

Chapter

7

General Comprehension

Read the following passages and answer the items that follow. Your answers to these items should be based on the passage only.

PASSAGE

Now India's children have a right to receive at least eight years of education, the gnawing question is whether it will remain on paper or become a reality. One hardly needs a reminder that this right is different from the others enshrined in the Constitution, that the beneficiary – a six year old child cannot demand it, nor can she or he fight a legal battle when the right is denied or violated. In all cases, it is the adult society which must act on behalf of the child. In another peculiarity, where a child's right to education is denied, no compensation offered later can be adequate or relevant. This is so because childhood does not last. If a legal battle fought on behalf of a child is eventually won, it may be of little use to the boy or girl because the opportunity missed at school during childhood cannot serve the same purpose later in life. This may be painfully true for girls because our society permits them only a short childhood, if at all. The Right to Education (RTE) has become law at a point in India's history when the ghastly practice of female infanticide has resurfaced in the form of foeticide. This is "symptomatic of a deeper turmoil" in society which is compounding the traditional obstacles to the education of girls. Tenacious prejudice against the intellectual potential of girls runs across our cultural diversity and the system of education has not been able to address it.

[2011 - III]

1. With reference to the passage, consider the following statements :

1. When children are denied education, adult society does not act on behalf of them.
2. Right to Education as a law cannot be enforced in the country.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

2. According to the passage, what could be the traditional obstacles to the education of girls ?

1. Inability of parents to fight a legal battle when the Right to Education is denied to their children.

2. The traditional way of thinking about girls' role in society.
3. The prejudice against the intellectual potential of girls.
4. Improper system of education.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below :

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

3. On the basis of the passage, consider the following statements :

1. Right to Education is a legal right and not a fundamental right.
2. For realising the goal of universal education, the education system in the country must be made identical to that of developed countries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

4. Which one of the following statements conveys the key message of the passage ?

- (a) India has declared that education is compulsory for its children.
- (b) Adult society is not keen on implementing the Right to Education.
- (c) The Right to Education, particularly of a girl child, needs to be safeguarded.
- (d) The system of education should address the issue of Right to Education.

5. Which one of the following statements conveys the inference of the passage ?

- (a) The society has a tenacious prejudice against the intellectual potential of girls.
- (b) Adults cannot be relied upon to fight on behalf of children for their Right to Education.
- (c) The legal fight to get education for children is often protracted and prohibitive.
- (d) There is no sufficient substitute for education received in childhood.

PASSAGE

For achieving inclusive growth there is a critical need to rethink the role of the State. The early debate among economists about the size of the Government can be misleading. The need of the hour is to have an enabling Government. India is too large and complex a nation for the State to be able to deliver all that is needed. Asking the Government to produce all the essential goods, create all the necessary jobs, and keep a curb on the prices of all goods is to lead to a large cumbersome bureaucracy and widespread corruption.

The aim must be to stay with the objective of inclusive growth that was laid down by the founding fathers of the nation and also to take a more modern view of what the State can realistically deliver.

This is what leads to the idea of an enabling State, that is, a Government that does not try to directly deliver to the citizens everything that they need. Instead, it (1) creates an enabling ethos for the market so that individual enterprise can flourish and citizens can, for the most part, provide for the needs of one another, and (2) steps in to help those who do not manage to do well for themselves, for there will always be individuals, no matter what the system, who need support and help. Hence we need a Government that, when it comes to the market, sets effective, incentive-compatible rules and remains on the sidelines with minimal interference, and at the same time, plays an important role in directly helping the poor by ensuring that they get basic education and health services and receive adequate nutrition and food. [2011 - II]

6. According to the passage :

1. The objective of inclusive growth was laid down by the founding fathers of the nation.
2. Need of the hour is to have an enabling Government.
3. The Government should engage in maximum interference in market processes.
4. There is a need to change the size of the Government.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

7. According to the passage, the strategy of inclusive growth can be effected by focusing on

- (a) Meeting all the needs of every citizen in the country.
- (b) Increasing the regulations over the manufacturing sector.
- (c) Controlling the distribution of manufactured goods.
- (d) Delivery of the basic services to the deprived sections of the society.

8. What constitutes an enabling Government?

1. A large bureaucracy.
2. Implementation of welfare programmes through representatives.

3. Creating an ethos that helps individual enterprise.
4. Providing resources to those who are underprivileged.
5. Offering direct help to the poor regarding basic services.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below :

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 4 and 5 only
(c) 3, 4 and 5 only (d) 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

9. Why is the State unable to deliver "all that is needed"?

1. It does not have sufficient bureaucracy.
2. It does not promote inclusive growth.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below :

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

10. What is the essential message being conveyed by the author of the passage?

- (a) The objectives of inclusive growth laid down by the founding fathers of the nation should be remembered.
- (b) The Government needs to make available more schools and health services.
- (c) The Government needs to establish markets and industries to meet the needs of the poor strata of the society.
- (d) There is a need to rethink the role of the State in achieving inclusive growth.

PASSAGE

The concept of 'creative society' refers to a phase of development of a society in which a large number of potential contradictions become articulate and active. This is most evident when oppressed social groups get politically mobilised and demand their rights. The upsurge of the peasants and tribals, the movements for regional autonomy and self-determination, the environmental movements, and the women's movements in the developing countries are signs of emergence of creative society in contemporary times. The forms of social movements and their intensity may vary from country to country and place to place within a country. But the very presence of movements for social transformation in various spheres of a society indicates the emergence of a creative society in a country. [2011 - II]

11. What does the author imply by "creative society" ?

1. A society where diverse art forms and literary writings seek incentive.
2. A society where social inequalities are accepted as the norm.
3. A society where a large number of contradictions are recognised.
4. A society where the exploited and the oppressed groups grow conscious of their human rights and upliftment.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below :

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 4 only
(c) 3 and 4 (d) 2 and 4

12. What according to the passage are the manifestations of social movements ?

1. Aggressiveness and being incendiary.
2. Instigation by external forces.
3. Quest for social equality and individual freedom.
4. Urge for granting privileges and self-respect to disparaged sections of the society.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below :

- (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 and 4 only
(c) 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

13. With reference to the passage, consider the following statements :

1. To be a creative society, it is essential to have a variety of social movements.
2. To be a creative society, it is imperative to have potential contradictions and conflicts.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

14. Consider the following three statements :

1. Only students can participate in the race.
2. Some participants in the race are girls.
3. All girl participants in the race are invited for coaching.

Which one of the following conclusions can be drawn from the above statements ?

- (a) All participants in the race are invited for coaching.
(b) All students are invited for coaching.
(c) All participants in the race are students.
(d) None of the statements (a), (b) and (c) given above is correct.

PASSAGE

A country under foreign domination seeks escape from the present in dreams of a vanished age, and finds consolation in visions of past greatness. That is a foolish and dangerous pastime in which many of us indulge. An equally questionable practice for us in India is to imagine that we are still spiritually great though we have come down in the world in other respects. Spiritual or any other greatness cannot be founded on lack of freedom and opportunity, or on starvation and misery. Many western writers have encouraged that notion that Indians are other-worldly. I suppose the poor and unfortunate in every country become to some extent other-worldly, unless they become revolutionaries, for this world is evidently not meant for them. So also subject peoples.

As a man grows to maturity he is not entirely engrossed in, or satisfied with, the external objective world. He seeks also some inner meaning, some psychological and physical satisfaction. So also with peoples and civilizations as they mature and grow adult. Every civilization and every people exhibit these parallel streams of an external life and an internal life. Where they meet or keep close to each other, there is an equilibrium and stability. When they diverge conflict arises and the crises that torture the mind and spirit.

[2011 - II]

15. The passage mentions that "this world is evidently not meant for them". It refers to people who

1. seek freedom from foreign domination.
2. live in starvation and misery.
3. become revolutionaries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 only

16. Consider the following assumptions :

1. A country under foreign domination cannot indulge in spiritual pursuit.
2. Poverty is an impediment in the spiritual pursuit.
3. Subject peoples may become other-worldly.

With reference to the passage, which of the above assumptions is/are valid ?

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 only

17. The passage thematically centres on

- (a) the state of mind of oppressed people
(b) starvation and misery
(c) the growth of civilization
(d) body, mind and spirit of people in general

18. According to the passage, the torture of the mind and spirit is caused

- (a) by the impact of foreign domination.
(b) by the desire to escape from foreign domination and find consolation in visions of past greatness.
(c) due to lack of equilibrium between an external life and an internal life.
(d) due to one's inability to be either revolutionary or other worldly.

PASSAGE

A species that exerts an influence out of proportion to its abundance in an ecosystem is called a keystone species. The keystone species may influence both the species richness of communities and the flow of energy and materials through ecosystems. The sea star **Pisaster ochraceus**, which lives in rocky intertidal ecosystems on the Pacific coast of North America, is also an example of a keystone species. Its preferred prey is the mussel **Mytilus californianus**. In the absence of sea stars, these mussels crowd out other competitors in a broad belt of the intertidal zone. By consuming mussels, sea star creates bare spaces that are taken over by a variety of other species.

A study at the University of Washington demonstrated the influence of **Pisaster** on species richness by removing sea stars from selected parts of the intertidal zone repeatedly over a period of five years. Two major changes occurred in the areas from which sea stars were removed. First, the lower edge of the mussel bed extended farther down into the intertidal zone, showing that sea stars are able to eliminate mussels completely where they are covered with water most of the time. Second, and more dramatically, 28 species of animals and algae disappeared from the sea star removal zone. Eventually only **Mytilus**, the dominant competitor, occupied the entire substratum.

Through its effect on competitive relationships, predation by **Pisaster** largely determines which species live in these rocky intertidal ecosystems. [2011 - III]

19. What is the crux of the passage ?
- Sea star has a preferred prey.
 - A preferred prey determines the survival of a keystone species.
 - Keystone species ensures species diversity.
 - Sea star is the only keystone species on the Pacific coast of North America.

20. With reference to the passage, consider the following statements :

- Mussels are generally the dominant species in intertidal ecosystems.
- The survival of sea stars is generally determined by the abundance of mussels.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

21. Which of the following is/are implied by the passage?

- Mussels are always hard competitors for sea stars.
- Sea stars of the Pacific coast have reached the climax of their evolution.
- Sea stars constitute an important component in the energy flow in intertidal ecosystem.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 and 2
- 2 only
- 1 and 3
- 3 only

22. Consider the following assumptions:

- The food chains/food web in an ecosystem are influenced by keystone species.
- The presence of keystone species is a specific characteristic of aquatic ecosystems.
- If the keystone species is completely removed from an ecosystem, it will lead to the collapse of the ecosystem. With reference to the passage, which of the above assumptions is/are valid ?

- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

PASSAGE

Ecosystems provide people with a variety of goods and services; food, clean water, clean air, flood control, soil stabilization, pollination, climate regulation, spiritual fulfilment and aesthetic enjoyment, to name just a few. Most of these benefits either are irreplaceable or the technology necessary to replace them is prohibitively expensive. For example, potable fresh water can be provided by desalinating sea-water, but only at great cost.

The rapidly expanding human population has greatly modified the Earth's ecosystems to meet their increased requirements of some of the goods and services, particularly food, fresh water, timber, fibre and fuel. These modifications have contributed substantially to human well being and economic development. The benefits have not been equally distributed. Some people have actually been harmed by these changes. Moreover, short-term increases in some

ecosystem goods and services have come at the cost of the long-term degradation of others. For example, efforts to increase the production of food and fibre have decreased the ability of some ecosystems to provide clean water, regulate flooding and support biodiversity. [2011 - III]

23. With reference to the passage, consider the following statements.

Expanding human population has an adverse effect on :

- Spiritual fulfilment
- Aesthetic enjoyment
- Potable fresh water
- Production of food and fibre
- Biodiversity

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

- 1, 2 and 3 only
- 2, 4 and 5 only
- 3 and 5 only
- 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5

24. The passage mentions that "some people have actually been harmed by these changes". What does it imply ?

- The rapid expansion of population has adversely affected some people:
- Sufficient efforts have not been made to increase the production of food and fibre.
- In the short term some people may be harmed, but in the long term everyone will benefit from modifications in the Earth's ecosystems.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2
- 1 and 3
- None of the statements given above

25. With reference to the passage, consider the following statements:

- It is imperative to modify the Earth's ecosystems for the well being of mankind.
- Technology can never replace all the goods and services provided by ecosystems.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

PASSAGE

A moral act must be our own act; must spring from our own will. If we act mechanically, there is no moral content in our act. Such action would be moral, if we think it proper to act like a machine and do so. For, in doing so, we use our discrimination. We should bear in mind the distinction between acting mechanically and acting intentionally. It may be moral of a king to pardon a culprit. But the messenger carrying out the order of pardon plays only a mechanical part in the king's moral act. But if the messenger were to carry out the king's order considering it to be his duty, his action would be a moral one. How can a man understand morality who does not use his own intelligence and power of thought, but lets himself be swept along like a log of wood by a current ? Sometimes a man defies convention and acts on his own with a view to absolute good. [2011 - III]

26. Which of the following statements best describe/ describes the thought of the writer ?

1. A moral act calls for using our discretion.
2. Man should react to a situation immediately
3. Man must do his duty.
4. Man should be able to defy convention in order to be moral.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below :

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 3
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 1 and 4

27. Which of the following statements is the nearest definition of moral action, according to the writer ?

- (a) It is a mechanical action based on official orders from superiors.
(b) It is an action based on our sense of discretion.
(c) It is a clever action based on the clarity of purpose.
(d) It is a religious action based on understanding.

28. The passage contains a statement "lets himself be swept along like a log of wood by a current." Among the following statements, which is/are nearest in meaning to this ?

1. A person does not use his own reason.
2. He is susceptible to influence/pressure.
3. He cannot withstand difficulties/ challenges.
4. He is like a log of wood.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below :

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 1 and 4

PASSAGE

Education, without a doubt, has an important functional, instrumental and utilitarian dimension. This is revealed when one asks questions such as 'what is the purpose of education?'. The answers, too often, are 'to acquire qualifications for employment/upward mobility', 'wider/higher (in terms of income) opportunities', and 'to meet the needs for trained human power in diverse fields for national development'. But in its deepest sense education is not instrumentalist. That is to say, it is not to be justified outside of itself because it leads to the acquisition of formal skills or of certain desired psychological – social attributes. It must be respected in itself. Education is thus not a commodity to be acquired or possessed and then used, but a process of inestimable importance to individuals and society, although it can and does have enormous use value. Education then, is a process of expansion and conversion, not in the sense of converting or turning students into doctors or engineers, but the widening and turning out of the mind – the creation, sustenance and development of self-critical awareness and independence of thought. It is an inner process of moral-intellectual development.

[2012 - II]

29. What do you understand by the 'instrumentalist' view of education?

- (a) Education is functional and utilitarian in its purposes.

(b) Education is meant to fulfil human needs.

(c) The purpose of education is to train the human intellect.

(d) Education is meant to achieve moral development.

30. According to the passage, education must be respected in itself because

(a) it helps to acquire qualifications for employment
(b) it helps in upward mobility and acquiring social status

(c) it is an inner process of moral and intellectual development

(d) All the (a), (b) and (c) given above are correct in this context.

31. Education is a process in which

(a) students are converted into trained professionals.

(b) opportunities for higher income are generated.

(c) individuals develop self-critical awareness and independence of thought.

(d) qualifications for upward mobility are acquired.

PASSAGE

Chemical pesticides lose their role in sustainable agriculture if the pests evolve resistance. The evolution of pesticide resistance is simply natural selection in action. It is almost certain to occur when vast numbers of a genetically variable population are killed. One or a few individuals may be unusually resistant (perhaps because they possess an enzyme that can detoxify the pesticide). If the pesticide is applied repeatedly, each successive generation of the pest will contain a larger proportion of resistant individuals. Pests typically have a high intrinsic rate of reproduction, and so a few individuals in one generation may give rise to hundreds or thousands in the next, and resistance spreads very rapidly in a population.

This problem was often ignored in the past, even though the first case of DDT (dichlorodiphenyltrichloroethane) resistance was reported early as 1946. There is exponential increase in the numbers of invertebrates that have evolved resistance and in the number of pesticides against which resistance has evolved. Resistance has been recorded in every family of arthropod pests (including dipterans such as mosquitoes and house flies, as well as beetles, moths, wasps, fleas, lice and mites) as well as in weeds and plant pathogens. Take the Alabama leaf-worm, a moth pest of cotton, as an example. It has developed resistance in one or more regions of the world to aldrin, DDT, dieldrin, endrin, lindane and toxaphene.

If chemical pesticides brought nothing but, problems, — if their use was intrinsically and acutely unsustainable — then they would already have fallen out of widespread use. This has not happened. Instead, their rate of production has increased rapidly. The ratio of cost to benefit for the individual agricultural producer has remained in favour of pesticide use. In the USA, insecticides have been estimated to benefit the agricultural products to the tune of around \$5 for every \$1 spent.

Moreover, in many poorer countries, the prospect of imminent mass starvation, or of an epidemic disease, are so frightening that the social and health costs of using pesticides have to be ignored. In general the use of pesticides is justified by objective measures such as 'lives saved', 'economic efficiency of food production' and 'total food produced'. In these very fundamental senses, their use may be described as sustainable. In practice, sustainability depends on continually developing new pesticides that keep at least one step ahead of the pests – pesticides that are less persistent, biodegradable and more accurately targeted all the pests. [2012 - II]

32. "The evolution of pesticide resistance is natural selection in action." What does it actually imply?

- It is very natural for many organisms to have pesticide resistance.
- Pesticide resistance among organisms is a universal phenomenon.
- Some individuals in any given population show resistance after the application of pesticides.
- None of the statements (a), (b) and (c) given above is correct.

33. With reference to the passage, consider the following statements:

- Use of chemical pesticides has become imperative in all the poor countries of the world.
- Chemical pesticides should not have any role in sustainable agriculture.
- One pest can develop resistance to many pesticides.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 and 2 only
- 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

34. Though the problems associated with the use of chemical pesticides is known for a long time, their widespread use has not waned. Why?

- Alternatives to chemical pesticides do not exist at all.
- New pesticides are not invented at all.
- Pesticides are biodegradable.
- None of the statements (a), (b) and (c) given above is correct.

35. How do pesticides act as agents for the selection of resistant individuals in any pest population?

- It is possible that in a pest population the individuals will behave differently due to their genetic makeup.
- Pests do possess the ability to detoxify the pesticides.
- Evolution of pesticide resistance is equally distributed in pest population.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

36. Why is the use of chemical pesticides generally justified by giving the examples of poor and developing countries?

- Development countries can afford to do away with use of pesticides by adapting to organic farming, but it is imperative for poor and developing countries to use chemical pesticides.
- In poor and developing countries, the pesticide addresses the problem of epidemic diseases of crops and eases the food problem.
- The social and health costs of pesticide use are generally ignored in poor and developing countries.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 1 and 2 only
- 2 only
- 1, 2 and 3

37. What does the passage imply?

- Alternative options to chemical pesticides should be promoted.
- Too much use of chemicals is not good for the ecosystem.
- There is no scope for the improvement of pesticides and making their use sustainable.
- Both the statements (a) and (b) above are correct.

PASSAGE

Today's developing economies use much less energy per capita than developed countries such as the United States did at similar incomes, showing the potential for lower-carbon growth. Adaptation and mitigation need to be integrated into a climate-smart development strategy that increases resilience, reduces the threat of further global warming, and improves development outcomes. Adaptation and mitigation measures can advance development, and prosperity can raise incomes and foster better institutions. A healthier population living in better-built houses and with access to bank loans and social security is better equipped to deal with a changing climate and its consequences. Advancing robust, resilient development policies that promote adaptation is needed today because changes in the climate, already begun, will increase even in the short term.

The spread of economic prosperity has always been intertwined with adaptation to changing ecological conditions. But as growth has altered the environment and as environmental change has accelerated, sustaining growth and adaptability demands greater capacity to understand our environment, generate new adaptive technologies and practices, and diffuse them widely. As economic historians have explained, much of humankind's creative potential has been directed at adapting to the changing world. But adaptation cannot cope with all the impacts related to climate change, especially as larger changes unfold in the long term.

Countries cannot grow out of harm's way fast enough to match the changing climate. And some growth strategies, whether driven by the government or the market, can also

add to vulnerability — particularly if they overexploit natural resources. Under the Soviet development plan, irrigated cotton cultivation expanded in water-stressed Central Asia and led to the near disappearance of the Aral Sea, threatening the livelihoods of fishermen, herders and farmers. And clearing mangroves — the natural coastal buffers against storm surges — to make way for intensive farming or housing development, increases the physical vulnerability of coastal settlements, whether in Guinea or in Louisiana. [2012 - III]

38. Which of the following conditions of growth can add to vulnerability?

1. When the growth occurs due to excessive exploitation of mineral resources and forests.
2. When the growth brings about a change in humankind's creative potential.
3. When the growth is envisaged only for providing houses and social security to the people.
4. When the growth occurs due to emphasis on farming only.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

39. What does low-carbon growth imply in the present context?

1. More emphasis on the use of renewable sources of energy.
2. Less emphasis on manufacturing sector and more emphasis on agriculture sector.
3. Switching over from monoculture practices to mixed farming.
4. Less demand for goods and services.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only
(b) 2, 3 and 4 only
(c) 1 and 4 only
(d) None of the above implies low-carbon growth

40. Which of the following conditions is/are necessary for sustainable economic growth?

1. Spreading of economic prosperity more.
2. Popularising/spreading of adaptive technologies widely.
3. Investing on research in adaptation and mitigation technologies.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

41. Which of the following inferences can be made from the passage?

1. Rainfed crops should not be cultivated in irrigated areas.
2. Farming under water-deficient areas should not be a part of development strategy.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

42. Consider the following assumptions :

1. Sustainable economic growth demands the use of creative potential of man.
2. Intensive agriculture can lead to ecological backlash.
3. Spread of economic prosperity can adversely affect the ecology and environment.

With reference to the passage, which of the above assumptions is/are valid?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

43. Which one of the following statements constitutes the central theme of this passage?

- (a) Countries with greater economic prosperity are better equipped to deal with the consequences of climate change.
- (b) Adaptation and mitigation should be integrated with development strategies.
- (c) Rapid economic growth should not be pursued by both developed and developing economies.
- (d) Some countries resort to overexploitation of natural resources for the sake of rapid development.

PASSAGE

Invasions of exotic species into new geographic areas sometimes occur naturally and without human agency. However, human actions have increased this trickle to a flood. Human-caused introductions may occur either accidentally as a consequence of human transport, or intentionally but illegally to serve some private purpose or legitimately to procure some hoped-for public benefit by bringing a pest under control, producing new agricultural products or providing novel recreational opportunities. Many introduced species are assimilated into communities without much obvious effect. However, some have been responsible for dramatic changes to native species and natural communities. For example, the accidental introduction of the brown tree snake *Boiga irregularis* into Guam, an island in the Pacific, has through nest predation reduced 10 endemic forest bird species to the point of extinction.

One of the major reasons for the world's great biodiversity is the occurrence of centers of endemism so that similar habitats in different parts of the world are occupied by different groups of species that happen to have evolved there. If every species naturally had access to everywhere on the globe, we might expect a relatively small number of successful species to become dominant in each biome. The extent to which this homogenization can happen naturally is restricted by the limited powers of dispersal of most species in the face of the physical barriers that exist to dispersal. By virtue of the transport opportunities offered by humans, these barriers have been breached by an ever-increasing number of exotic species. The effects of introductions have been to convert a hugely diverse range of local community compositions into something much more homogeneous.

It would be wrong, however, to conclude that introducing species to a region will inevitably cause a decline in species richness there. For example, there are numerous species of plants, invertebrates and vertebrates found in continental Europe but absent from the British Isles (many because they have so far failed to recolonize after the last glaciations). Their introduction would be likely to augment British biodiversity. The significant detrimental effect noted above arises where aggressive species provide a novel challenge to endemic biotas ill-equipped to deal with them. [2012 - II]

44. With reference to the passage, which of the following statements is correct?

- Introduction of exotic species into new geographical areas always leads to reduced biodiversity.
- Exotic species introduced by man into new areas have always greatly altered the native ecosystems.
- Man is the only reason to convert a hugely diverse range of local community compositions into more homogeneous ones.
- None of the statements (a), (b) and (c) is correct in this context.

45. Why does man introduce exotic species into new geographical areas?

- To breed exotic species with local varieties.
- To increase agricultural productivity.
- For beautification and landscaping.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- 1 only
- 2 and 3 only
- 1 and 3 only
- 1, 2 and 3

46. How is homogenization prevented under natural conditions?

- Evolution of groups of species specific to local habitats.
- Presence of oceans and mountain ranges.
- Strong adaptation of groups of species to local physical and climatic conditions.
- All the statements (a), (b) and (c) given above are correct in this context.

47. How have the human beings influenced the biodiversity?

- By smuggling live organisms.
- By building highways.
- By making ecosystems sensitive so that new species are not allowed.
- By ensuring that new species do not have major impact on local species.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- 1 and 2
- 2 and 3
- 1 and 3
- 2 and 4

48. What can be the impact of invasion of exotic species on an ecosystem?

- Erosion of endemic species.
- Change in the species composition of the community of the ecosystem.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

PASSAGE

Most champions of democracy have been rather reticent in suggesting that democracy would itself promote development and enhancement of social welfare—they have tended to see them as good but distinctly separate and largely independent goals. The detractors of democracy, on the other hand, seemed to have been quite willing to express their diagnosis of what they see as serious tensions between democracy and development. The theorists of the practical split — “Make up your mind : do you want democracy, or instead, do you want development ?” — often came, at least to start with, from East Asian countries, and their voice grew in influence as several of these countries were immensely successful — through the 1970s and 1980s and even later — in promoting economic growth without pursuing democracy.

To deal with these issues we have to pay particular attention to both the content of what can be called development and to the interpretation of democracy (in particular to the respective roles of voting and of public reasoning). The assessment of development cannot be divorced from the lives that people can lead and the real freedom that they enjoy. Development can scarcely be seen merely in terms of enhancement of inanimate objects of convenience, such as a rise in the GNP (or in personal incomes), or industrialization — important as they may be as means to the real ends. Their value must depend on what they do to the lives and freedom of the people involved, which must be central to the idea of development.

If development is understood in a broader way, with a focus on human lives, then it becomes immediately clear that the relation between development and democracy has to be seen partly in terms of their constitutive connection, rather than only through their external links. Even though the question has often been asked whether political freedom is “conducive to development”, we must not miss the crucial recognition that political liberties and democratic rights are among the “constituent components” of development. Their relevance for development does not have to be established indirectly through their contribution to be growth of GNP. [2012 - II]

49. According to the passage, why is a serious tension perceived between democracy and development by the detractors of democracy?

- Democracy and development are distinct and separate goals.
- Economic growth can be promoted successfully without pursuing a democratic system of governance.

- (c) Non-democratic regimes deliver economic growth faster and far more successfully than democratic ones.
- (d) All the statements (a), (b) and (c) given above are correct in this context.
50. According to the passage, what should be the ultimate assessment/aim/view of development?
- (a) Rise in the per capita income and industrial growth rates.
- (b) Improvement in the Human Development Index and GNP.
- (c) Rise in the savings and consumption trends.
- (d) Extent of real freedom that citizens enjoy.
51. What does a "constitutive" connection between democracy and development imply?
- (a) The relation between them has to be seen through external links.
- (b) Political and civil rights only can lead to economic development.
- (c) Political liberties and democratic rights are essential elements of development.
- (d) None of the statements (a), (b) and (c) given above is correct in this context.

PASSAGE

The need for Competition Law becomes more evident when foreign direct investment (FDI) is liberalized. The impact of FDI is not always pro-competitive. Very often FDI takes the form of a foreign corporation acquiring a domestic enterprise or establishing a joint venture with one. By making such an acquisition the foreign investor may substantially lessen competition and gain a dominant position in the relevant market, thus charging higher prices. Another scenario is where the affiliates of two separate multinational companies (MNCs) have been established in competition with one another in a particular developing economy, following the liberalization of FDI. Subsequently, the parent companies overseas merge. With the affiliates no longer remaining independent, competition in the host country may be virtually eliminated and the prices of the products may be artificially inflated. Most of these adverse consequences of mergers and acquisitions by MNCs can be avoided if an effective competition law is in place. Also, an economy that has implemented an effective competition law is in a better position to attract FDI than one that has not. This is not just because most MNCs are expected to be accustomed to the operation of such a law in their home countries and know how to deal with such concerns but also that MNCs expect competition authorities to ensure a level playing field between domestic and foreign firms.

[2012 - III]

52. With reference to the passage, consider the following statements:
1. It is desirable that the impact of Foreign Direct Investment should be pro-competitive.
 2. The entry of foreign investors invariably leads to the inflated prices in domestic markets.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2
53. According to the passage, how does a foreign investor dominate the relevant domestic market?
1. Multinational companies get accustomed to domestic laws.
 2. Foreign companies establish joint ventures with domestic companies.
 3. Affiliates in a particular market/sector lose their independence as their parent companies overseas merge.
 4. Foreign companies lower the cost of their products as compared to that of products of domestic companies.

Which of the statements given above are correct?

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1, 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
54. What is the inference from this passage?
- (a) Foreign investors and multinational companies always dominate the domestic market.
- (b) It is not in the best interests of the domestic economy to allow mergers of companies.
- (c) With competition law, it is easy to ensure a level playing field between domestic and foreign firms.
- (d) For countries with open economy, Foreign Direct Investment is essential for growth.

PASSAGE

The poor especially in market economies, need the strength that collectivities offer for creating more economic, social and political space for themselves, for enhancing their socio-economic well-being and voice, and as a protection against free market individualism. It has been argued that a group approach to farming, especially in the form of bottom up agricultural production collectivities, offers substantial scope for poverty alleviation and empowering the poor as well as enhancing agricultural productivity. To realize this potential, however, the groups would need to be voluntary in nature, small in size, participative in decision making and equitable in work sharing and benefit distribution. There are many notable examples of such collectivities to be found in varied contexts, such as in the transition economies. All of them bear witness to the possibility of successful cooperation under given conditions. And although the gender impact of the family cooperatives in the transition economies are uncertain, the Indian examples of women-only groups farming offer considerable potential for benefiting women. [2012 - III]

55. Agricultural collectivities such as group based farming can provide the rural poor
1. empowerment.
 2. increased agricultural productivity.
 3. safeguard against exploitative markets.
 4. surplus production of agricultural commodities.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1, 2, 3 and 4 (b) 1, 2 and 3 only
(c) 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 3 and 4 only
56. What does the author imply by "gender impact"?
(a) Women are doubtful participants in cooperatives.
(b) Family cooperatives may not include women.
(c) Women benefiting from group farming.
(d) Women's role in transition economies is highly restrictive.
57. Consider the following assumptions:
1. It is imperative for transition economies to have agricultural collectivities.
2. Agricultural productivity can be increased by group approach to farming.

With reference to the above passage, which of these assumptions is/are valid?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

PASSAGE

In a typical Western liberal context, deepening of democracy invariably leads to consolidation of 'liberal values'. In the Indian context, democratization is translated into greater involvement of people not as 'individuals' which is a staple to liberal discourse, but as communities or groups. Individuals are getting involved in the public sphere not as 'atomized' individuals but as members of primordial communities drawn on religious or caste identity. Community-identity seems to be the governing force. It is not therefore surprising that the so-called peripheral groups continue to maintain their identities with reference to the social groups (caste, religion or sect) to which they belong while getting involved in the political processes despite the fact that their political goals remain more or less identical. By helping to articulate the political voice of the marginalized, democracy in India has led to 'a loosening of social strictures' and empowered the peripherals to be confident of their ability to improve the socio-economic conditions in which they are placed. This is a significant political process that had led to a silent revolution through a meaningful transfer of power from the upper caste elites to various subaltern groups within the democratic framework of public governance. [2012 - III]

58. According to the passage, what does "deepening of democracy" mean in the Western context?
(a) Consolidation of group and class identities.
(b) Democratization translated as greater involvement of people.
(c) Democratization as greater involvement of 'atomized' individuals in the public sphere.
(d) None of the statements (a), (b) and (c) given above is correct in this context.
59. Greater democratization in India has not necessarily led to
(a) the dilution of caste and communal identities in the public sphere.

- (b) irrelevance of community identity as a governing force in Indian politics.
(c) marginalization of elite groups in society.
(d) relative unimportance of hereditary identities over class identities.
60. What is the "silent revolution" that has occurred in the Indian democratic process?
(a) Irrelevance of caste and class hierarchies in political processes.
(b) Loosening of social strictures in voting behaviour and patterns.
(c) Social change through transfer of power from upper caste elites to subaltern groups.
(d) All the statements (a), (b) and (c) given above are correct in this context.

PASSAGE

Ecological research over the last quarter of the century has established the deleterious effects of habitat fragmentation due to mining, highways and such other intrusions on forests. When a large block of forests gets fragmented into smaller bits, the edges of all these bits come into contact with human activities resulting in the degradation of the entire forests. Continuity of forested landscapes and corridors gets disrupted affecting several extinction-prone species of wildlife. Habitat fragmentation is therefore considered as the most serious threat to biodiversity conservation. Ad hoc grants of forest lands to mining companies coupled with rampant illegal mining is aggravating this threat. [2013 - III]

61. What is the central focus of this passage?
(a) Illegal mining in forests
(b) Extinction of wildlife
(c) Conservation of nature
(d) Disruption of habitat
62. What is the purpose of maintaining the continuity of forested landscapes and corridors?
1. Preservation of biodiversity.
2. Management of mineral resources.
3. Grant of forest lands for human activities.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2
(c) 2 and 3 (d) 1, 2 and 3

PASSAGE

The law in many parts of the world increasingly restricts the discharge of agricultural slurry into watercourses. The simplest and often the most economically sound practice returns the material to the land as semisolid manure or as sprayed slurry. This dilutes its concentration in the environment to what might have occurred in a more primitive and sustainable types of agriculture and converts pollutant into fertilizer. Soil microorganisms decompose the organic components of sewage and slurry and most of the mineral nutrients become available to be absorbed again by the vegetation.

The excess input of nutrients, both nitrogen and phosphorus – based, agricultural runoff (and human sewage) has caused many ‘healthy’ *oligotrophic* lakes (low nutrient concentrations, low plant productivity with abundant water weeds, and clear water) to change to *eutrophic* condition where high nutrient inputs lead to high phytoplankton productivity (sometimes dominated by bloom-forming toxic species). This makes the water turbid, eliminates large plants and, in the worst situations, leads to anoxia and fish kills; so called *cultural* eutrophication. Thus, important ecosystem services are lost, including the provisioning service of wild-caught fish and the cultural services associated with recreation.

The process of cultural eutrophication of lakes has been understood for some time. But only recently did scientists notice huge ‘dead zones’ in the oceans near river outlets, particularly those draining large catchment areas such as the Mississippi in North America and the Yangtze in China. The nutrient-enriched water flows through streams, rivers and lakes, and eventually to the estuary and ocean where the ecological impact may be huge, killing virtually all invertebrates and fish in areas up to 70,000 km² in extent. More than 150 sea areas worldwide are now regularly starved of oxygen as a result of decomposition of algal blooms, fuelled particularly by nitrogen from agricultural runoff of fertilizers and sewage from large cities. Oceanic dead zones are typically associated with industrialized nations and usually lie off countries that subsidize their agriculture, encouraging farmers to increase productivity and use more fertilizer. [2013 - II]

63. According to the passage, why should the discharge of agricultural slurry into watercourses be restricted?
1. Losing nutrients in this way is not a good practice economically.
 2. Watercourses do not contain the microorganisms that can decompose organic components of agricultural slurry.
 3. The discharge may lead to the eutrophication of water bodies.
- Select the correct answer using the codes given below:
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
64. The passage refers to the conversion of “pollutant to fertilizer”. What is pollutant and what is fertilizer in this context?
- (a) Decomposed organic component of slurry is pollutant and microorganisms in soil constitute fertilizer.
 - (b) Discharged agricultural slurry is pollutant and decomposed slurry in soil is fertilizer.
 - (c) Sprayed slurry is pollutant and watercourses is fertilizer.
 - (d) None of the above expressions is correct in this context.
65. According to the passage, what are the effects of indiscriminate use of fertilizers?
1. Addition of pollutants to the soil and water.
 2. Destruction of decomposer microorganism in soil.

3. Nutrient enrichment of water bodies.
4. Creation of algal blooms.

Select the correct answer from the codes given below:

- (a) 1, 2 and 3 only (b) 1, 3 and 4 only
(c) 2 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4
66. What is/are the characteristics of a water body with cultural eutrophication?
1. Loss of ecosystem services
 2. Loss of flora and fauna
 3. Loss of mineral nutrients
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3
67. What is the central theme of this passage?
- (a) Appropriate legislation is essential to protect the environment.
 - (b) Modern agriculture is responsible for the destruction of environment.
 - (c) Improper waste disposal from agriculture can destroy the aquatic ecosystems.
 - (d) Use of chemical fertilizers is undesirable in agriculture.

PASSAGE

The miseries of the world cannot be cured by physical help only. Until man's nature changes, his physical needs will always arise, and miseries will always be felt, and no amount of physical help will remove them completely. The only solution of the problem is to make mankind pure. Ignorance is the mother of evil and of all the misery we see. Let men have light, let them be pure and spiritually strong and educated; then alone will misery cease in the world. We may convert every house in the country into a charitable asylum, we may fill the land with hospitals, but human misery will continue until man's character changes.

[2013 - II]

68. According to the passage, which of the following statements is most likely to be true as the reason for man's miseries?
- (a) The poor economic and social conditions prevailing in society.
 - (b) The refusal on the part of man to change his character.
 - (c) The absence of physical and material help from his society.
 - (d) Ever increasing physical needs due to changing social structure.
69. With reference to the passage, the following assumptions have been made"
1. The author gives primary importance to physical and material help in eradicating human misery.
 2. Charitable homes, hospitals, etc. can remove human misery to a great extent.
- Which of the assumption is/are valid?
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

PASSAGE

The subject of democracy has become severely muddled because of the way the rhetoric surrounding it has been used in recent years. There is, increasingly, an oddly confused dichotomy between those who want to 'impose' democracy on countries in the non-Western world (in these countries' 'own interest', of course) and those who are opposed to such 'imposition' (because of the respect for the countries' 'own ways'). But the entire language of 'imposition', used by both sides, is extraordinarily inappropriate since it makes the implicit assumption that democracy belongs exclusively to the West, taking it to be a quintessentially 'Western' idea which has originated and flourished only in the West.

But the thesis and the pessimism it generates about the possibility of democratic practice in the world would be extremely hard to justify. There were several experiments in local democracy in ancient India. Indeed, in understanding the roots of democracy in the world, we have to take an interest in the history of people participation and public reasoning in different parts of the world. We have to look beyond thinking of democracy only in terms of European and American evolution. We would fail to understand the pervasive demands for participatory living, on which Aristotle spoke with far-reaching insight, if we take democracy to be a kind of a specialized cultural product of the West.

It cannot, of course, be doubted that the institutional structure of the contemporary practice of democracy is largely the product of European and American experience over the last few centuries. This is extremely important to recognize since these development in institutional formats were immensely innovative and ultimately effective. There can be little doubt that there is a major 'Western' achievement here. [2013 - II]

70. Which of the following is closest to the view of democracy as mentioned in the above passage?

- (a) The subject of democracy is a muddle due to a desire to portray it as a Western concept, 'alien' to non-Western countries.
- (b) The language of imposition of democracy is inappropriate. There is, however, a need to consider this concept in the backdrop of culture of 'own ways' of non-Western society.
- (c) While democracy is not essentially a Western idea belonging exclusively to the West, the institutional structure of current democratic practices has been their contribution.
- (d) None of the statements (a), (b) and (c) given above is correct.

71. With reference to the passage, the following assumption have been made:

- 1. Many of the non-Western countries are unable to have democracy because they take democracy to be a specialized cultural product of the West.

- 2. Western countries are always trying to impose democracy on non-Western countries.

Which of the above is/are valid assumption/assumptions?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 1 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

PASSAGE

Corporate governance is based on principles such as conducting the business with all integrity and fairness, being transparent with regard to all transactions, making all the necessary disclosures and decisions, complying with all the laws of the land, accountability and responsibility towards the stakeholders and commitment to conducting business in an ethical manner. Another point which is highlighted on corporate governance is the need for those in control to be able to distinguish between what are personal and corporate funds while managing a company.

Fundamentally, there is a level of confidence that is associated with a company that is known to have good corporate governance. The presence of an active group of independent directors on the board contributes a great deal towards ensuring confidence in the market. Corporate governance is known to be one of the criteria that foreign institutional investors are increasingly depending on when deciding on which companies to invest in. It is also known to have a positive influence on the share price of the company. Having a clean image on the corporate governance front could also make it easier for companies to source capital at more reasonable costs. Unfortunately, corporate governance often becomes the centre of discussion only after the exposure of a large scam.

[2013 - II]

72. According to the passage, which of the following should be the practice/practices in good corporate governance?

- 1. Companies should always comply with labour and tax laws of the land.
- 2. Every company in the country should have a government representative as one of the independent directors on the board to ensure transparency.
- 3. The manager of a company should never invest his personal funds in the company.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 1 and 3 only
- (d) 1, 2 and 3

73. According to the passage, which of the following is/are the major benefit/benefits of good corporate governance?

- 1. Good corporate governance leads to increase in share price of the company.
- 2. A company with good corporate governance always increases its business turnover rapidly.
- 3. Good corporate governance is the main criterion for foreign institutional investors when they decide to buy a company.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

PASSAGE

Malnutrition most commonly occurs between the ages of six months and two years. This happens despite the child's food requirements being less than that of an older child. Malnutrition is often attributed to poverty, but it has been found that even in households where adults eat adequate quantities of food, more than 50 per cent of children-under-five do not consume enough food. The child's dependence on someone else to feed him/her is primarily responsible for the malnutrition. Very often the mother is working and the responsibility of feeding the young child is left to an older sibling. It is therefore crucial to increase awareness regarding the child's food needs and how to satisfy them.

[2013 - II]

74. According to the passage, malnutrition in children can be reduced.
- if the children have regular intake of food
 - after they cross the age of five.
 - if the food needs of younger children are known.
 - if the responsibility of feeding younger children is given to adults.
75. According to the author, poverty is not the main cause of malnutrition, but the fact that
- taking care of younger ones is not a priority for working mothers.
 - awareness of nutritional needs is not propagated by the Public Health authorities.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

PASSAGE

A number of empirical studies find that farmers are risk-averse, though only moderately in many cases. There is also evidence to show that farmers' risk aversion results in cropping patterns and input use designed to reduce risk rather than to maximize income. Farmers adopt a number of strategies to manage and cope with agricultural risks. These include practices like crop and field diversification, non-farm 'employment storage of stocks and strategic migration of family members. There are also institutions ranging from share tenancy to kinship, extended family and informal credit agencies. One major obstacle to risk sharing by farmers is that the same type of risks can affect a large number of farmers in the region. Empirical studies show that the traditional methods are not adequate. Hence there is a need for policy interventions, especially measures that cut across geographical regions.

Policies may aim at tackling agricultural risks directly or indirectly. Examples of risk-specific policies are crop insurance, price stabilization and the development of varieties resistant to pests and diseases. Policies which affect risk indirectly are irrigation, subsidized credit and

access to information. No single risk-specific policy is sufficient to reduce risk and is without side-effects, whereas policies not specific to risk influence the general situation and affect risks only indirectly. Crop insurance, as a policy measure to tackle agricultural risk directly, deserves careful consideration in the Indian context and in many other developing countries – because the majority of farmers depend on rain-fed agriculture and in many areas yield variability is the predominant cause of their income instability.

[2013 - II]

76. The need for policy intervention to mitigate risks in agriculture is because
- farmers are extremely risk-averse.
 - farmers do not know how to mitigate risks.
 - the methods adopted by farmers and existing risk sharing institutions are not adequate.
 - majority of farmers depend on rain-fed agriculture.
77. Which of the following observations emerges from the above passage?
- One can identify a single policy that can reduce risk without any side-effect.
 - No single task-specific policy is sufficient to reduce agricultural risk.
 - Policies which affect risk indirectly can eliminate it.
 - Government's policy intervention can mitigate agricultural risk completely.

PASSAGE

Financial markets in India have acquired greater depth and liquidity over the years. Steady reforms since 1991 have led to growing linkages and integration of the Indian economy and its financial system with the global economy. Weak global economic prospects and continuing uncertainties in the international financial markets therefore, have had their impact on the emerging market economies. Sovereign risk concerns, particularly in the Euro area, affected financial markets for the greater part of the year, with the contagion of Greece's sovereign debt problem spreading to India and other economies by way of higher-than-normal levels of volatility.

The funding constraints in international financial markets could impact both the availability and cost of foreign funding for banks and corporates. Since the Indian financial system is bank dominated, banks' ability to withstand stress is critical to overall financial stability. Indian banks, however, remain robust, notwithstanding a decline in capital to risk-weighted assets ratio and a rise in non-performing asset levels in the recent past. Capital adequacy levels remain above the regulatory requirements. The financial market infrastructure continues to function without any major disruption. With further globalization, consolidation, deregulation, and diversification of the financial system, the banking business may become more complex and riskier. Issue like risk and liquidity management and enhancing skill therefore assume greater significance.

[2013 - II]

78. According to the passage, the financial markets in the emerging market economies including India had the adverse impact in recent years due to
1. weak global economic prospects.
 2. uncertainties in the international financial markets.
 3. sovereign risk concerns in the Euro area.
 4. bad monsoons and the resultant crop loss.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 and 2 only (b) 1, 2 and 3
(c) 2 and 3 only (d) 2, 3 and 4
79. The Indian financial markets are affected by global changes mainly due to the
- (a) increased inflow of remittances from abroad
 - (b) enormous increases in the foreign exchange reserves.
 - (c) growing global linkages and integration of the Indian financial markets.
 - (d) contagion of Greece's sovereign debt problem.
80. According to the passage, in the Indian financial system, bank's ability to withstand stress is critical to ensure overall financial stability because Indian financial system is
- (a) controlled by the Government of India
 - (b) less integrated with banks.
 - (c) controlled by the Reserve Bank of India.
 - (d) dominated by Banks.
81. Risk and liquidity management assumes more importance in the Indian banking system in future due to
1. further globalization.
 2. more consolidation and deregulation of financial system
 3. further diversification of the financial system.
 4. more financial inclusion in the economy.
- Select the correct answer using the code given below:
- (a) 1, 2 and 3 (b) 2, 3 and 4
(c) 1 and 2 only (d) 3 and 4 only

PASSAGE

Crude mineral oil comes out of the earth as a thick brown or black liquid with a strong smell. It is a complex mixture of many different substances, each with its own individual qualities. Most of them are combinations of hydrogen and carbon in varying proportions. Such hydrocarbons are also found in other forms such as bitumen, asphalt and natural gas. Mineral oil originates from the carcasses of tiny animals and from plants that live in the sea. Over millions of years, these dead creatures form large deposits under the sea-bed; and ocean currents cover them with a blanket of sand and silt. As this mineral hardens, it becomes sedimentary rock and effectively shuts out the oxygen, so preventing the complete decomposition of the marine deposits underneath. The layers of sedimentary rock become thicker and heavier. Their pressure produces heat, which transforms the tiny carcasses into crude oil in a process that is still going on today. [2013 - II]

82. Mineral oil deposits under the sea do not get completely decomposed because they
- (a) are constantly washed by the ocean currents.
 - (b) become rock and prevent oxygen from entering them.
 - (c) contain a mixture of hydrogen and carbon.
 - (d) are carcasses of organisms lying in saline conditions.
83. Sedimentary rock leads to the formation of oil deposits because
- (a) there are no saline conditions below it.
 - (b) it allows some dissolved oxygen to enter the dead organic matter below it.
 - (c) weight of overlying sediment layers causes the production of heat.
 - (d) it contains the substances that catalyze the chemical reactions required to change dead organisms into oil.

PASSAGE

Many nations now place their faith in capitalism and governments choose it as the strategy to create wealth for their people. The spectacular economic growth seen in Brazil, China and India after the liberalisation of their economies is proof of its enormous potential and success. However, the global banking crisis and the economic recession have left many bewildered. The debates tend to focus on free market operations and forces, their efficiency and their ability for self correction. Issues of justice, integrity and honesty are rarely elaborated to highlight the failure of the global banking system. The apologists of the system continue to justify the success of capitalism and argue that the recent crisis was a blip.

Their arguments betray an ideological bias/ with the assumptions that an unregulated market is fair and competent, and that the exercise of private greed will be in the larger public interest.

Few recognize the bidirectional relationship between capitalism and greed; that each reinforces the other. Surely, a more honest conceptualisation of the conflicts of interest among the rich and powerful players who have benefited from the system, their biases and ideology is needed; the focus on the wealth creation should also highlight the resultant gross inequity. [2014 - II]

84. The apologists of the "Free Market System", according to the passage, believe in
- (a) market without control by government authorities.
 - (b) market without protection by the government.
 - (c) ability of market to self correct.
 - (d) market for free goods and services.
85. With reference to "ideological bias", the passage implies that
- (a) free market is fair but not competent.
 - (b) free market is not fair but competent.
 - (c) free market is fair and competent.
 - (d) free market is neither fair nor biased.

86. The exercise of private greed will be in the larger public interest" from the passage

1. refers to the false ideology of capitalism.
2. underlies the righteous claims of the free market.
3. shows the benevolent face of capitalism.
4. ignores resultant gross inequity.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3
(c) 1 and 4 (d) 4 only

PASSAGE

Net profits are only 2.2% of their total assets for central public sector undertakings, lower than for the private corporate sector.

While the public sector or the State-led entrepreneurship played an important role in triggering India's industrialization, our evolving development needs, comparatively less-than-satisfactory performance of the public sector enterprises, the maturing of our private sector, a much larger social base now available for expanding entrepreneurship and the growing institutional capabilities to enforce competition policies would suggest that the time has come to review the role of public sector.

What should the portfolio composition of the government be? It should not remain static all times. The airline industry works well as a purely private affair. At the opposite end, rural roads, whose sparse traffic makes tolling unviable, have to be on the balance-sheet of the State. If the government did not own rural roads, they would not exist. Similarly, public health capital in our towns and cities will need to come from the public sector. Equally, preservation and improvement of forest cover will have to be a new priority for the public sector assets.

Take the example of steel. With near-zero tariffs, India is a globally competitive market for the metal. Indian firms export steel into the global market, which demonstrates there is no gap in technology. Indian companies are buying up global steel companies, which shows there is no gap in capital availability. Under these conditions, private ownership works best.

Private ownership is clearly desirable in regulated industries, ranging from finance to infrastructure, where a government agency performs the function of regulation and multiple competing firms are located in the private sector. Here, the simple and clean solution - government as the umpire and the private sector as the players is what works best. In many of these industries, we have a legacy of government ownership, where productivity tends to be lower, fear of bankruptcy is absent, and the risk of asking for money from the tax payer is ever present. There is also the conflict of interest between government as an owner and as the regulator. The formulation and implementation of competition policy will be more vigorous and fair if government companies are out of action. [2014 - II]

87. According to the passage, what is/are the reason/reasons for saying that the time has come to review the role of public sector ?

1. Now public sector has lost its relevance in the industrialization process.
2. Public sector does not perform satisfactorily.
3. Entrepreneurship in private sector is expanding.
4. Effective competition policies are available now.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct in the given context ?

- (a) 1 and 3 only (b) 2 only
(c) 2, 3 and 4 only (d) 1, 2, 3 and 4

88. According to the passage, rural roads should be in the domain of public sector only. Why ?

- (a) Rural development work is the domain of government only.
- (b) Private sector cannot have monetary gains in this.
- (c) Government takes money from tax payers and hence it is the responsibility of government only.
- (d) Private sector need not have any social responsibility.

89. The portfolio composition of the government refers to

- (a) Public sector assets quality.
- (b) Investment in liquid assets.
- (c) Mix of government investment in different industrial sectors.
- (d) Buying Return on Investment yielding capital assets.

90. The author prefers government as the umpire and private sector as players because

- (a) Government prescribes norms for a fair play by the private sector.
- (b) Government is the ultimate in policy formulation.
- (c) Government has no control over private sector players.
- (d) None of the above statements is correct in this context.

PASSAGE

Climate change poses potentially devastating effects on India's agriculture. While the overall parameters of climate change are increasingly accepted - a 1°C average temperature increase over the next 30 years, sea level rise of less than 10 cm in the same period, and regional monsoon variations and corresponding droughts - the impacts in India are likely to be quite site and crop specific. Some crops may respond favourably to the changing conditions, others may not. This emphasizes the need to promote agricultural research and create maximum flexibility in the system to permit adaptations.

The key ingredient for "drought proofing" is the managed recharge of aquifers. To ensure continued yields of important staple crops (e.g. wheat), it may also be necessary to shift the locations where these crops are grown, in response to temperature changes as well as to water availability. The latter will be a key factor in making long term investment decisions.

For example, water runoff from the Himalayas is predicted to increase over the next 30 years as glaciers melt, but then decline substantially thereafter. It will be critical to provide incentives to plan for these large-scale shifts in agro-ecological conditions.

India needs to make long term investment in research and development in agriculture. India is likely to experience changed weather patterns in future. [2014 - II]

91. Consider the following statements :

Climate change may force the shifting of locations of the existing crops due to

1. melting of glaciers.
2. water availability and temperature suitability at other locations.
3. poor productivity of crops.
4. wider adaptability of crop plants.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

- (a) 1,2 and 3 (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 4 only (d) 1,2, 3 and 4

92. According to the passage, why is it important to promote agricultural research in India?

- (a) To predict variations in monsoon patterns and to manage water resources
(b) To make long term investment decisions for economic growth
(c) To facilitate wider adaptability of crops
(d) To predict drought conditions and to recharge aquifers

PASSAGE

It is essential that we mitigate the emissions of greenhouse gases and thus avoid some of the worst impacts of climate change that would take place in coming years and decades. Mitigation would require a major shift in the way we produce and consume energy. A shift away from overwhelming dependence on fossil fuels is now long overdue, but unfortunately, technological development has been slow and inadequate largely because government policies have not promoted investments in research and development, myopically as a result of relatively low prices of oil. It is now, therefore, imperative for a country like India treating the opportunity of harnessing renewable energy on a large scale as a national imperative. This country is extremely well endowed with solar, wind and biomass sources of energy. Where we have lagged, unfortunately, is in our ability to develop and to create technological solutions for harnessing these resources.

One particular trajectory for carrying out stringent mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions assessed by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) clearly shows the need for ensuring that global emissions of greenhouse gases peak no later than 2015 and reduce rapidly thereafter. The cost associated with such a trajectory is truly modest and would amount, in the estimation of IPCC, to not more than 3 percent of the global GDP in 2030. In other words, the level of prosperity that the world would have reached without mitigation would at worst be postponed by a few months or a year at the most. This is clearly not a very high price to pay for protecting hundreds of millions of people from the worst risks associated with climate change. Any such effort, however, would require lifestyles to change appropriately

also. Mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions is not a mere technological fix, and clearly requires changes in lifestyles and transformation of a country's economic structure, whereby effective reduction in emissions is brought about, such as through the consumption of much lower quantities of animal protein. The Food and Agriculture

Organization (FAO) has determined that the emissions from the livestock sector amount to 18 percent of the total. The reduction of emissions from this source is entirely in the hands of human beings, who have never questioned the impacts that their dietary habits of consuming more and more animal protein are bringing about. Mitigation overall has huge co-benefits, such as lower air pollution and health benefits, higher energy security and greater employment. [2014 - II]

93. According to the passage, which of the ' following would help in the mitigation of greenhouse gases ?

1. Reducing the consumption of meat
2. Rapid economic liberalization
3. Reducing the consumerism
4. Modern management practices of livestock

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1,2 and 3 (b) 2, 3 and 4
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 2 and 4 only

94. Why do we continue to depend on the fossil fuels heavily?

1. Inadequate technological development
2. Inadequate funds for research and development
3. Inadequate availability of alternative sources of energy

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1,2 and 3

95. According to the passage, how does the mitigation of greenhouse gases help us ?

1. Reduces expenditure on public health
2. Reduces dependence on livestock
3. Reduces energy requirements
4. Reduces rate of global climate change

Select the correct answer using the code given below :

- (a) 1,2 and 3 (b) 1, 3 and 4
(c) 2, 3 and 4 (d) 1 and 4 only

96. What is the *essential* message of the passage ?

- (a) We continue to depend on fossil fuels heavily
(b) Mitigation of the greenhouse gases is imperative
(c) We must invest in research and development
(d) People must change their lifestyle

PASSAGE

In recent times, India has grown fast not only compared to its own past but also in comparison with other nations. But there cannot be any room for complacency because it is possible for the Indian economy to develop even faster and also to spread the benefits of this growth more widely than has been done thus far. Before going into details of the kinds of micro-structural changes that we need to conceptualize and then proceed to implement, it is

worthwhile elaborating on the idea of inclusive growth that constitutes the defining concept behind this Government's various economic policies and decisions. A nation interested in inclusive growth views the same growth differently depending on whether the gains of the growth are heaped primarily on a small segment or shared widely by the population. The latter is cause for celebration but not the former. In other words, growth must not be treated as an end in itself but as an instrument for spreading prosperity to all. India's own past experience and the experience of other nations suggests that growth is necessary for eradicating poverty but it is not a sufficient condition. In other words, policies for promoting growth need to be complemented with policies to ensure that more and more people join in the growth process and, further, that there are mechanisms in place to redistribute some of the gains to those who are unable to partake in the market process and, hence, get left behind.

A simple way of giving this idea of inclusive growth a sharper form is to measure a nation's progress in terms of the progress of its poorest segment, for instance the bottom 20 per cent of the population. One could measure the per capita income of the bottom quintile of the population and also calculate the growth rate of income; and evaluate our economic success in terms of these measures that pertain to the poorest segment. This approach is attractive because it does not ignore growth like some of the older heterodox criteria did. It simply looks at the growth of income of the poorest sections of the population. It also ensures that those who are outside of the bottom quintile do not get ignored. If that were done, then those people would in all likelihood drop down into the bottom quintile and so would automatically become a direct target of our policies. Hence the criterion being suggested here is a statistical summing up of the idea of inclusive growth, which, in turn, leads to two corollaries : to wish that India must strive to achieve high growth and that we must work to ensure that the weakest segments benefit from the growth. [2014 - II]

97. The author's central focus is on.

- applauding India's economic growth not only against its own past performance, but against other nations.
- emphasizing the need for economic growth which is the sole determinant of a country's prosperity.
- emphasizing inclusive growth where gains of growth are shared widely by the population.
- emphasizing high growth.

98. The author supports policies which will help

- develop economic growth.
- better distribution of incomes irrespective of rate of growth.
- develop economic growth and redistribute economic gains to those getting left behind.
- put an emphasis on the development of the poorest segments of society.

99. Consider the following statements :

According to the author, India's economy has grown but there is no room for complacency as

- growth eradicates poverty.
- growth has resulted in prosperity for all.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

PASSAGE

It is easy for the government to control State-owned companies through nods and winks. So what really needs to be done as a first step is to put petrol pricing on a transparent formula - if the price of crude is x and the exchange rate y , then every month or fortnight, the government announces a maximum price of petrol, which anybody can work out from the x and the y . The rule has to be worked out to make sure that the oil-marketing companies can, in general, cover their costs. This will mean that if one company can innovate and cut costs, it will make greater profits. Hence, firms will be more prone to innovate and be efficient under this system. Once the rule is announced, there should be no interference by the government. If this is done for a while, private companies will re-enter this market. And once a sufficient number of them are in the fray, we can remove the rule-based pricing and leave it truly to the market (subject to, of course, the usual regulations of anti-trust and other competition laws).

[2014 - II]

100. Consider the following statements :

According to the passage, an oil company can make greater profits, if a transparent formula for petrol pricing is announced every fortnight or month, by

- promoting its sales.
- undertaking innovation.
- cutting costs.
- selling its equity shares at higher prices.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- 1 only
- 2 and 3
- 3 and 4
- 1, 2 and 4

101. Consider the following statements :

According to the passage, private oil companies re-enter the oil producing market if

- a transparent rule-based petrol pricing exists.
- there is no government interference in the oil producing market.
- subsidies are given by the government
- regulations of anti-trust are removed.

Which of the statements given above are correct ?

- 1 and 2
- 2 and 3
- 3 and 4
- 2 and 4

PASSAGE

The Himalayan ecosystem is highly vulnerable to damage, both due to geological reasons and on account of the stress caused by increased pressure of population, exploitation of natural resources and other related challenges. These aspects may be exacerbated due to the impact of climate change. It is possible that climate change may adversely

impact the Himalayan ecosystem through increased temperature, altered precipitation patterns, episodes of drought and biotic influences. This would not only impact the very sustenance of the indigenous communities in uplands but also the life of downstream dwellers across the country and beyond. Therefore, there is an urgent need for giving special attention to sustain the Himalayan ecosystem. This would require conscious efforts for conserving all the representative systems. Further, it needs to be emphasized that the endemics with restricted distribution, and most often with specialized habitat requirements, are among the most vulnerable elements. In this respect the Himalayan biodiversity hotspot, with rich endemic diversity, is vulnerable to climate change. The threats include possible loss of genetic resources and species, habitats and concomitantly a decrease in ecosystem services. Therefore, conservation of endemic elements in representative ecosystems/habitats assumes a great significance while drawing conservation plans for the region.

Towards achieving the above, we will have to shift toward contemporary conservation approaches, which include a paradigm of landscape level interconnectivity between protected area systems. The concept advocates a shift from the species-habitat focus to an inclusive focus on expanding the biogeographic range so that natural adjustments to climate change can proceed without being restrictive. [2014 - II]

102. Consider the following statements :

According to the passage, the adverse impact of climate change on an ecosystem can be a

1. permanent disappearance of some of its flora and fauna.
2. permanent disappearance of ecosystem itself.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct ?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

103. Which one of the following statements best implies the need to shift toward contemporary conservation approach?

- (a) Exploitation of natural resources causes a stress on the Himalayan ecosystem.
- (b) Climate change alters precipitation patterns, causes episodes of drought and biotic interference.
- (c) The rich biodiversity, including endemic diversity, makes the Himalayan region a biodiversity hotspot.
- (d) The Himalayan biogeographic region should be enabled to adapt to climate change smoothly.

104. What is the most important message conveyed by the passage ?

- (a) Endemism is a characteristic feature of Himalayan region.
- (b) Conservation efforts should emphasize on biogeographic ranges rather than on some species or habitats.
- (c) Climate change has adverse impact on the Himalayan ecosystem.

- (d) Without Himalayan ecosystem, the life of the communities of uplands and downstreams will have no sustenance.

105. With reference to the passage, the following assumptions have been made :

1. To maintain natural ecosystems, exploitation of natural resources should be completely avoided.
2. Not only anthropogenic but also natural reasons can adversely affect ecosystems.
3. Loss of endemic diversity leads to the extinction of ecosystems.

Which of the above assumptions is/are correct ?

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 only
- (c) 2 and 3 (d) 3 only

PASSAGE

It is often forgotten that globalization is not only about policies on international economic relationships and transactions, but has equally to do with domestic policies of a nation. Policy changes necessitated by meeting the internationally set conditions (by WTO etc.) of free trade and investment flows obviously affect domestic producers and investors. But the basic philosophy underlying globalization emphasizes absolute freedom to markets to determine prices and production and distribution patterns, and view government interventions as processes that create distortions and bring in inefficiency. Thus, public enterprises have to be privatized through disinvestments and sales; sectors and activities hitherto reserved for the public sector have to be opened to the private sector. This logic extends to the social services like education and health. Any restrictions on the adjustments in workforce by way of retrenchment of workers should also be removed and exit should be made easier by removing any restrictions on closures. Employment and wages should be governed by free play of market forces, as any measure to regulate them can discourage investment and also create inefficiency in production. Above all, in line with the overall philosophy of reduction in the role of the State, fiscal reforms should be undertaken to have generally low levels of taxation and government expenditure should be kept to the minimum to abide by the principle of fiscal prudence. All these are policy actions on the domestic front and are not directly related to the core items of the globalization agenda, namely free international flow of goods and finance. [2014 - II]

106. According to the passage, under the globalization, government interventions are viewed as processes leading to

- (a) distortions and inefficiency in the economy.
- (b) optimum use of resources.
- (c) more profitability to industries.
- (d) free play of market forces with regard to industries.

107. According to the passage, the basic philosophy of globalization is to

- (a) give absolute freedom to producers to determine prices and production.

- (b) give freedom to producers to evolve distribution patterns.
 (c) give absolute freedom to markets to determine prices, production and employment.
 (d) give freedom to producers to import and export.
108. According to the passage, which of the following is/are necessary for ensuring globalization ?
1. Privatization of public enterprises
 2. Expansionary policy of public expenditure
 3. Free play of market forces to determine wages and employment
 4. Privatization of social services like education and health
- Select the correct answer using the code given below :
- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
 (c) 1, 3 and 4 (d) 2, 3 and 4
109. According to the passage, in the process of globalization the State should have
- (a) expanding role. (b) reducing role.
 (c) statutory role. (d) none of the above roles.

PASSAGE

The richer States have a responsibility to cut down carbon emissions and promote clean energy investments. These are the States that got electricity, grew faster and now have high per capita income, making them capable of sharing India's burden of becoming eco-friendly. Delhi, for example, can help by generating its own clean electricity using solar rooftop panels or even help poor States finance their clean energy projects. It is no secret that State Electricity Boards, which control 95% of the distribution network, are neck-deep in losses. These losses further discourage State utilities from adopting renewable energy as it is more expensive than fossil fuels. [2015 - II]

110. Which among the following is the most logical and rational assumption that can be made from the above passage?
- (a) The richer States must lead in the production and adoption of renewable energy.
 (b) The poor States always have to depend on rich States for electricity.
 (c) The State Electricity Boards can improve their finances by undertaking clean energy projects.
 (d) The high economic disparity between the rich and poor States is the major cause of high carbon emissions in India.

PASSAGE

Set against a rural backdrop, 'Stench of kerosene' is the story of a couple, Guleri and Manak, who have been happily married for several years but do not have a child. Manak's mother is desperate to have a grandchild to carry on the family name. Hence, she gets Manak remarried in Guleri's absence. Manak, who acts as a reluctant but passive spectator, is meanwhile, informed by a friend that Guleri, on hearing about her husband's second marriage, poured kerosene on her clothes and set fire to them. Manak is

heartbroken and begins to live as if he were a dead man. When his second wife delivers a son, Manak stares at the child for a long time and blurts out, "Take him away ! He stinks of kerosene." [2015 - II]

111. This is a sensitive issue-based story which tries to sensitise the readers about
- (a) Male chauvinism and infidelity
 (b) Love and betrayal
 (c) Lack of legal safeguards for women
 (d) Influence of patriarchal mindset

PASSAGE

The ultimate aim of government is not to rule or control by fear, nor to demand obedience, but conversely, to free every man from fear, that, he may live in all possible security. In other words, to strengthen his natural right to exist and work without injury to himself or others. The object of government is not to change men from rational beings into beasts or puppets. It should enable them to develop their minds and bodies in security, and to employ their reason unshackled. [2015 - II]

112. Which among the following is the most logical and rational inference that can be made from the above passage?
- (a) The true aim of government is to secure the citizens their social and political freedom.
 (b) The primary concern of government is to provide absolute social security to all its citizens.
 (c) The best government is the one that allows the citizens to enjoy absolute liberty in all matters of life.
 (d) The best government is the one that provides absolute physical security to the people of the country

PASSAGE

Our municipal corporations are understaffed. The issue of skills and competencies of the staff poses an even greater challenge. Urban services delivery and infrastructure are complex to plan and execute.

They require a high degree of specialization and professionalism. The current framework within which municipal employees, including senior management, are recruited does not adequately factor in the technical and managerial competencies required. Cadre and recruitment rules only specify the bare minimum in academic qualifications. There is no mention of managerial or technical competencies, or of relevant work experience. This is the case with most municipal corporations. They also suffer from weak organisation design and structure.

[2015 - II]

113. Which among the following is the most logical and rational assumption that can be made from the above passage?
- (a) The task of providing urban services is a complex issue which requires the organisational expansion of municipal bodies all over the country,

- (b) Our cities can provide better quality of life if our local government bodies have adequate staff with required skills and competencies.
- (c) Lack of skilled staff is due to the absence of institutions which offer the requisite skills in city management.
- (d) Our country is not taking advantage of the demographic dividend to manage the problems associated with rapid urbanization

PASSAGE

Flamingos in large flocks in the wild are social extremely loyal. They perform group mating dances. Parents are very fond of their chicks, gathering them into crèches for protection while both males and females fly off to search for food. [2015 - II]

114. Which among the following is the most logical corollary to the above passage?
- (a) Mass nesting in all species of birds is essential to ensure complete survival of their off spring.
 - (b) Only birds have the capacity to develop social behaviour and thus can do mass nesting to raise their chicks in safety.
 - (c) Social behaviour in some species of birds increases the odds of survival in an unsafe world.
 - (d) All species of birds set up creches for their chicks to teach them social behaviour and loyalty.

PASSAGE

Vast numbers of Indian citizens without bank accounts live in rural areas, are financially and functionally illiterate, and have little experience with technology. A research study was conducted in a particular area in which electronic wage payments in Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) are meant to go directly to the poor. It was observed that recipients often assume that the village leader needs to mediate the process, as was the case under the previous paper-based system. Among households under this research study area who claimed to have at least one bank account, over a third reported still receiving MGNREGS wages in cash directly from a village leader. [2015 - II]

115. What is the most logical, rational and crucial message that is implied in the above passage?
- (a) MGNREGS should be extended only to those who have a bank account.
 - (b) The paper-based system of payments is more efficient than electronic payment in the present scenario.
 - (c) The goal of electronic wage payments was not to eliminate mediation by village leaders.
 - (d) It is essential to provide financial literacy to the rural poor.

PASSAGE

Individuals, groups and leaders who promote human development operate under strong institutional, structural

and political constraints that affect policy options. But experience suggests broad principles for shaping an appropriate agenda for human development. One important finding from several decades of human development experience is that focusing exclusively on economic growth is problematic. While we have good knowledge about how to advance health and education, the causes of growth are much less certain and growth is often elusive. Further, an unbalanced emphasis on growth is often associated with negative environmental consequences and adverse distributional effects. The experience of China, with its impressive growth record, reflects these broader concerns and underlines the importance of balanced approaches that emphasize investments in the non-income aspects of human development. [2015 - II]

116. With reference to the above passage, consider the following statements:

1. In developing countries, a strong institutional framework is the only requirement for human development and policy options
2. Human development and economic growth are not always positively inter-related.
3. Focusing only on human development should be the goal of economic growth

Which of the above statements is/are correct ?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 and 3 only
- (c) 2 only
- (d) 1,2 and 3

117. With reference to the above passage, the following assumptions have been made:

1. Higher economic growth is essential to ensure reduction in economic disparity.
2. Environmental degradation is sometimes a consequence of economic growth

Which of the above is/are valid assumption/assumptions?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

PASSAGE

Human history abounds in claims and theories confining the right of governing to a few select citizens. Exclusion of the many is justified on the ground that human beings may be rightfully segregated for the good of society and viability of the political process. [2015 - II]

118. Which one of the following statements is least essential as a part of the argument in the above passage?

- (a) Man seeks control over external things affecting him.
- (b) In society, there are 'super' and 'sub' human beings.
- (c) Exceptions to universal citizen participation are conducive to systemic efficacy.
- (d) Governing implies recognition of disparities in individual capacities.

PASSAGE

By 2050, the Earth's population will likely have swelled from seven to nine billion people. To fill all those stomachs - while accounting for shifting consumption patterns, climate change, and a finite amount of arable land and potable water - some experts say food production will have to double. How can we make the numbers add up? Experts say higher yielding crop varieties and more efficient farming methods will be crucial. So will waste reduction. Experts urge cities to reclaim nutrients and water from waste streams and preserve farmland. Poor countries, they say, can improve crop storage and packaging and rich nations could cut back on resource-intensive foods like meat.

[2015 - III]

119. Which one of the following statements best sums up the above passage?
- The population of the world is growing very fast.
 - Food security is a perennial problem only in developing countries.
 - The world does not have enough resources to meet the impending food scarcity.
 - Food security is increasingly a collective challenge.

PASSAGE

Many people in India feel that if we cut our defence expenditure on weapon-building, we can create a climate of peace with our neighbours, subsequently reducing the conflict or creating a no-war situation. People who proclaim such ideas are either the victims of war or the propagators of false argument.

[2015 - III]

120. With reference to the above passage, which of the following is the most valid assumption?
- Building of weapons systems by us has instigated our neighbours to wage wars against us.
 - The greater spending on weapon-building by us would lessen the possibility of armed conflict with our neighbours.
 - It is necessary to have state of the art weapons systems for national security.
 - Many people in India believe that we are wasting our resources on weapon-building.

PASSAGE

India accounts for nearly a fifth of the world's child deaths. In terms of numbers, it is the highest in the world - nearly 16 lakhs every year. Of these, more than half die in the first month of life. Officials believe that the reason for this is the absence of steps to propagate basic health practices relating to breast feeding and immunisation. Also the large reproductive population of 2.6 crore remains bereft of care during the critical phases of pregnancy and post-delivery. Added to this is the prevalence of child marriages, anaemia among young women and lack of focus on adolescent sanitation, all of which impact child death rates.

[2015 - III]

121. Which is the critical inference that can be made from the above passage?

- A lot of Indians are illiterate and hence do not recognize the value of basic health practices.
- India has a very huge population and the government alone cannot manage public health services.
- Universalization and integration of maternal health and child health services can effectively address the problem.
- The nutrition of women in child bearing age does not affect child mortality rate.

PASSAGE

Foods travel more than the people who eat them. Grocery stores and supermarkets are loaded with preserved and processed foods. This, however, often leads to environmental threats, such as pollution generated by long distance food transportation and wastage of food during processing and transportation, destruction of rain forests, reduced nutritional content, increased demand for preservation and packaging. Food insecurity also increases as the produce comes from regions that are not feeding their own population properly.

[2015 - III]

122. With reference to the above passage, which of the following statements is/are true?
- Consuming regionally grown food and not depending on long travelled food is a part of eco-friendly behaviour.
 - Food processing industry puts a burden on our natural resources.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- 1 only
- 2 only
- Both 1 and 2
- Neither 1 nor 2

PASSAGE

I must say that, beyond occasionally exposing me to laughter, my constitutional shyness has been of no disadvantage whatever. In fact I can see that, on the contrary, it has been all to my advantage. My hesitancy in speech, which was once an annoyance, is now a pleasure. Its greatest benefit has been that it has taught me the economy of words. I have naturally formed the habit of restraining my thoughts. And I can now give myself the certificate that a thoughtless word hardly ever escapes my tongue or pen. I do not recollect ever having had to regret anything in my speech or writing. I have thus been spared many a mishap and waste of time. Experience has taught me that silence is part of the spiritual discipline of a votary of truth. Proneness to exaggerate, to suppress or modify the truth, wittingly or unwittingly, is a natural weakness of man, and silence is necessary in order to surmount it. A man of few words will rarely be thoughtless in his speech; he will measure every word. We find so many people impatient to talk. There is no chairman of a meeting who is not pestered with notes for permission to speak. And whenever the permission is given the speaker generally

exceeds the time-limit, asks for more time, and keeps on talking without permission. All this talking can hardly be said to be of any benefit to the world. It is so much waste of time. My shyness has been in reality my shield and buckler. It has allowed me to grow. It has helped me in my discernment of truth. [2015 - II]

123. The author says that a thoughtless word hardly ever escapes his tongue or pen. Which one of the following is not a valid reason for this?
- He has no intention to waste his time.
 - He believes in the economy of words.
 - He believes in restraining his thoughts.
 - He has hesitancy in his speech.
124. The most appropriate reason for the author to be spared many a mishap is that
- he hardly utters or writes a thoughtless word.
 - he is a man of immense patience.
 - he believes that he is a spiritual person.
 - he is a votary of truth.
125. For the author, silence is necessary in order to surmount
- constitutional shyness.
 - hesitancy in speech.
 - suppression of thoughts.
 - tendency to overstate.

PASSAGE

India has suffered from persistent high inflation. Increase in administered prices, demand and supply imbalances, imported inflation aggravated by rupee depreciation, and speculation - have combined to keep high inflation going. If there is an element common to all of them, it is that many of them are the outcomes of economic reforms. India's vulnerability to the effects of changes in international prices has increased with trade liberalisation. The effort to reduce subsidies has resulted in a continuous increase in the prices of commodities that are administered. [2015 - II]

126. What is the most logical, rational and crucial message that is implied in the above passage?
- Under the present circumstances, India should completely avoid all trade liberalisation policies and all subsidies.
 - Due to its peculiar socio-economic situation, India is not yet ready for trade liberalisation process.
 - There is no solution in sight for the problems of continuing poverty and inflation in India in the near future.
 - Economic reforms can often create a high inflation economy.

PASSAGE

No Right is absolute, exclusive or inviolable. The Right of personal property, similarly, has to be perceived in the larger context of its assumed legitimacy. The Right of personal property should unite the principle of liberty with that of equality, and both with the principle of cooperation. [2015 - II]

127. In the light of the argument in the above passage, which one of the following statements is the most convincing explanation?
- The Right of personal property is a Natural Right duly supported by statutes and scriptures.
 - Personal property is a theft and an instrument of exploitation. The Right of personal property is therefore violative of economic justice.
 - The Right of personal property is violative of distributive justice and negates the principle of cooperation.
 - The comprehensive idea of economic justice demands that the Right of each person to acquisition of property has to be reconciled with that of others.

PASSAGE

The conflict between man and State is as old as State history. Although attempts have been made for centuries to bring about a proper adjustment between the competing claims of State and the individual, the solution seems to be 'still far off. This is primarily because of the dynamic nature of human society where old values and ideas constantly yield place to new ones. It is obvious that if individuals are allowed to have absolute freedom of speech and action, the result would be chaos, ruin and anarchy. [2015 - II]

128. The author's viewpoint can be best summed up in which of the following statements?
- The conflict between the claims of State and individual remains unresolved.
 - Anarchy and chaos are the obvious results of democratic traditions.
 - Old values, ideas and traditions persist despite the dynamic nature of human society.
 - Constitutional guarantee of freedom of speech is not in the interest of society.

PASSAGE

Climate change is a complex policy issue with major implications in terms of finance. All actions to address climate change ultimately involve costs. Funding is vital for countries like India to design and implement adaptation and mitigation plans and projects. Lack of funding is a large impediment to implementing adaptation plans. The scale and magnitude of the financial support required by developing countries to enhance their domestic mitigation and adaptation actions are a matter of intense debate in the multilateral negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). The Convention squarely puts the responsibility for provision of financial support on the developed countries, taking into account their contribution to the stock of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere. Given the magnitude of the task and the funds required, domestic finances are likely to fall short of the current and projected needs of the developing countries. Global funding through the multilateral mechanism of the Convention will enhance their domestic capacity to finance the mitigation efforts. [2015 - II]

129. According to the passage, which of the following is/are a matter of intense debate in the multilateral negotiations under UNFCCC regarding the role of developing countries in climate change?

1. The scale and size of required financial support.
2. The crop loss due to climate change in the developing countries.
3. To enhance the mitigation and adaptation actions in the developing countries.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 and 3 only
(c) 1 and 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

130. In this passage, the Convention puts the responsibility for the provision of financial support on the developed countries because of

1. their higher level of per capita incomes.
2. their large quantum of GDP.
3. their large contribution to the stock of GRGs in the atmosphere.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 1 and 2 only
(c) 3 only (d) 1, 2 and 3

131. With regards to developing countries, it can be inferred from the passage that climate change is likely to have implications on their

1. domestic finances.
2. capacity for multilateral trade.

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only
(c) Both 1 and 2 (d) Neither 1 nor 2

132. Which one of the following is essentially discussed in the passage?

- (a) Conflict between developed and developing countries regarding support for mitigation
- (b) Occurrence of climate change due to excessive exploitation of natural resources by the developed countries
- (c) Lack of political will on the part of all the countries to implement adaptation plans.
- (d) Governance problems of developing countries as a result of climate change

PASSAGE

Climate change is already making many people hungry all over the world, by disrupting crop yields and pushing up prices. And it is not just food but nutrients that are becoming scarcer as the climate changes. It is the poorest communities that will suffer the worst effects of climate change, including increased hunger and malnutrition as crop production and livelihoods are threatened. On the other hand, poverty is a driver of climate change, as desperate communities resort to unsustainable use of resources to meet current needs. [2015 - III]

133. Which among the following is the most logical corollary to the above passage?

- (a) Government should allocate more funds to poverty alleviation programmes and increase food subsidies to the poor communities.

- (b) Poverty and climate impacts reinforce each other and therefore we have to re-imagine our food systems.
- (c) All the countries of the world must unite in fighting poverty malnutrition and treat poverty as a global problem.
- (d) We must stop unsustainable agricultural practices immediately and control food prices.

PASSAGE

The Global Financial Stability Report finds that the share of portfolio investments from advanced economies in the total debt and equity investments in emerging economies has doubled in the past decade to 12 percent. The phenomenon has implications for Indian policy makers as foreign portfolio investments in the debt and equity markets have been on the rise. The phenomenon is also flagged as a threat that could compromise global financial stability in a chain reaction, in the event of United States Federal Reserve's imminent reversal of its "Quantitative Easing" policy. [2015 - II]

134. Which among the following is the most rational and critical inference that can be made from the above passage?

- (a) Foreign portfolio investments are not good for emerging economies.
- (b) Advanced economies undermine the global financial stability.
- (c) India should desist from accepting foreign portfolio investments in the future.
- (d) Emerging economies are at a risk of shock from advanced economies.

PASSAGE

Open defecation is disastrous when practised in very densely populated areas, where it is impossible to keep away human faeces from crops, wells, food and children's hands. Groundwater is also contaminated by open defecation. Many ingested germs and worms spread diseases. They prevent the body from absorbing calories and nutrients. Nearly one-half of India's children remain malnourished. Lakhs of them die from preventable conditions. Diarrhoea leaves Indians' bodies smaller on average than those of people in some poorer countries where people eat fewer calories. Underweight mothers produce stunted babies prone to sickness who may fail to develop their full cognitive potential. The germs released into environment harm rich and poor alike, even those who use latrines. [2015 - III]

135. Which among the following is the most critical inference that can be made from the above passage?

- (a) The Central and State governments in India do not have enough resources to afford a latrine for each household.
- (b) Open defecation is the most important public health problem of India.

- (c) Open defecation reduces the human capital of India's workforce.
- (d) Open defecation is a public health problem in all developing countries.

PASSAGE

We generally talk about democracy but when it comes to any particular thing, we prefer a belonging to our caste or community or religion. So long as we have this kind of temptation, our democracy will remain a phoney kind of democracy. We must be in a position to respect a man as a man and to extend opportunities for development to those who deserve them and not to those who happen to belong to our community or race. This fact of favouritism has been responsible for much discontent and ill-will in our country.

[2015 - II]

136. Which one of the following statements best sums up the above passage?
- (a) Our country has a lot of diversity with its many castes, communities and religions.
 - (b) True democracy could be established by providing equal opportunities to all.
 - (c) So far none of us have actually understood the meaning of democracy.
 - (d) It will never be possible for us to establish truly democratic governance in our country.

PASSAGE

The existence/establishment of formal financial institutions that offer safe, reliable and alternative financial instruments is fundamental in mobilising savings. To save, individuals need access to safe and reliable financial institutions, such as banks, and to appropriate financial instruments and reasonable financial incentives. Such access is not always available to all people in developing countries like India and more so, in rural areas. Savings help poor households manage volatility in cash flow, smoothen consumption, and build working capital. Poor households without access to a formal savings mechanism encourage immediate spending temptations. [2015 - II]

137. With reference to the above passage, consider the following statements:
1. Indian financial institutions do not offer any financial instruments to rural households to mobilise their savings.

2. Poor households tend to spend their earnings/savings due to lack of access to appropriate financial instruments.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only.
- (c) Both 1 and 2
- (d) Neither 1 nor 2

138. What is the crucial message conveyed in the passage?
- (a) Establish more banks.
 - (b) Increase the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate
 - (c) Increase the interest rate of bank deposits
 - (d) Promote financial inclusion

PASSAGE

Governments may have to take steps which would otherwise be an infringement on the Fundamental Rights of individuals, such as acquiring a person's land against his will, or refusing permission for putting up a building, but the larger public interest for which these are done must be authorized by the people (Parliament). Discretionary powers to the administration can be done away with. It is becoming more and more difficult to keep this power within limits as the government has many number of tasks to perform. Where discretion has to be used, there must be rules and safeguards to prevent misuse of that power. Systems have to be devised which minimise, if not prevent, the abuse of discretionary power. Government work must be conducted within a framework of recognised rules and principles, and decisions should be similar and predictable.

[2015 - II]

139. Which among the following is the most logical assumption that can be made from the above passage?
- (a) Government should always be given wide discretionary power in all matters of administration.
 - (b) The supremacy of rules and safeguards should prevail as opposed to the influence of exclusive discretion of authority.
 - (c) Parliamentary democracy is possible only if the Government has wider discretionary power.
 - (d) None of the above statements is a logical assumption that can be made from this passage.

HINTS & SOLUTIONS

1. (a) Statement 1 is correct as passage clearly states "In all cases, it is the ... behalf of the child."
2. (b) Statement 1 is not correct as not stated by the passage. Statements 1 and 2 are correct as stated in passage "This is ... to the education of girls." Statement 4 is correct as the faulty education system.
3. (a) Statement 1 is correct as stated in the passage "one hardly needs denied or violated." Statement 2 is irrelevant as developed countries have not been mentioned in the passage.
4. (c) Statement (c) is correct as the passage clearly states that " This may be painfully ...if at all."
5. (a) Since girl's education is the key message, so, prejudice against the intellectual potential of girls.
6. (a) Statement 3 is eliminated as the government should side line with minimal interference. Statement 4 is eliminated as change in size of government.
7. (d) Strategy of inclusive growth can be effected by focusing on delivery of the basic services to the deprived section of the society. It is clearly stated in the passage "The aim must be state can realistically deliver."
8. (b) According to given passage only 4 and 5 are that constitutes.
9. (b) State does not promote inclusive growth as stated in 2nd para " the aim ... realistically deliver."
10. (d) Options (a), (b) and (c) cannot be the message. The only sentence that talks of a message is option (d) which is the main idea of the passage.
11. (c) 1 is eliminated as " art form" is not mentioned in the passage. Social inequalities are not accepted. Only 3 and 4 are mentioned.
12. (b) According to passage Instigation by external forces (social group get politically) and "urge for granting privileges and self respect to disparaged section of the society" are manifestations of social movements.
13. (c) Statement 1 is correct as stated in the passage "The forms of in a country". Statement 2 is correct as "phase of development active".
14. (c) Some participants in the race are girls (I - type)
All girl participants in the race are invited for coaching (A - type)
(I + A = I - type)
Thus, some participants in the race are invited for coaching
Hence, conclusions (a), (b) and (c) cannot be drawn from the above statements but conclusion (c) is the conversion of statement 1.
Hence, option (c) can be drawn.
15. (a) Only statements 1 and 2 are true as people who turn revolutionary are not 'other wordly' unless world shows the contradiction.
16. (c) Only assumptions 2 and 3 are valid as for achieving anything great one has to be free of worries of basic needs and should be mentally as well as physically free.
17. (a) The passage the matically centres on the condition as they cannot dream of freedom or aspire for any kind of opportunity.
18. (c) Option (c) is the correct answer as stated in the passage " Every civilization.....life"
19. (c) Option (c) is correct answer as the author shows that not only mussels are affected but other 28 species also disappeared.
20. (d) Neither 1 nor 2 is correct as the dominant species is the keystone species and that is sea star. The sea stars do not live exclusively on mussels as their removal resulted in the disappearance of 28 species more.
21. (c) Only 1 and 3 are correct statements as the 'sea stars' are the keystone species which influences both richness of communities and flow of energy.
22. (c) Assumption 1 is correct as disappearance of 28 species along with mussels. Assumption 3 is also correct according to the passage.
23. (c) with reference to the passage, only 3 and 5 are adverse effect as potable fresh water and bio-diversity are drastically affected.
24. (a) Statement 2 is not correct as the efforts are being taken. 3 is also not correct as the short term gain have resulted into long term degradation of other.
25. (c) Both statements are correct as ecosystem provide people with variety of goods and benefits, they have to be modified considering the population expansion. Secondly technology will always remain expensive and nature is above man.
26. (d) Statement 1 is correct as the writer talks of 'moral act that should be done by our own will'. Statement 4 is also correct as the personal thinking and in order to be moral one can defy convention.
27. (b) According to the writer moral action is neither mechanical nor with, clarity of purpose and religions action.
28. (b) Only statements 1 and 2 are correct as let himself be swept away means he does not hold his own ground.
29. (a) The passage clearly suggests that education is not instrumentalist in its deepest sense. But the opening sentence calls it to be functional, instrumental and utilitarian. Thus the instrumentalist view of education is the functional and utilitarian dimension in its purposes.
30. (c) The second part of the passage clearly states education is not a commodity but a process of expansion and conversion of the mind – the moral-intellectual development. Acquiring qualifications, upward mobility and social status are the basic utility values of education.

31. (c) Again the second part clearly states the answer. a, b & d are the utilitarian dimensions of education. But ultimately education leads to self-critical awareness and independence of thought.
32. (c) The sixth lines of the passage states, "one or few individuals may be usually resistant...". Hence, option (c) is correct.
33. (b) 1 is not correct because the passage does not talk about all the poor countries.
2 is not correct because the passage talks about the role of pesticides in sustainable agriculture especially in poor countries.
3 is correct as the 2nd para clearly illustrates Alabama leaf-worm developing resistance to aldrin, DDT, dieldrin, endrin, lindane and toxaphene.
34. (d) The widespread use of pesticides has not waned because the ratio of cost to benefit for the individual agricultural producer has remained in favour of pesticide use.
35. (b) Statement 1 finds in the paragraph 1. Statement 2 is mentioned in the paragraph which mentions peots may possess an enzyme that can detoxify the pesticide.
36. (c) 1 is not correct as organic farming is not mentioned in the passage. Further the passage justifies the cost benefit to developed countries like USA.
2 is correct. Because of this problem it becomes imperative to use pesticides.
3 is wrong as the social and health costs have to be ignored because of the frightening prospects of the epidemic diseases.
37. (d) The last paragraph states that sustainability depends on continually developing new pesticides. Option (b) states in last line of last paragraph that pesticides are more biodegrade.
Therefore, option (a) and (b) both imply.
38. (a) Only 1 makes sense. According to the 3rd paragraph second line, 'And some growth natural resources.' 2, 3 & 4 are irrelevant statements.
39. (a) Low carbon implies renewable source of energy which are low on carbon and can be used and recycled. Whole passage emphasis on use of renewable sources of energy.
40. (b) 1 is not correct as economic prosperity can raise incomes and foster better institutions but it cannot forster sustainable economic growth. 2 is correct. Generating adaptive technologies can lead to a sustainable growth as discussed in para 2. 3 is correct. As investing on research in adaptation will help us in better handling of the changing climate.
41. (d) Neither 1 nor 2 statement can inferred from the given passage.
42. (d) Statement 1 finds support is second paragraph: As historicism have explained, much of humankind's.....world.
Statement 2 mentioned in last paragraph in the form of soviet development plan which lead to ecological backlash.
Statement 3 also mentioned in the last paragraph.
- Hence, (d) is correct choice.
43. (b) The central theme of the passage is clear that adaptation and mitigation should be integrated with development strategies. The author is not against development but a sustainable development is what he is talking about.
44. (d) Option (a) is incorrect because the passage states that introduction of exotic species into geographical areas may increase biodiversity as well.
Option (b) is incorrect because it cannot say that introduction of exotic species by man into new areas have always and greatly altered the ecosystems.
Option (c) is incorrect because homogenization of local community population can also occur nationally.
45. (d) The first paragraph provides that human introduce exotic species to breed exotic species with local varieties (producing new agricultural products), to increase agricultural productivity (bringing pest under control) and for beautification and landscaping (recreational opportunities).
46. (b) The second paragraph provides that under natural conditions homogenization is prevented on account of natural barriers (ocean and mountain range).
47. (a) (a) This obviously the correct answer, because it is the most practical one. It is humanly possible to smuggle live organisms and to build highways.
(b) It is not easy nor practical to make ecosystems sensitive. So this option is ruled out.
(c) This option is also ruled out for the above said reason.
(d) It is very difficult and quite unnecessary to ensure new species do not have an impact on local species. So this option is also ruled out.
48. (c) Both the statements (1) and (2) are correct.
49. (b) The first paragraph in the passage conveys the message that the detractors of democracy are quite vocal about that fact that a number of non-democratic governments particularly in East Asia have successfully achieved economic development.
Options (a), (c) and (d) are automatically ruled out.
50. (d) The second and last paragraphs the fact that freedom and liberty are essential components of development.
51. (c) The "constitutive" connection between democracy and development is political freedom and democratic rights.
52. (a) The effect of FDI or Foreign Direct Investment should be to induce competition because this is ensured in most countries worldwide.
53. (b) (a) The first option of multinational companies getting accustomed to domestic laws is not mentioned at all. So, this is not the correct answer.
(b) Foreign companies may establish joint ventures with domestic or companies may get stronger as the parent companies merge overseas. Both options are mentioned in the paragraph. So, this is the correct answer.
(c) Since option (1) is included this is not the right answer.

- (d) Same as in (c). Moreover option (4) where foreign companies lower costs finds no mention in the paragraph.
54. (c) The message conveyed in the passage is that it is important to have a competition law in the country to ensure that both domestic and foreign firms have a level playing field.
55. (b) This is the first of the passage. Group farming helps remove poverty, increases agricultural productivity and secures the individual from exploitation. There is no mention of surplus production. So the other options are ruled out.
56. (c) The last lines of passage mentioned that "the Indian examples of women only groups farming offer potential benefiting women". Hence, (c) is correct choice.
57. (b) (a) There is compulsion on the transition economies to go in for group farming. Therefore, this is not the correct answer.
(b) The paragraph is all about the benefits of group approach to farming. This is the right answer.
(c) Both options correct included.
(d) Both cannot be negated.
58. (c) In the Western context "deepening of democracy" means the increased participation of the individual in the democratic process.
So, the other option (a), (b) and (d) are automatically negated.
59. (b) Community-Identity seems to be the governing force mentioned in seventh line. Therefore option (b) is correct choice.
60. (c) The involvement of communities in the democratic process in India has led to a silent revolution. The upper castes held power in earlier days. This power is getting slowly, silently and surely transferred to the subaltern groups
In the context of this argument option (a), (b) and (d) are ruled out.
61. (d) The passage revolves around the problem of habitat fragmentation which poses a serious threat to biodiversity conservation.
62. (a) When forest lands get fragmented human activities start on the edges of these fragmented lands which results in degradation of entire forests. Therefore continuity of the forested landscapes and corridors should be maintained.
63. (c) The discharge of agricultural slurry into watercourses should be restricted because watercourses do not contain the microorganisms that can decompose organic components of agricultural slurry. Secondly, the discharge may lead to the eutrophication of water bodies.
64. (b) Discharged agricultural slurry has been referred to as pollutant and decomposed slurry in soil as fertilizer.
65. (b) The pollutants are added to both the soil and water. Soil doesn't get polluted as microorganisms convert pollutant into fertilizer. Water is enriched with the nutrient which flows through streams, rivers and lakes. These nutrients are responsible for eutrophication which results in decomposition of algal blooms.
66. (b) Cultural eutrophication will result in loss of flora and fauna as eutrophication of water bodies do not allow oxygen to pass through it.
67. (c) The theme of the passage is based on how the agricultural slurry when discharged in water causes cultural eutrophication resulting ecosystem service loss. The magnitude of the problem has been so much that the scientists have noticed huge 'dead zones' near big water bodies which means destruction of aquatic life.
68. (b) Man's physical need is never going to cease as long as man is craving for it. Desire brings along miseries. If man doesn't realize this and keeps on doing what he is doing then no physical help can reduce his miseries. It is man's nature which is responsible for all the miseries. The only solution to this is man's spiritual growth and bringing change in his character.
69. (d) The author gives primary importance to spiritual growth in man in eradicating human misery.
70. (c) The democracies in the west have evolved over a period of time because of people's participation in the democratic process. The western democracies have institutionalized the various instrument of governance. As a result their democracies are far more robust than the newly formed democracies.
71. (d) Statement 1 is incorrect.
Statement 2 is also incorrect because it can be inferred from the first paragraph that sometimes western nations are trying to impose democracy on non western nations but it cannot be inferred that western countries are always trying to impose democracy on non western.
72. (a) Statement 1 is correct as it can be inferred from the information given in the passage that companies shall comply with all the laws of land.
73. (a) Good corporate influence have positive influence on the share price of the company as mentioned in last few lines of paragraph. Corporate governance is one of criteria for the foreign institutional investors when they decide to buy a company.
74. (c) Malnutrition occurs due to not eating adequate quantity of food. The knowledge of the food needs of younger children can curb this problem.
75. (b) Taking care of a young child is often left to an older sibling by working mothers. Public health authorities do not find a mention in the passage hence (a) is correct.
76. (c) Policy intervention can save the farmers from agricultural risk. Because Indian farmers are risk averse. So they design inputs and cropping patterns to reduce risk not to maximize their profit.
77. (b) Agricultural risks can be tackled with many strategies like crop insurance, price stabilization, development of varieties resistant to pests and diseases. So no single risk specific policy is sufficient to reduce it.
78. (b) According to the passage, weak global economic prospects and continuing uncertainties in the international markets as well as sovereign risk concerns, particular by in the Euro area have had their impact on the emerging market economies.

79. (c) The Indian financial market are affected by global changes mainly due to the contagion of Greece's sovereign debt problem spreading to India.
80. (d) Since the Indian financial system is bank dominated banks ability to withstand stress is critical to overall financial stability.
81. (a) With further globalization, consolidation, deregulation and diversification, risk and liquidity management assumes more importance in the Indian banking system in future.
82. (b) When Oxygen is shut from entering the decomposition doesn't take place completely. The Carcasses inside the sedimentary rocks get transformed into crude oil due to heat and pressure.
83. (c) The layers of Sedimentary rocks become thicker and heavier due to deposition and create pressure on the marine creatures under it, which in turn change the carcasses into crude oil.
84. (c) The apologists of the free market system believe in the ability of the market to self correct. Their discussions are generally about free market operations and forces, on the efficiency of such enterprises and their ability for self correction.
85. (c) Ideological bias means an opinion that is of a partial nature. Here the idea expressed in the passage is that an unregulated market is free and competent.
86. (c) It is clearly said that the arguments betray meaning give away a biased opinion. So statement (1) referring to the false ideology of capitalism is one of the options. It is also mentioned that a more honest analysis would reflect the resultant gross inequality. So statement (4) is also the correct option.
87. (c) According to the passage net profits are only 2.2% as far as the central public sector undertakings are concerned. So statement (2) is correct. The private sector has grown. There is a larger base with more educated and moneyed people around. Hence statement (3) is correct too from the point of view of the paragraph. The role of governmental institutions in encouraging competition among the private sector enterprises ensures the continuing growth of this sector.
88. (b) The rural roads should be in the domain of the public sector only because the sparse or the little traffic in these roads makes it impossible to make profits on the road tax or tolls as they are called.
89. (c) The government does invest in different industrial sectors. This is what the paragraph says. Indeed there is governmental investment in a variety of industries from airlines, roads, steel, and finance to industries where the private sector plays a prominent role. For in the latter it acts as the umpire or the regulating agency so as to create a competitive atmosphere for the growth of entrepreneurship.
90. (a) The government acts as a regulating agency by prescribing broad norms within which the private enterprises can conduct their business in an atmosphere of fair and fearless competition. That is why the government is made the umpire in a field of business players.
91. (a) According to the passage the melting of glaciers from the Himalayas will lead to increased run offs or flow of water in the next 30 years, after which it will decrease so statement (1) is one of the factors which will force the shifting of location of existing crops due to climatic conditions. Temperatures will increase by 1degree centigrade over the same period all over the world, and the sea level is expected to rise by 10cm, so obviously very hot places cannot be suitable for certain crops. So statement (2) is also correct. Due to drought conditions and monsoon variations certain areas will give poor crop productivity. So crop production will have to be shifted to more suitable areas to adjust with ecological imbalances. Hence statement (3) has to be included in the answer too.
92. (c) As India is likely to experience changed weather patterns in the future it is important to invest in research and development in agriculture so that it is possible to locate and indentify the areas which will be most suitable for different crops.
93. (c) According to the passage there should be changes in lifestyle; especially the overuse of technology should be stopped at all cost as stated in statement (3). There should be less consumption of animal protein that is meat. The FAQ or the Food Administration Organization claims that nearly 18% of greenhouse gases are emitted from livestock. So statement (1) is also true.
94. (a) As Indians we continue to depend on fossil fuel heavily because of the lack of investment in research and development in other forms of energy which are so readily available. The lack of technological development prevents us from harnessing the resources of wind, solar and biomass energy, which are readily available.
95. (d) According to the passage the mitigation of greenhouse gases cause lower air pollution, this will lead to better health among the public, as a result there will be less expenditure on public health as stated in statement (1); scientists have already predicted that the emission of greenhouse gases will have disastrous impact on climate change in the next 30 years and worst still after that. So statement (4) is also correct.
96. (b) The essential message conveyed by the passage is that it is absolutely essential to reduce to a very great extent the emission of greenhouse gases into the atmosphere.
97. (c) In this passage the author wants to convey that the best way to ensure the prosperity and further economic growth of the nation is by implementing inclusive growth where the benefits of growth are shared by the entire population and not by certain segments only.
98. (c) To make the process of inclusive growth more effective the author suggests that we should not only concentrate on the poorer sections of society, but also ensure that the rich and middle class stand to gain certain points. In this way it will be possible to redistribute the economic gains made by these sections of society to those getting left behind.

99. (d) According to the passage eradication of poverty is not a sufficient condition for growth. So statement (1) is ruled out. Growth has to be treated as an instrument for ensuring prosperity for all. But this is yet to be attained. So India has to strive on. So statement (2) is also ruled out.
100. (b) If the price of crude oil is x and the exchange rate is y , and if such a transparent formula is set in place by the government the oil companies can make profits by innovating within the rules and regulations of anti-trust and other competition laws. To ensure greater profits they will also have to find out ways to cut costs. So statements (2) and (3) have been selected.
101. (a) According to the passage private oil companies can re-enter the oil producing market if a transparent rule based petrol pricing exists because they will be able to innovate, cut their costs and earn more profits which is an attractive incentive for any business.
102. (d) According to the passage due to the adverse impact of climatic change on the ecosystem can be a possible loss of certain species of animals and their habitats and also a decrease in the services of the ecosystem. (d) option is correct.
103. (b) The passage clearly states that the climatic change may have an adverse affect on the Himalayan ecosystem, by altering temperatures, changing precipitation patterns, leading to drought and consequently the death of several species of animals and plants including humans.
104. (b) The most important message conveyed in the passage is summed up in the last few lines. The idea is to shift the attention from merely the species-habitat focus to the entire biographical range meaning all the plants and animals including humans so that climatic adjustments can be taken care of more effectively.
105. (b) It is clear from the passage that not only human activity is causing environmental pollution, but also natural reasons can adversely affect climate systems. This is clearly stated in the first four lines of the passage.
106. (a) According to the passage government interference leads to distortions and inefficiency in the economy in the sense that there is room for corruption as well as a lack of interest in investment on the part of the entrepreneurs.
107. (c) The first paragraph states that the basic philosophy of globalization is to ensure absolute freedom for the markets, to set their prices, produce their goods, and distribute them as per their own criterion.
108. (c) The passage clearly states that in accordance with the conditions set by the WTO. Etc. for globalization, public sectors should be privatized. So statement (1) is correct. Employment and wages should be conditioned by the free play of the market forces involved, otherwise it might discourage investment as stated in statement (3). Even social services like health and education should welcome private players as is correctly expressed in statement (4).
109. (b) The entire passage focuses on the fact that the state should play a reducing role in the process of globalization. This is elaborated in the last few lines of the passage with particular reference to India.
110. (a) (a) is correct as this assumption is inherent in the first part of the passage which says that the richer states, having grown, have the capability to share India's burden of becoming eco-friendly. (b) is absurd as nowhere the passage talks about poor states being dependent on rich States for electricity. (c) is wrong as clean energy projects are more expensive than the traditional fossil fuels. (c) is wrong as the major cause of high carbon emissions in India is development using cheaper energy sources which have higher carbon emissions.
111. (d) (a) is wrong as the passage is not at all related to Male chauvinism and infidelity. (b) is wrong as Love and betrayal is not the issue the passage is trying to sensitise about. The passage is more about a mothers' influence on her child. How she governed his life? (c) is wrong as the passage is not at all related to Lack of legal safeguards for women. Guleri didn't resorted for any such protection. (d) is correct as discussed in (b). The real reason behind this situation was Manak's mother. He could not realise her wife's love as he was under the influence of her mother's mindset.
112. (b) (a) is wrong as the passage does not talk about social and political freedom rather it talks about social security. (b) is correct as it talks about absolute social security to all the citizens which is the essence of the passage. Refer the 1st sentence, 'to free every man from fear, that he may live in all possible security.' (c) is wrong as the passage does not talk about absolute liberty in all matters of life rather it calls to develop the citizen's minds and bodies in security. Refer last sentence. (d) is wrong as the passage talk about absolute security and not just physical security as 'all possible security' mentioned in 1st sentence refers to physical and mental (refer last sentence) security.
113. (b) (a) is wrong as the passage does not talk about organisational expansion of municipal bodies all over the country. (b) is correct as the passage clearly talks about lack of adequate staff with required skills and competencies in the municipal corporations or local government bodies and that these skills are very much required as the operations are quite complex. Hence the assumption that our cities can provide better quality of life with quality staff is clearly marked out. (c) is wrong as the passage does not talk about the reasons for the lack of skilled staff. (d) is wrong as the demographic dividend and the problems associated with rapid urbanization are out of context of the passage.
114. (c) (a), (b) and (d) are wrong as they talk about birds in general. The passage talks specifically about Flamingos. (c) is correct as it talks about some species of birds.

115. (d) (a) is wrong as it is out of context of the passage. Further extended MGNREGS only to those who have a bank account would go against the very essence of the scheme.
 (b) is wrong in spite of the paper-based system of payments being more efficient than electronic payment system. This is not the main message of the passage.
 (c) is wrong as it negates the fact mentioned in the passage. Refer the second sentence which says, 'electronic wage payments in MGNREGS are meant to go directly to the poor.'
 (d) is absolutely correct as the opening sentence clearly says that citizens living in rural areas, are financially illiterate. So it is essential to provide financial literacy to the rural poor.
116. (c) 3 is wrong as the passage does not talk about focusing only on human development. It do talks about an unbalanced emphasis on growth but that, in any case, does not mean focusing only on human development.
 2 is absolutely correct as the passage clearly says an unbalanced emphasis on growth is often associated with negative environmental consequences and adverse distributional effects.
 1 is wrong as it is completely out of context of the passage.
117. (b) 1 is wrong as the passage nowhere talks about economic disparity rather it talks about health, education or other non-income aspects of human development. The passage is essentially about drawing a balance between economic growth and human development.
 2 is the correct assumption as unbalanced growth sometimes lead to environmental degradation.
118. (a) (a) is not or least essential as a part of the argument because it is irrelevant in the context of the passage.
 (b) is essential as a part of the argument as the 'super' and 'sub' human beings refers to the 'few select citizens' and the 'excluded ones'..
 (c) is essential as a part of the argument as the second sentence clearly says this.
 (d) is essential as the recognition of disparities in individual capacities leads to the exclusion policies.
119. (d) (a) is wrong as it states a fact mentioned in the passage. It does not sum up the passage.
 (b) is wrong as the passage does not restrict the problem to the developing countries only.
 (c) is wrong as the passage only says that the food production will have to double. It does not talk about food scarcity at all. Rather it talks about how to meet the required target.
 (d) correctly sums up the passage. Food security is increasingly a collective challenge and the passage suggests means to combat it.
120. (b) (a) is wrong as the passage says that if we can cut our defence expenses we can find peace or Building of weapons systems by us will instigated our neighbours to wage wars against us is a false propagation.
 (b) is correct as the passage supports weapon-building by India. It can also be inferred from the passage that India wants to establish peace with our neighbours. So 'weapon-building would lessen the possibility of armed conflict with our neighbours' is the most valid assumption.
 Although (c) is also an assumption but use of the words 'state of the art' and 'national security' does not make it the most valid assumption.
 (d) is an inference but not an assumption.
121. (c) The questions asks for the critical inference. (d) is a wrong as it presents a contradictory logic as mentioned in the passage. (a) and (b) are correct statements in the context of the passage but they present only part logic of the passage. Only (c) presents the most critical inference as it highlights the problem and the solutions mentioned in the passage.
122. (b) The passage talks about the preserved and processed foods or the Food processing industry and the various impacts it produces - pollution, wastage of food and rain forests, reduced nutritional content, increased demand for preservation and packaging. All this leads to put a burden on our natural resources. So 2 is true. 1 is not correct as the passage does not talk about the regionally grown food. It talks about regions with good produce feeding other parts of the world leaving their own region hungry. So 1 is not correct.
123. (a) The first six sentences of the passage clearly answers the question. (b), (c) and (d) are clearly mentioned in these sentences. It is not mentioned that the author has no intention to waste his time but what is mentioned is that his constitutional shyness saves or spares him a lot of time.
124. (a) The first half or the first 7-8 sentences of the passage clearly explains the shyness of the author or his hesitancy in speech which has restrained his thoughts. As a result no thought less word is uttered from him while speaking or writing and hence he has never regretted his speech or writing. This has spared him from many a mishap and waste of time. Immense patience and spiritual person cannot be related to him at all. The author sarcastically mentions that 'silence is part of the spiritual discipline of a votary of truth'. So (a) is correct answer.
125. (d) The 10th sentence of the passage 'Proneness to exaggerate, to _____ in order to surmount it' clearly suggests 'tendency to overstate' as the answer. So (d) is correct answer.
126. (d) The passage clearly talks about the high inflation in India and its inability to contain it due to the innumerable external factors which are a result of the economic reforms. So (d) is correct.
 (a) is wrong as it talks about avoiding all trade liberalisation policies and all subsidies which is more of a solution of the problem of inflation but not a message of the passage.
 (b) is wrong as it talks about reasons for India's non-readiness to take up the trade liberalisation process. It is out of scope of the passage
 (c) is wrong as the passage does not talk about poverty at all.

127. (d)

- (a) is wrong as it negates the basic premise of the passage. According to the passage 'No Right is absolute, exclusive or inviolable whereas (a) says that The Right of personal property is a Natural Right.
- (b) is wrong as it presents another extreme stand on Personal property by equating it to theft and an instrument of exploitation. It misses out the assumed legitimacy of the right and does not see it in the context.
- (c) is wrong as it talks about The Right of personal property being violative of distributive justice and negating the principle of cooperation. It does not explain the argument.
- (d) is correct as it clearly explains the argument by mentioning that the Right of each person to acquisition of property has to be reconciled with that of others. Refer the principle of cooperation mentioned in the last sentence.

Note : Economic justice, which touches the individual person as well as the social order, encompasses the moral principles which guide us in designing our economic institutions. These institutions determine how each person earns a living, enters into contracts, exchanges goods and services with others and otherwise produces an independent material foundation for his or her economic sustenance. The ultimate purpose of economic justice is to free each person to engage creatively in the unlimited work beyond economics, that of the mind and the spirit.

The Three Principles of Economic Justice: Like every system, economic justice involves input, output, and feedback for restoring harmony or balance between input and output. Within the system of economic justice as defined by Louis Kelso and Mortimer Adler, there are three essential and interdependent principles: Participative Justice (the input principle), Distributive Justice (the out-take principle), and Social Justice (the feedback principle). Like the legs of a three-legged stool, if any of these principles is weakened or missing, the system of economic justice will collapse.



128. (a) (a) is correct as the passage talks about the conflict between man and State. Moreover the passage confirms that this is a continuous tussle and is as old as the state history. The solution seems to be' still far off suggests that the conflict will remain unresolved.

(b) and (d) are wrong as they present only the idea contained in the last line of the passage.

(c) is wrong as the passage clearly mentions that old values and ideas constantly yield place to new ones which is contrary to what is mentioned in (c). Moreover it is not the author's viewpoint.

129. (c) The passage clearly talks about 1 and 3. Refer the 4th sentence, 'The scale and magnitude of the financial support _____ multilateral negotiations under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)', which mentions 1 and 3 both. Crop failure, which is an effect of climate change, is not mentioned in the passage.

130. (c) Refer the 5th sentence, 'The Convention squarely puts the _____ stock of greenhouse gases (GHGs) in the atmosphere', which clearly mentions 3. 1 and 2 are not mentioned in the passage.

131. (a) Refer the second last sentence, 'Given the magnitude of the task and the funds required, domestic finances are likely to fall short of the current and projected needs of the developing countries', which clearly shows that climate change is likely to have implications on their domestic finances. 2 is not mentioned in the passage.

132. (a) The passage clearly depicts the tussle between developed and developing countries regarding support for mitigation. The developing nations need financial support to adapt to the new measures and they want the developed nations to bear the expense of what they have caused. (b), (c) and (d) are wrong because the passage does not mention either of exploitation of natural resources, Lack of political will or Governance problems.

133. (b) A corollary is a proposition that follows from one already proved. (b) is the most appropriate as the passage clearly states that poverty and climate impacts reinforce each other. Poverty leads to climate deterioration (due to unsustainable use of resources, refer last line) and climate change leads to poverty.

(a) and (c) are wrong as they talk about poverty alleviation, increase in food subsidies, etc. in alienation. They have got nothing to do with climate change.

(d) is wrong as it suggests solution to curb climate change (stop unsustainable agricultural practices) and poverty (control food prices). It does not talk about their inter-dependence.

134. (d) The passage asks for the most rational and critical inference from the passage. (a) is wrong as it just portrays one part of the passage. The portfolio investments have both the good and bad effects. (b) is wrong as the passage suggests threat from the portfolio investments. It cannot be stated from the passage that Advanced economies will always

undermine the global financial stability. There are a lot of other external factors working simultaneously. For similar reasons (c) is wrong. (d) is the most rational and critical inference as portfolio investments definitely impacts emerging economies in certain cases so there is a risk.

Note : Portfolio investments: Portfolio investments are passive investments, as they do not entail active management or control of the issuing company. Rather, the purpose of the investment is solely financial gain. This is in contrast to foreign direct investment (FDI), which allows an investor to exercise a certain degree of managerial control over a company. For international transactions, equity investments where the owner holds less than 10% of a company's shares are classified as portfolio investments. These transactions are also referred to as "portfolio flows" and are recorded in the financial account of a country's balance of payments. Portfolio investments include transactions in equity securities, such as common stock, and debt securities, such as banknotes, bonds, and debentures.

Quantitative Easing: Quantitative easing (QE) is a type of monetary policy used by central banks to stimulate the economy when standard monetary policy has become ineffective. A central bank implements quantitative easing by buying financial assets from commercial banks and other financial institutions, thus raising the prices of those financial assets and lowering their yield, while simultaneously increasing the money supply. This differs from the more usual policy of buying or selling short-term government bonds to keep interbank interest rates at a specified target value.

Quantitative easing can help ensure that inflation does not fall below a target. Risks include the policy being more effective than intended in acting against deflation (leading to higher inflation in the longer term, due to increased money supply), or not being effective enough if banks do not lend out the additional reserves.

135. (b) (a) is out of context of the passage. The passage does not talk about resources to afford a latrine for each household.
(c) is wrong as the passage does not talk about the reduction of the human capital of India's workforce.

(d) is wrong as the passage suggests open defecation as a public health problem in India. Refer last 3rd sentence, 'Diarrhoea leaves Indians' bodies smaller on average than those of people in some poorer countries where people eat fewer calories.'

(b) is the most critical inference as it has severe effects - malnourishment, diarrhoea, underweight mothers - on a huge Indian population and needs immediate attention.

136. (b) (a) is wrong as it is a general statement and does not present the crux of the passage.

(c) is wrong as the opening line of the passage says that people talk about democracy (or understand democracy) but they have a weakness favouring their caste or community or religion.

(d) is wrong as it projects an extreme situation which is out of the scope of the passage.

(b) is the most appropriate statement as it talks about providing equal opportunities to all irrespective of the caste or community or religion. That's what is a True democracy.

137. (b) Clearly only 2 is correct. 1 is wrong as the passage says that 'Such access is not always available to all people in developing countries like India and more so, in rural areas.' This means that they are sometimes available. 2 is correct as mentioned in the last sentence of the passage.

138. (d) The crucial message conveyed in the passage is to promote financial inclusion such that every citizen of the country has access to bank accounts and can save money so as to have better finances. Establishing more banks is a route to financial inclusion. Increasing the interest rate of bank deposits would promote savings. So (d) is correct.

139. (b) (a) is clearly wrong as the passage nowhere talks about discretion power in all matters of administration. It talks about certain situations mentioned in the 1st sentence.

(b) is correct as the passage talks about the supremacy of rules and safeguards, refer last sentence. Further the 3rd sentence, 'Where discretion has to be misuse of that power' reinforces the prevalence of rules and safeguards as opposed to the influence of exclusive discretion of authority.

(c) is wrong as it negates what the passage means by Parliamentary democracy - authorized by the people.

