process or action) to begin.

**Woo** means seek the favour, support, or custom of.

**Induct** means admit (someone) formally to a post or organization.

**Pursue** means follow or chase (someone or something).

**Set-up** means a scheme or trick intended to incriminate or deceive someone.

**Repulse** means reject or rebuff (an approach or offer or the person making it).

**Cease** means come or bring to an end.

**S26. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** B must be the first sentence and it should be followed by C as both the sentences can well be connected with each other. A-D makes a combination. Hence BCAD is the correct sequence to form a meaningful paragraph

**S27. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** D, being the first sentence of the paragraph must be followed by C as it further explains the motto of GHI (Global Hunger Index). B-E forms a combination and A makes the perfect conclusion citing the main objective. Hence DCBEA is the correct sequence to form a meaningful paragraph.

**S28. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** A must be the first sentence as it explains the meaning of Cantillon effect. It is to be followed by C as it brings out the reason for the explanation of sentence A. D-B forms a combination. Hence ACDB is the correct sequence to form a meaningful paragraph.

**S29. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** E must be the first sentence as it starts the process of hydrological cycle. C-A-D forms a combination describing the presence of seawater and its importance in the complete process. B sums up the paragraph quite evidently. Hence ECADFGB is the correct sequence to form a meaningful paragraph.

**S30. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** C must be the first sentence of the paragraph as it talks about the German election. It should be followed by A. B should A as A-B forms a combination as both talk about the relevance of Brexit negotiations in the UK election. E-D makes another combination forming the last two sentences of the paragraph so formed. Hence CABED is the correct sequence to form a meaningful paragraph.

**S31. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Combinations (A)-(B) and (C)-(D) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "As" which is 'used to indicate that something happens during the time when something else is taking place.' Or it is 'used to indicate by comparison the way that something happens or is done.' Therefore the sentences thus formed using the combinations A-B and C-D respectively are:

(i) *Even large parts of the capital, Patna, have been paralyzed without power and communications, as the State government tries to drain its streets of water, and critical rations are distributed by boat and helicopter.*

(ii) *Other macroeconomic indicators that could potentially tie the hands of the government as it tries to tackle the slowdown have also shown signs of improvement.*

**S32. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Combination (A)-(D) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "And" which is 'used to connect words of the same part of speech, clauses, or sentences, that are to be taken jointly.' Or it is 'used to introduce an additional comment or interjection.' Therefore the sentence thus formed using the combination A-D is:

(i) *The monsoon is expected to withdraw after October 10, more than a month behind normal, and its overhang is consistent with the prevalent scientific view on the effects of a changing climate.*

**S33. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Combinations (A)-(D) and (B)-(C) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "But" which is 'used to introduce a phrase or clause contrasting with what has already been mentioned.' Or it is used to indicate the impossibility of anything other than what is being stated. Therefore the sentences thus formed using the combinations A-D and B-C respectively are:

(i) *Indian cities are attracting heavy investments in several spheres but State and municipal administrations have not matched their ambitions for development with capacity building and infrastructure creation.*

(ii) *India is a country of different languages and every language has its own importance but it is very important to have a language of the whole country which should become the identity of India globally.*

**S34. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Combination (B)-(D) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "Since" which is 'used to for the reason that; because. Or it is 'used in the intervening period between (the time mentioned) and the time under consideration, typically the present.' Therefore the sentence thus formed using the combination B-D is:

(i) *In Bihar's case, coordination with Nepal to track monsoon flows is also vital since big Gangetic rivers originate in the Himalayan region.*

**S35. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Combination (B)-(C) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "Where" which is used when referring to a particular stage in a process or activity. Therefore the sentence thus formed using the combination B-C is:

(i) *The signing of the Land Boundary Agreement in 2015 was a milestone where the two neighbors amicably resolved a long-outstanding issue.*

**S36. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** None of the given sentences are suitable to frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "Such As" which means 'for example or of a kind that; like'. Hence, option (e) is the right answer choice.

**S37. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Combination (A)-(B) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "While" which means *during the time that; at the same time as' or 'whereas (indicating a contrast).* The sentence thus formed using the combination A-B is:

(i) *Train services on the Dhaka-Kolkata and Kolkata-Khulna are doing well while a third on the Agartala-Akhaura route, is under construction.*

**S38. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Combinations (A)-(C) and (B)-(D) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "However" which is 'used to introduce a statement that contrasts with or seems to contradict something that has been said previously.' Therefore the sentences thus formed using the combinations A-C and B-D respectively are:

(i) *It may be too soon to predict a definite turnaround, however, other high-frequency data on the economy suggest that the worst might be over.*

(ii) *A return to the sales levels witnessed last year however, it will require a stronger rebound in the overall economy.*

**S39. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Combination (A)-(D) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "Provided that" which means that *one thing happening is dependent on another thing happening*. Therefore the sentence thus formed using the combination A-D is:

(i) *We expect this measure to improve corporate earnings only in the medium term, provided that policymakers work in coordination to remove structural constraints for both real and financial sectors.*

**S40. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Combinations (A)-(C) and (B)-(D) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "Though" which means 'despite the fact that; although.' Therefore the sentences thus formed using the combinations A-C and B-D respectively are:

(i) Though it was formally withdrawn only eight months later. Gandhi's visit had achieved a resolution that was long-lasting without exacerbating social tensions

(ii) It is our strength that we have many languages and dialects though we have to see that a foreign language does not overtake a native language.

**S41. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Combination (B)-(D) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "Because" which means '*for the reason that; since*'. Therefore the sentence thus formed using the combination B-D is:

(i) *We tolerate some disagreeable beliefs and practices of persons or groups because we identify with many of their other beliefs and practices.*

**S42. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Combinations (A)-(B) and (C)-(D) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "Not only-But also" which is '*used to add emphasis*.' Therefore the sentences thus formed using the combinations A-B and C-D respectively are:

(i) *The rural picture matters not only because the largest numbers are located there but also because of their low incomes.*

(ii) *National security is a critical concern, not only for policymakers but also for us ordinary citizens.*

**S43. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Combination (A)-(B) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "when" which means "*at or during the time that*" or "*after which; and just then*". Therefore the sentence thus formed using the combination A-B is:

(i) *His team now has a chance to strengthen its position in the World Test Championship when the three-match series against South Africa begins in Visakhapatnam on Wednesday.*

**S44. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Combinations (A)-(C) and (B)-(D) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "whereas" which means '*in contrast or comparison with the fact that*.' Therefore the sentences thus formed using the combinations A-C and B-D respectively are:

(i) There are 18 words to refer to a relationship in Hindi, whereas the word "Uncle" is used uniformly to explain all relations in English.

(ii) The fourth national tiger survey has generated much euphoria, whereas the first one in 2006 had cast a pall of gloom.

**S45. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Combinations (A)-(C) and (B)-(D) can successfully frame grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence using the connector "Even Though" which means '*despite the fact that*.' Therefore the sentences thus formed using the combinations A-C and B-D respectively are:

(i) *Even though many of these structures have been bootstrapped to ramshackle dwellings, many do not meet construction standards.*

(ii) *To 'tolerate' is to refrain from interference in the activities of others even though one finds them morally repugnant.*

**S46. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** CDEBA; D

**S47. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** C

**S48. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** B

**S49. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** E

**S50. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** A

**S51. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** DEBAC; D

**S52. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** E

**S53. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** C

**S54. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. A**

**S55. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. B**

**S56. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. ECDAB; B**

**S57. Ans.(e)**

**Sol. E**

**S58. Ans.(c)**

**Sol. C**

**S59. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. D**

**S60. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. A**

**S61. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Refer 3rd paragraph 2nd line.

**S62. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** All are correct.

(I) Refer 1st para 6th line.

(II) Refer 3rd para 6th line.

(III) Refer 3rd para 1st line.

**S63. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Refer 1st para 1st four lines.

**S64. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Shooting the breeze: To spend time talking about things that are not important.

**S65. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Statement (II) is incorrect. Refer 1st para last 4 lines.

**S66. Ans.(c)**

**Sol. Perish:** to cause to die

**Succumb:** fail to resist pressure, temptation, or some other negative force/ die from the effect of a disease or injury.

**S67. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Vindicate:** show or prove to be right, reasonable, or justified.

**Exonerate:** (of an official body) absolve (someone) from blame for a fault or wrongdoing.

**S68. Ans.(e)**

**Sol. Hostility:** hostile behaviour; unfriendliness or opposition.

**Animosity:** strong hostility.

**S69. Ans.(C)**

**Sol. Reconcile:** restore friendly relations between.

**Agitate:** make (someone) troubled or nervous.

**S70. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. Unequivocal:** in a way that leaves no doubt.

**Dubious:** something you have doubts about or you suspect is not true

**S71. Ans.(c)**

**Sol. Eschew-** to avoid; to shun; to shy away

**Prudence-** the quality of being prudent(careful)

**S72. Ans.(e)**

**Sol. Worsened-** to make worse

**Prevalent-** superior in frequency or dominant

**S73. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. Interim-** temporary

**Novelty-** the state of being new or novel; newness

**S74. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Ball-** 'put the ball in the court' is a phrase which should be used in its original form

**Engage-** to keep busy or occupied

**S75. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Smashing-** the sound of violent impact

**Managed-** to handle or control

**S76. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Notice that since the value of Indian rupee is in danger of decreasing it will have a direct impact on a country's economy and hence cost of importing will be increased. None of the other options are making any sense and if are added doesn't complete it properly hence option (d) is the correct choice.

**S77. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Only option (b) is correct

**S78. Ans.(c)**

**S79. Ans.(a)**

**S80. Ans.(d)**

**S81. Ans.(a)**

**S82. Ans.(e)**

**S83. Ans.(c)**

**S84. Ans.(b)**

**S85. Ans.(d)**

**S86. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Here, the paragraph discussed the Company Act and shortcomings of some of its provisions. It also states the formation of the ten member committee to look into the provisions of the act and the need to address those shortcomings. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S87. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Here, only the phrase given in option (c) fits in perfectly in the given blank with which we can clearly infer that the statement mentions that it has been done with the objective to allow the authorities to devote attention towards serious offences rather than focusing minor violations. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S88. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** To validate the answer, refer to the second paragraph, which mentions, "When the NDA came to power in May 2014, a comprehensive review of the Companies Act was at the top of industry's wish list as a means to revive the economy." Here, the answer has been clearly stated in the statement given in option (c). Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S89. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** To validate the answer, refer to the first paragraph of the passage given above, "The panel, which includes top banker Uday Kotak, has been given 30 days to work out whether some of the violations that can attract imprisonment (such as a clerical failure by directors to make adequate disclosures about their interests) may instead be punished with monetary fines. It will also examine if offences punishable with a fine or imprisonment may be re-categorised as 'acts' that attract civil liabilities. Importantly, the committee has also been asked to suggest the broad contours for an adjudicatory mechanism that allows penalties to be levied for minor violations, perhaps in an automated manner, with minimal discretion available to officials." Here, we can infer the quoted text from all the three statements (i), (ii), (iii). Hence, option (e) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S90. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** To validate the answer, refer to the second paragraph of the passage given above, which mentions, "Owing to the incidents corporate wrong doings, there has been a lack of trust that has developed between the industry and government but this should not hamper the normal business operations, they had argued." Here, the quoted text has been clearly justified in the statement given in option (d). Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S91. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The correct form is '**protesters ignored orders banning their march**' because as we read the sentence further, we see that the sentence is in past tense.

**S92. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The correct phrase is '**which is accelerating the conversion of**' because it makes the sentence logically and grammatically correct.

**S93. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The correct phrase is '**even if it means investing**'. The second part of sentence is followed by 'but' so 'even if' is most suitable here.

**S94. Ans.(C)**

**Sol.** The correct phrase is '**but ironically little attention is paid**' because both sentences are opposite to each other.

**S95. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** **No correction required** as the sentence is logically and grammatically correct.

**S96. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The correct phrase is '**believe that Americans are upset**' as the sentence is in present tense.

**S97. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The correct phrase is '**India needs to further build on**' as it makes the sentence logically and grammatically correct.

**S98. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The correct phrase is '**Given the limited availability**' because the sentence talks about finding new technologies, which means that the availability is limited.

**S99. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The correct phrase is '**creating a reluctance to admit error**' as it is logically and grammatically correct.

**S100. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The correct phrase is '**Despite efforts to reform the legal system of loan recovery**'. Despite is used to show contrast here and we use noun or pronoun after despite.

**S101. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Among the given options, the option (b) **'harnessing'** which means *'control and make use of'* is the most appropriate word to fill the blank. Hence, the option (b) is the correct answer.

Exacerbating: make (a problem, bad situation, or negative feeling) worse

Bumblng: lacking physical movement skills, especially with the hands

Extenuating: making less guilty or more forgivable

Flushing: to be in abundance

**S102. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** In the highlighted statement, positions of words marked (1) and (4) seem to be correct. On interchanging (2) and (3) we will get a grammatically correct and contextually meaningful statement. The phrase "seen an fundamentally in cyberattacks" is grammatically incorrect therefore hints towards the interchange. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S103. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Among the given options, the option (d) **'proliferate'** which means *'increase rapidly in number; multiply'* is the most appropriate word to fill the blank. Hence, the option (d) is the correct answer.

Verisimilitude: the appearance of being true or real

Upbraid: find fault with (someone); scold

Harangue: lecture (someone) at length in an aggressive and critical manner

Venerate: regard with great respect; revere

**S104. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Here, the most appropriate phrase to fill in the given blank is "disruption of crucial city services and infrastructure across a broad range of domains", which makes the statement grammatically and contextually meaningful by linking broad range of domains with such as health services.... . Also, option (a) does not make a contextually meaningful sentence. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S105. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Here, "governing" [verb] as stated in part (c) of the statement will be replaced with "governance" [noun] because the words which are linked with the conjunction 'and' should be same form as per the part of the speech. So we will replace governing (V) with governance (N). Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S106. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** In the highlighted statement, positions of words marked (1) and (2) seem to be correct. On interchanging (3) and (4) we will get a grammatically correct and contextually meaningful statement. The phrase "people, constantly, devices, and city infrastructure" is grammatically incorrect therefore hints towards the interchange. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S107. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** Here, the most appropriate phrase to fill in the given blank is "processes and makes sense of the data flowing", which makes the statement grammatically and contextually meaningful. Hence, option (e) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S108. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** There is no error in the italicized statement. Hence, option (e) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S109. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Among the given options, the option (c) **'thorny'** which means *causing distress, difficulty, or trouble'* is the most appropriate word to fill the blank. Hence, the option (c) is the correct answer.

Reticent: disinclined to talk, not revealing one's thoughts

Decorous: characterized by good taste in manners and conduct

Dogmatic: highly opinionated, not accepting that one's own beliefs may not be correct

Lambaste: criticize severely or angrily

**S110. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Among the given options, the option (d) **'interoperability'** which means *'the ability of computer systems or software to exchange and make use of information'* is the most appropriate word to fill the blank. Hence, the option (d) is the correct answer.

Predilection: a strong liking

Platitude: a remark or statement, especially one with a moral content, that has been used too often to be interesting or thoughtful

Gall: bold and impudent behaviour

Aesthete: a person who is appreciative of and sensitive to art and beauty

**S111. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Here, the given sentence has discussed the consequences of the failure of government's part for controlling the rising global temperatures. Here, in the first blank, **"staggering"** which means *"deeply shocking; astonishing"* and **"dramatically"** in second blank which means *"by a strikingly large amount or to a strikingly large extent; greatly"*, perfectly fits in to make a contextually meaningful and grammatically correct statement.

Unrelenting: not yielding in strength, severity, or determination

Combating: take action to reduce or prevent (something bad or undesirable)

Conversely: introducing a statement or idea which reverses one that has just been made or referred to.

**S112. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The given statement discusses the limited reaction on the part of Moscow towards the continued expansion of NATO in Eastern Europe and USSR. Here, in the first blank, "**provocation**" which means "action or speech that makes someone angry, especially deliberately" and in second blank "**imperative**" which means "of vital importance; crucial" fits perfectly in the given blanks to make a contextually meaningful and grammatically correct statement.

Aberration: a departure from what is normal, usual, or expected, typically an unwelcome one

Veneration: great respect; reverence

Stemming: originate in or be caused by

Venality: quality of being open to bribery or overly motivated by money

**S113. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The statement has mentioned the high number of malaria cases in India which have led to high death rates. It further states the improved condition due to sustained public health actions. Here, in the first blank, "**morbidity**" which means "the condition of being diseased" and in the second blank "**scourge**" which means "a person or thing that causes great trouble or suffering", fits perfectly to form a contextually meaningful and grammatically correct statement.

Egregious: outstandingly bad; shocking

Ambiguity: the quality of being open to more than one interpretation; inexactness

Galvanize: shock or excite (someone) into taking action

Aberration: a departure from what is normal, usual, or expected, typically an unwelcome one

**S114. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Here, the given statement discusses the need to monitor a therapy which has been adopted to a severe disease, cerebral malaria. Most patients, affected by the disease have been resistant to treatment. Here, in the first blank, "**resistance**" which means "the refusal to accept or comply with something" and in second blank, "**debilitating**" which means "(of a disease or condition) making someone very weak and infirm" perfectly fits to make the statement grammatically and contextually meaningful. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

Prevaricated: speak or act in an evasive way.

Acrimonious: (typically of speech or discussion) angry and bitter

Perplexing: completely baffling; very puzzling

Weaning: be strongly influenced by (something), especially from an early age

**S115. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The paragraph given here discusses the US- China trade war where, "**portends**" which means "be a sign or warning that (something, especially something momentous or calamitous) is likely to happen", fits perfectly in the first blank and "**ratcheted**" which means "cause something to rise (or fall) as a step in what is perceived as an irreversible process", fits perfectly in the second blank. Hence, option (b) is the most suitable answer choice.

Chastises: rebuke or reprimand severely

Enervates: make (someone) feel drained of energy or vitality

Castigated: reprimand (someone) severely.

Demurred: raise objections or show reluctance

**S116. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The passage given above describes the historical background of gambling where the most popular incidence of gambling has been cited in Mahabharata. Here, "**innocuous**" has been incorrectly placed and will be replaced with "**wretched**". Hence, option (b) is the most suitable answer choice.

Wretched: of poor quality; very bad

Innocuous: harmless and doesn't produce any ill effects

Contemplates: look thoughtfully for a long time at

Wager: more formal term for bet

**S117. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Further the paragraph states that betting on the queen and losing had become a thing of disgust in the luxurious palace of Drithrashtra. Here, "**veracious**" is completely out of the context and can therefore, be replaced with "**opulent**". Hence, option (b) is the most suitable answer choice.

Opulent: ostentatiously costly and luxurious

Veracious: truthful

**S118. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The statement described that gambling has its roots in the history and has been there have been instances of huge losses in this game of chances. Here, "**prevaricated**" does not contextually get along with the statement and can therefore, be replaced with "**wielded**". Hence, option (b) is the most suitable answer choice.

Wielded: have and be able to use (power or influence)

Prevaricated: to speak in an evasive way

Expounded: present and explain (a theory or idea) in detail

Extensively: in a way that covers or affects a large area.

**S119. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The passage further mentions a company dealing in stock and financial market where it clearly mention that any predictions regarding the market are beyond intellectual market and cannot be predicted with precision. Here, “**galvanizing**” has been incorrectly placed which can be replaced with “**unraveling**”. Hence, option (a) is the most suitable answer choice.

Unraveling: investigate and solve or explain (something complicated or puzzling)

Galvanizing: shock or excite (someone) into taking action

Implicit: suggested though not directly expressed

**S120. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** In the concluding lines, the passage mentions the company Delta Corp Limited which is the only company that operated physical and online casinos in India. It ends with the statement which states a better insight into online gaming and how Delta Corp has acquired top place in the field. Here, “**vindicate**” has been incorrectly placed and must be replaced with “**dissect**” to make a contextually meaningful and grammatically correct statement. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

Dissect: analyse (a text or idea) in minute detail

Vindicate: to clear of accusation, blame, suspicion, or doubt with supporting arguments or proof

**S121. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The given paragraph mentions the special investigation that was conducted by RBI to assess the quality of loans. It further mentions the consequences of the investigation under which the banks had to do away with the policies that concealed the bad loans. Here, we can infer that the blank would be filled with a phrase which would mention the policies that were obstructing the growth of banks. Statement given in option (c) perfectly fits in the given blank to give a contextually meaningful and grammatically correct statement. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S122. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The paragraph given above mentions how Yogesh Mahansaria had taken a control over tyre manufacturer in Aurangabad where he had been working for few years along with his father. But he was suddenly asked to leave within few year when the company was about to emerge successfully. From the phrase given following the blank, which mentions, “he did it with style”, we can infer that blank will be filled in with a phrase which could justify his capabilities to run the company. Statement given in option (d) clearly fits in the given blank, stating expectations from Yogesh after taking over the company. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S123. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** The paragraph given above mentions how the world’s leading investors too are not inclined towards investing in airlines due to the highly variable air fares. Here, the statement given in option (e) which justifies the inference we can derive from the paragraph fits in perfectly in the given blank. All other phrases either do not make a contextually meaningful or do not form a grammatically correct statement. Hence, option (e) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S124. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The paragraph given above mentions how the airlines overbook the flights for the maximum profit. The final statement of the paragraph mentions that the overbooked passengers are usually bumped out of the flight inspite of paying the equal prices. Here, from the phrase preceding the blank “they do this by”, we can infer that the blank contains something that has been one of the ways by which the airlines overbook the flights. Therefore, the statement given in option (b) which states that overbooking is usually done considering the probability of the tickets that have the chances of being cancelled fits in perfectly in the blank. Hence, option (b) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S125. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The paragraph given above mentions the Steel industry in China which is largely dependent on blast furnaces for converting iron ore into steel. From the phrase “iron ore into steel under”, we can infer that the blank will be filled with the phrase highlighting the temperature at which the conversion happens. Therefore, the phrase given in option (c) perfectly fits in the given blank which implies that iron ore is converted to steel at extremely high temperature which is also a major reason for pollution in Beijing. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

**S126. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Here, the given paragraph mentions how start-ups may use the tax exemptions available for them as a tool of money laundering. Here, “**entrench**” makes the statement grammatically incorrect which will thus be replaced with “**deter**”. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

Launder: conceal the origins of (money obtained illegally), typically by transfers involving foreign banks or legitimate businesses.

Chortle: laugh in a noisy, gleeful way.

Entrench: establish (an attitude, habit, or belief) so firmly that change is very difficult or unlikely

Deter: discourage (someone) from doing something by instilling doubt or fear of the consequences

Justifiable: able to be shown to be right or reasonable; defensible

Preclude: prevent from happening; make impossible.



**S127. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The paragraph given above mentions the gold schemes and cit funds which are not under the regulation of government regulators and therefore have been used by miscreants for fraudulent activities. Here, “culminate” will be replaced with “swindle”, which will make the statement contextually correct. Also, “hienous” will be replaced with “heinous” as the given spelling is incorrect. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

Purview: the scope of the influence or concerns of something  
Gainsay: deny or contradict

Culminate: reach a climax or point of highest development

Swindle: use deception to deprive (someone) of money or possessions

**S128. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The paragraph given above mentions the statement by FM Arun Jaitley who has assured that there won't be revenue hits due to the rate cut. He has further stated that the higher sales volumes would compensate the national income growth which may force the developers to raise base prices as an inevitable consequence of rate cuts. Here, all the three highlighted words have been incorrectly placed and will therefore require improvement. Hence, option (d) is the most suitable answer choice.

Engender: cause or give rise to

Reckon: be of the opinion

Rustic: made in a plain and simple fashion

Exchequer: a royal or national treasury.

Eschew: deliberately avoid using; abstain from

Entail: involve (something) as a necessary or inevitable part or consequence

**S129. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** All the highlighted words make the statement grammatically and contextually meaningful and therefore do not require any improvements. Hence, option (e) is the most suitable answer choice.

Test Series

**S130. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The paragraph given above discusses how the weaknesses in the farm sector have supported deteriorating farm prices and also that the MPC is well aware of the fragility of the assumptions it had made regarding the sector. Here, “undergrinding” and “vociferous” have been incorrectly used and do not contextually fit in the paragraph. We will replace “undergrinding” with “undergirding” and “vociferous” with “cognizant”. Hence, option (a) is the most suitable answer choice.

Undergirding: provide support or a firm basis for

Vociferous: expressing or characterized by vehement opinions; loud and forceful

Cognizant: having knowledge or awareness

**S131. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The third line of the first paragraph states that Gandhi's political legacy and philosophical relevance continue to inspire millions of people all around the world to resist injustice, inequality, and historical wrongs. As a result, we can conclude that Gandhi's politics was primarily an ethical manner of conduct.

**S132. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The author describes Gandhi as a universalist philosopher who promoted compassionate human nature. Thus, with reference to the context of the given sentence, option (b) is the right answer choice.

**S133. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Among the given options, only (a) and (b) are correct with reference to the information provided in the given passage. While statement (c) is incorrect.

**For statement (a):** Refer to the seventh line of the second paragraph, “As a matter of fact, Swaraj as a space of self-realization was where the ethical and the political joined in the Gandhian political philosophy.”

**For statement (b):** Refer to the third line of the third paragraph, “Gandhi, therefore, approached pragmatic politics as a form of character-building and not necessarily a struggle for getting elected or grasping power.”

**S134. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** On reading the second paragraph thoroughly, we can infer that only statement (a) is correct with reference to the context of the question. While the rest of the statements are mentioned incorrectly.

**S135. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Among the given options, only ‘mediocre’ is the most appropriate antonym of the given word. While the rest of the words are synonyms of the given word. Exemplar means a person or thing serving as a typical example or appropriate model.

- (a) paragon- a person or thing regarded as a perfect example of a particular quality.
- (b) epitome- a person or thing that is a perfect example of a particular quality or type.
- (c) paradigm- a typical example or pattern of something; a pattern or model.
- (d) mediocre- of only average quality; not very good.

**S136. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The given sentence states that a blended teaching-learning approach combining online and offline lessons has been made possible by the novel coronavirus pandemic. Therefore, with reference to the context of the concerned sentence, 'paved' is the most appropriate filler.

- (a) secede- withdraw formally from membership of a federal union.
- (b) paved- to make it easier for (something to happen or someone to do something).
- (c) statute- a written law passed by a legislative body.
- (d) saved- keep safe or rescue (someone or something) from harm or danger.
- (e) append- add (something) to the end of a written document.

**S137. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The given sentence states that positive examples, such as open-air courses under the trees, have set from several states. Therefore, with reference to the context of the concerned sentence, 'emerged' is the most appropriate filler.

- (a) apparent- clearly visible or understood; obvious.
- (b) ratified- sign or give formal consent to (a treaty, contract, or agreement), making it officially valid.
- (c) emerged- to come into being through evolution.
- (d) culminated- reach a climax or point of highest development.
- (e) descent- an act of moving downwards, dropping, or falling.

**S138. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The given sentence states that the longer a student is out from school, the more difficult it is for him or her to return and study. Therefore, with reference to the context of the concerned sentence, 'difficult' is the most appropriate filler.

- (a) suffrage- the right to vote in political elections.
- (b) suzerainty- a relationship in which one state or other polity controls the foreign policy and relations of a tributary state.
- (c) persuade- induce (someone) to do something through reasoning or argument.
- (d) difficult- needing much effort or skill to accomplish, deal with, or understand.
- (e) transitional- relating to or characteristic of a process or period of transition.

**S139. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The given sentence states that Varsha Gaikwad, Maharashtra's School Education Minister, announced last month that physical education classes will resume in Maharashtra schools from October 4. Therefore, with reference to the context of the concerned sentence, 'announced' is the most appropriate filler.

- (a) legitimated- conforming to the law or to rules.
- (b) announced- to make known publicly.
- (c) ratified- sign or give formal consent to (a treaty, contract, or agreement), making it officially valid.
- (d) arbitrary- based on random choice or personal whim, rather than any reason or system.
- (e) enriched- to improve the usefulness or quality of (something) by adding something to it.

**S140. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The given sentence states that as per the standard operating procedures (SOPs) issued by the state government for the reopening of schools, it is not mandatory for students to attend physical classes. Therefore, with reference to the context of the concerned sentence, 'mandatory' is the most appropriate filler.

- (a) mandatory- required by law or mandate; compulsory.
- (b) sanctity- the state or quality of being holy, sacred, or saintly.
- (c) procreation- the production of offspring; reproduction.
- (d) plurality- the fact or state of being plural.
- (e) dissipation- (with reference to a feeling or emotion) disappear or cause to disappear.

**S141. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** The given paragraph will start with the sentence (F) as it best describes the theme of the paragraph. Now, sentence (F) will be followed by sentence (C) as it further adds to the previous statement made by the Joint Secretary of the Union Health Ministry. Now, sentence (C) will be followed by sentence (D) as it highlights the recommendation made by the head of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to be cautious. Now, sentence (D) will be followed by sentence (A) as it further adds to the previous statement made by the ICMR head. Finally, sentence (E) will be the concluding sentence of the given paragraph. While sentence (B) is an odd statement as it does not have any correlation with the remaining sentences. Thus, we can infer that the correct rearrangement of the sentences would be 'FCDAE'.

**S142. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The given paragraph will start with the sentence (F) as it best describes the theme of the paragraph. Now, sentence (F) will be followed by sentence (C) as it further adds to the previous statement made by the Joint Secretary of the Union Health Ministry. Now, sentence (C) will be followed by sentence (D) as it highlights the recommendation made by the head of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to be cautious. Now, sentence (D) will be followed by sentence (A) as it further adds to the previous statement made by the ICMR head. Finally, sentence (E) will be the concluding sentence of the given paragraph. While sentence (B) is an odd statement as it does not have any correlation with the remaining sentences. Thus, we can infer that the correct rearrangement of the sentences would be 'FCDAE'.

**S143. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The given paragraph will start with the sentence (F) as it best describes the theme of the paragraph. Now, sentence (F) will be followed by sentence (C) as it further adds to the previous statement made by the Joint Secretary of the Union Health Ministry. Now, sentence (C) will be followed by sentence (D) as it highlights the recommendation made by the head of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to be cautious. Now, sentence (D) will be followed by sentence (A) as it further adds to the previous statement made by the ICMR head. Finally, sentence (E) will be the concluding sentence of the given paragraph. While sentence (B) is an odd statement as it does not have any correlation with the remaining sentences. Thus, we can infer that the correct rearrangement of the sentences would be 'FCDAE'.

**S144. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The given paragraph will start with the sentence (F) as it best describes the theme of the paragraph. Now, sentence (F) will be followed by sentence (C) as it further adds to the previous statement made by the Joint Secretary of the Union Health Ministry. Now, sentence (C) will be followed by sentence (D) as it highlights the recommendation made by the head of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to be cautious. Now, sentence (D) will be followed by sentence (A) as it further adds to the previous statement made by the ICMR head. Finally, sentence (E) will be the concluding sentence of the given paragraph. While sentence (B) is an odd statement as it does not have any correlation with the remaining sentences. Thus, we can infer that the correct rearrangement of the sentences would be 'FCDAE'.

**S145. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The given paragraph will start with the sentence (F) as it best describes the theme of the paragraph. Now, sentence (F) will be followed by sentence (C) as it further adds to the previous statement made by the Joint Secretary of the Union Health Ministry. Now, sentence (C) will be followed by sentence (D) as it highlights the recommendation made by the head of the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) to be cautious. Now, sentence (D) will be followed by sentence (A) as it further adds to the previous statement made by the ICMR head. Finally, sentence (E) will be the concluding sentence of the given paragraph. While sentence (B) is an odd statement as it does not have any correlation with the remaining sentences. Thus, we can infer that the correct rearrangement of the sentences would be 'FCDAE'.

**S146. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** EBDAC

**S147. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** CADEB

**S148. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** ADEBC

**S149. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** BDCEA

**S150. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** DEBCA

**S151. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** ECBAD

**S152. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** CEABD

**S153. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** DBCAE

**S154. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** ABDEC

**S155. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** CDBEA

**S156. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. chip on his shoulder-** when someone is upset about something that happened a while ago

**S157. Ans.(e)**

**Sol. spilled the beans-** to disclose a secret

**S158. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. come hell or high water-** possible obstacles in your path (will not stop you)

**S159. Ans.(c)**

**Sol. taste of her own medicine-** When someone receives the same treatment, usually negative, that he/she gives to others

**S160. Ans.(e)**

**Sol. jumped on the bandwagon-** to join a popular activity or trend

**S161. Ans.(c)**

**Sol. Breed-** a stock of animals or plants within a species having a distinctive appearance and typically having been developed by deliberate selection.

**S162. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. Tally-** a counterpart or duplicate of something.

**S163. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Concurs-** happen or occur at the same time

**S164. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Accord-** harmony

**S165. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Coincided-** concur

**S166. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Conform-** comply with rules, standards, or laws

**S167. Ans.(c)**

**Sol. Accorded-** be harmonious or consistent with

**S168. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Discord-** disharmony

**S169. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Acceded-** agree to a demand, request, or treaty

**S170. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Acquiesced-** accept something reluctantly but without protest

**S171. Ans.(c)**

**Sol. Assented-** expressed approval or agreement

**S172. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Authorized-** give official permission for or approval to

**S173. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. Condoned-** approve or sanction (something), especially with reluctance

**S174. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Vetoed-** refused to accept or allow

**S175. Ans.(c)**

**Sol. Endorsed-** declare one's public approval or support of.

**S176. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Refer 1st paragraph. It has been mentioned in the 4th line that if water accessible to millions is contaminated, the problem is infinitely worse than that of availability.

**S177. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Refer 2nd paragraph. Tamil Nadu has a middling score in water sources augmentation, but it is poor in ensuring sustainable use for farming.

**S178. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** The answer can be inferred from the following lines "The system of ratings for States is based on their performance in augmenting water resources and watersheds, investing in infrastructure, providing rural and urban drinking water, and encouraging efficient agricultural use"

**S179. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The most appropriate title for the passage above is "Parched or Polluted: On India's Water Crisis".

**S180. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. Augmenting:** making (something) greater by adding to it; increasing.

**Amplifying:** enlarge upon or add detail to (a story or statement).

**Compressing:** express in a shorter form; abridge.

**Dominating:** have power and influence over.

**Retrenching:** reduce (something) in extent or quantity.

**Synchronizing:** causing to occur or operate at the same time or rate.

**S181. Ans.(b)**

**Sol. Intractable:** hard to control or deal with.

**Stubborn:** having or showing dogged determination not to change one's attitude or position on something, especially in spite of good reasons to do so.

**Amenable:** open and responsive to suggestion; easily persuaded or controlled.

**Docile:** ready to accept control or instruction; submissive.

**Submissive:** ready to conform to the authority or will of others; meekly obedient or passive.

**S182. Ans.(a)**

**Sol. Bartering:** exchange (goods or services) for other goods or services without using money.

**Dickering:** engage in petty argument or bargaining.

**Amending:** make minor changes to (a text, piece of legislation, etc.) in order to make it fairer or more accurate, or to reflect changing circumstances.

**Advocating:** publicly recommend or support.

**Appalling:** causing shock or dismay; horrific.

**S183. Ans.(e)**

**Sol. Robust:** strong and healthy; vigorous.

**Sluggish:** slow-moving or inactive.

**Adamant:** refusing to be persuaded or to change one's mind.

**Vital:** absolutely necessary; essential.

**Resolute:** admirably purposeful, determined, and unwavering.

**S184. Ans.(d)**

**Sol. Curbed:** restrained or kept in check.

**Tamed:** made less powerful and easier to control.

**Impediment:** a hindrance or obstruction in doing something.

**Raged:** feel or express violent uncontrollable anger.

**Permitted:** officially allow (someone) to do something.

**Vogue:** the prevailing fashion or style at a particular time.

**S185. Ans.(e)**

**Sol. Revamped:** give new and improved form, structure, or appearance to.

**Stabilized:** make or become unlikely to change, fail, or decline.

**S186. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** It should be 'in view of'. Faulty idiomatic usage.

**S187. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Omit 'so'

**S188. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** The sentence displays a correct subject-verb agreement and coordinating conjunction. So there is **no error**.

**S189. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Use 'themselves'. Error in noun-pronoun agreement

**S190. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Do not repeat 'because' if you have said 'reason'

**S191. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The first part in the arrangement will be (2) because it is the most appropriate starter of the sentence which then be followed by (4) which is expressing the views of the Food and Agriculture Organization. The next sentence in the arrangement will be (1) followed by (3) to make a meaningful sentence. Hence the correct arrangement is **2413**.

**S192. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The first part in the arrangement will be (2) because it is the only viable starter. Next in the arrangement will be (1) or (4) but the use of (4) will make the sentence grammatically incorrect. So the second part in the arrangement will be (1) which will be later followed by (4) and (3) to make a meaningful sentence. Hence, the correct option choice would be option (b)

**S193. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** First part in the arrangement could be either (4) or (1) but choosing (1) as the starting of the sentence will hinder the sentence structure. So, we will start the sentence with (4). Next in the arrangement will be (2) because it is describing about the India's dream, this will be later followed by (3) and (1) to make a meaningful sentence. Hence, the correct answer choice would be option (c)

**S194. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** In the given sentence, only option only (1) is the most viable starter of the given sentence. This will be later followed by (4) because it forms a coherent part of the sentence as, 'strategy to augment the growth of'. Next in the arrangement will be (3) followed by (2). Hence, the correct answer choice would be option (a)

**S195. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The correct sequence of the rearrangement will be BDC. However, sentence (A) fails to make coherent sense with the passage because the remaining sentences are discussing about the economy of the India and steps to be taken to achieve the desired goal and sentence (A) is discussing about the reason for low productivity in agricultural sector. Hence, the correct answer choice would be option (c)

**S196. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Integral means necessary to make a whole complete; essential or fundamental.

Mandatory means required by law or mandate; compulsory. Sanctions mean a threatened penalty for disobeying a law or rule.

Impinge means to have an effect on something, often causing problems by limiting it in some way

Distinguished means very successful, authoritative, and commanding great respect.

Hence, the correct combination of word to fill the given blanks would be option (c)

**S197. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Pious means sincere but unlikely to be fulfilled

Ripen means become or make ripe.

Imminent means about to happen.

Deter means prevent the occurrence of.

So, from the given options, only option (b) will fill the given blanks to make the given sentences both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, the correct choice would be option (b)

**S198. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** Lapses means a decline from previously high standards.  
Brawl means fight or quarrel in a rough or noisy way.  
Lofty means of a noble or elevated nature.  
Hauled means propel or pull oneself with difficulty.  
So, from the given options, only option (e) will fill the given blanks to make the given sentences both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, the correct choice would be option (e)

**S199. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Evokes means bring or recall to the conscious mind.  
Envisaged means contemplate or conceive of as a possibility or a desirable future event.  
Devious means showing a skilful use of underhand tactics to achieve goals.  
So, from the given options, only option (c) will fill the given blanks to make the given sentences both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, the correct choice would be option (c)

**S200. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** Altercate means dispute or argue noisily and publicly.  
Duping means to deceive someone, usually by making that person do something that they did not intend to do

Doctrine means a belief or set of beliefs held and taught by a Church, political party, or other group.

Perspicuous means clearly expressed and easily understood; lucid

So, from the given options, only option (e) will fill the given blanks to make the given sentences both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, the correct choice would be option (e)

