

comprehension

Pattern of 'Passages'

In these questions a passage of 100-200 words is given and students have to read and comprehend written material, to reason and to evaluate the matter of passage. There are 05-06 passages and usually 03 questions are asked from each passage. The passages discuss topics from the social sciences, humanities, the physical or biological sciences, or other related stories of armed forces; experiences of author or others in various journeys, services or life itself. The passages are accompanied by questions that will ask you to interpret the passage, to apply the information you gather from the reading, and make inferences (or informed assumptions) based on the reading.

Main Idea/Theme/Purpose Based Questions

Each passage is a unified whole—that is, the individual sentences and paragraphs support and develop one main idea or central point. Sometimes you will be told the central point in the passage itself, and sometimes it will be necessary for you to determine the central point from the overall organization or development of the passage. You may be asked in this kind of question to Recognize a correct restatement, or paraphrasing, of the main idea of a passage, identify the author's primary purpose or objective in writing the passage, assign a title that summarizes, briefly and pointedly, the main idea developed in the passage.

Supporting Idea Based Questions

These questions measure your ability to comprehend the supporting ideas in passage and differentiate them from the main idea. The question also measures your ability to differentiate ideas that are explicitly stated in a passage from ideas that are implied by the author but that are not explicitly stated. You may be asked about Facts cited in a passage. The content of examples presented by the author in support of his or her views. Descriptive details used to support or elaborate on the main idea

- Whereas questions about the a main idea about main idea ask you to determine the meaning of a passage as a whole, questions about supporting ideas ask you to determine the meanings of individual sentences that contribute to the meaning of the passage as a whole. In other words, these questions ask for the main point of small part of the passage.

Inference Based Questions

- Most of the questions are based on this pattern in comprehension part of CDS exam. These questions ask about the ideas that are not explicitly stated in a passage but are implied by the author. Unlike questions about supporting details, which ask about information that is directly stated in a passage, inference questions ask about ideas or meanings that must be inferred from information that is directly stated. Authors can make their points in indirect ways, suggesting ideas without actually stating them. Inference questions measure your ability to understand an author's intended meaning in parts of a passage where the meaning is only suggested. These questions do not ask about meanings or implications that are specifically suggested by the author.

Writing Style Questions

- These questions require you to analyze and evaluate the organization and logic of a passage. They may ask you
 - How a passage is constructed—for instance, does it define, compare or contrast, present a new idea, or refute an idea?
 - The reason behind the author's use of any particular style of writing sentences two short then one long, a combination of small sentence or use of too many analogies etc. To identify assumptions that the author is making
 - To recognize appropriate counterarguments
- These questions measure your ability not only to comprehend a passage but also to evaluate it critically.

Questions About the Tone of Passage

Style and tone questions ask about the expression of a passage and about the ideas in a passage that may be expressed through its diction – the author's choice of words. You may be asked to deduce the author's attitude to an idea, a fact or a situation from the words that he or she uses to describe it. You may be expressed through its diction – the author's choice of words.

- To answer this type of question, you will have to consider the language of the passage as a whole. It takes more than one pointed, critical word to make the tone of an entire passage 'critical'. Sometimes, style and tone questions ask what audience the passage was probably intended for or what type of publication it probably appeared in. Style and tone questions may apply to one small part of the passage or to the passage as a whole. To answer them, you must ask yourself what meanings are contained in the words of a passage beyond the literal meanings.

Some Points to Attempt Passages

Reading comprehension questions measure your ability to understand, analyse and apply information and concepts presented in written form. All questions are to be answered on the basis of what is stated or implied in the reading material, and no specific prior knowledge of the material is required.

The reading comprehension questions evaluate your ability to do following:

Understand Words and Statements

- Although the question do not test your vocabulary (they will not ask you to define terms), they do test your ability to interpret special meanings of terms as they are used in the reading passages. They do test your ability to interpret special terms as they are used in the reading passages. The questions will also test your understanding of the English language. These questions may ask about the overall meaning of a passage.

Understand Logical Relationships Between Points and Concepts

- This type of question may ask you to determine or evaluate the relative importance of arguments and ideas in a passage.

Draw Inferences from the Facts and Statements

- The inference questions will ask you to consider factual statements or information presented in a reading passage and on the basis of that information, reaches conclusions.
- Understand and follow the development of quantitative concepts as they are presented in written material.

Points to be Remember

- Do not expect to be completely familiar with any of the material presented in reading comprehension passages.
- Analyze each passage carefully, because the questions require you to have a specific and detailed understanding of the material.
- Focus on key words and phrases, and make every effort to avoid losing the sense of what is discussed in the passage.
- Keep the following in mind:
 - (i) Note how each fact relates to an idea or an argument.
 - (ii) Note where the passage moves from one idea to next
 - (iii) Separate main ideas from supporting ideas
 - (iv) Determine what conclusions are reached and why.
- Read the questions carefully, making certain that you understands what is asked.
- An answer choice that accurately restates information in the passage may be incorrect if it does not answer the question. If you need to, refer back to the passage for clarification.
- Read all the choices carefully.
- Never assume that you have selected the best answer without first reading all the choices.

Exercise I

Directions (Q.Nos. 1 to 107) Read each of the following passages carefully and answer the questions given below it.

Passage 1

Modern economic theory does not differentiate between renewable and non-renewable materials, as its approach is to measure everything by means of a money price. Thus, taking various alternative fuels like coal, oil, wood and water-power; the only difference between them recognised by modern economics is relative cost per equivalent unit. The cheapest is automatically the one to be preferred, as to do otherwise would be irrational and uneconomic. From a Buddhist point of view, of course, this will not do since the essential difference between non-renewable fuels like coal and oil on the one hand and renewable sources like wind-power and water-power on the other cannot be simply overlooked. Non-renewable goods must be used only if their use is indispensable and then only with the greatest care and highest concern for conservation. To use them carelessly or extravagantly is an act of violence and while complete non-violence may not be possible on this earth, it is nonetheless a duty of man to aim at the ideal of non-violence in all he does.

1. Which of the following statements is/are correct on the basis of information in the above passage?

1. Buddhist economists totally prohibit the use of non-renewable sources.
2. The attitude of modern economists towards natural resources is uneconomic
3. Complete non-violence is not possible.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below.

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

2. The Buddhist viewpoint implies

- (a) conservation should be given the highest consideration
- (b) hydel projects are highly capital intensive
- (c) oil is to be preferred since it does not produce ash
- (d) money economics should govern the choice of energy sources

3. Buddhist economists are not in favour of

- (a) economic development
- (b) world economy being governed by oil prices
- (c) using non-renewable sources indiscriminately
- (d) harnessing wind energy

4. In this passage, the author has tried to

- (a) show that the modern economist is concerned only with costs
- (b) underline the need for conserving natural resources
- (c) differentiate between the two economic philosophies
- (d) explain the impact of oil on the world economy

Passage 2

As society becomes more and more affluent, people would prefer to work shorter hours at their regular employment so that they may enjoy longer hours of leisure during which they can indulge in more congenial activities. They will not like to

waste their leisure time performing routine domestic chores which would be capable of performing many of these monotonous chores is one that will appeal to many. Already robots are used in mines and factories to perform tasks which are too risky for human beings. It takes a lot of research by dedicated scientists and sufficient financial backing for a model to be developed to perform a new task. This in turn depends on the number of people who feel the need for a robot to perform these specific tasks. The problem of designing a robot capable of performing various routine tasks around the house is not insurmountable. A domestic robot slave with its own computer and response mechanism and source of power, which can be programmed to perform certain specific tasks, is not an impossibility.

5. In an affluent society people prefer to work shorter hours because

- (a) they are lazy
- (b) they do not have the strength to work
- (c) they want time to carry out other activities
- (d) they abhor their work

6. Domestic chores

- (a) are welcome by housewives
- (b) are too demanding
- (c) lead to family discord
- (d) are too time consuming

7. Robots are already used in mines and factories to perform

- (a) hazardous tasks
- (b) tasks with greater efficiency than human beings
- (c) tasks which lead to economy in the operations
- (d) tasks which are forbidden by the labour laws

8. Developing a robot capable of performing a new task

- (a) is difficult for the scientists
- (b) is impossible for the scientists
- (c) requires huge capital
- (d) depends on the number of people who require it

9. The word 'insurmountable' in the passage means

- (a) unattainable
- (b) impossible
- (c) inseparable
- (d) insignificant

Passage 3

The energy crisis has been with us for a long time and will be with us even longer. Whether Arab oil flows freely or not, it is clear that the world industry cannot be allowed to depend on so fragile a base. The supply of oil can be shut off at whim any time. In any case, the oil wells will run dry in about thirty years. New sources of energy must be found and this will take time. But it is not likely to restore that sense of copious energy availability we had in the past.

10. In the writer's opinion, the energy crisis
 (a) is an outcome of unregulated supply of oil to industries
 (b) will subside as soon as the Arab oil begins to flow again
 (c) is very likely to lead to the world war
 (d) will remain with us for an almost indefinite period of time
11. The phrase 'so fragile a base' refers to the
 (a) current energy crisis in the world
 (b) uncertainty about the flow of Arab oil
 (c) delay in finding the new energy sources
 (d) drying up of the oil wells in future
12. The type of writing in the given passage could be called
 (a) official (b) scientific
 (c) popular (d) political

Passage 4

All who have gone before you have submitted to the stroke of death. All who come after you shall undergo the same fate. The great and the good, the prince and the peasant, the renowned and the obscure travel alike the road which leads to the grave. At the moment when you expire, thousands throughout the world shall with you, be yielding up their breath. Can that be held to be a great calamity which is common to you with everything that lives on the earth—which is an event as much according to the course of the nature, as it is that leaves shall fall in autumn or that fruit should drop from the tree when it is fully ripe.

13. Death is a natural phenomenon because
 (a) the moment you die, thousands of people all over the world die with you
 (b) it is as natural as the fall of leaves or fruits from the trees
 (c) many people have died in the past
 (d) the great and the good, the prince and the peasant, the renowned and the obscure, all die
14. The author compares death with the fall of the ripe fruit from a tree to show that death
 (a) occurs in nature also
 (b) is a kind of fall from a great height
 (c) gives freedom from the ordeals of life
 (d) occurs with the achievement of fullness
15. Which one of the following sentences shows that death is a great leveller?
 (a) All who come after you shall undergo the same fate
 (b) The great and the good, the prince and the peasant, the renowned and the obscure travel alike the road which leads to the grave
 (c) At the moment when you expire, thousands throughout the world shall with you, be yielding up their breath
 (d) All who have gone before you have submitted to the stroke of death

Passage 5

I was late bloomer and always envied those people who stood out in high school because I didn't. I learned early on though that it's essential to set yourself apart from the group. Life is one struggle after another to succeed, particularly when you're starting out. If your biodata is sitting at the bottom of a pile of junk mail, sometimes a distinctive approach will get you noticed, especially if the competition is fierce.

Once my partner Jerry and I asked the other freelance writers of a TV serial what characters they hated to write for the most. Everybody said the same thing—they disliked writing for the minor characters because they thought that writing for them wouldn't help them get other jobs. Jerry and I decided that we would write scripts for the minor character because that's what was needed and we needed to set ourselves apart.

In the first script Jerry and I wrote a schoolgirl falls in love with a boy in her class. The producers loved the story. And with that one script, Jerry and I were no longer just another comedy-writing team.

16. The author is of the opinion that
 (a) one should be part of the group
 (b) one should be different from others
 (c) it is important to do well in high school
 (d) one should heed to the advice of the seniors
17. The author had been
 (a) into advertising business (b) a comedy writer
 (c) a music director (d) a news reader
18. According to the author
 (a) one should be very meticulous in preparing his biodata
 (b) competition in the job-market is very fierce
 (c) one should follow a conservative approach in preparing his biodata
 (d) one should try to get noticed by being innovative
19. Jerry and the author wrote scripts for the minor characters
 (a) to realize their creative potential
 (b) to earn more money
 (c) to establish a different image
 (d) because they did not have enough work

Passage 6

Wind power has obvious advantage as it is non-polluting, causes no ecological imbalance, requires no throughput fuel and has extremely low gestation period.

After almost a decade of sporadic growth, wind energy finally seems to be stepping out from shadows of alternative technology into the commercial mainstream, worldwide. Even though India now has an installed base of just over 1,600 MW, this is nothing compared to countries such as Germany which meets at around the 20 per cent of its energy requirements from wind energy.

Wind power offers long-term price stability too. Not only are generation costs of such projects low, but the capital expenditure is also comparable to fossil fuel-based stations. Wind-power plants have low operating and maintenance costs. Long-term economics work out to be quite favourable for the wind energy. In fact, it is being seen as a solution to sustainable development. By the end of 2001, the installed wind power was about 25,000 MW.

21. Which one of the following is correct?
- Wind-power plants take a long time to get commissioned
 - Maintenance cost of wind-power plants is high
 - Wind-power plants lead to violent vibrations
 - Wind-power plants require no fuel
22. Which one of the following is correct?
- Installation of wind-power is resisted by environmentalists
 - Generation cost of wind-power plants is high
 - Installation cost of wind-power plants is much higher than of fossil fuel-based plants
 - Wind-power is now being commercially harnessed
23. Which one of the following is correct?
- In Germany, 25000 MW of electricity is generated by using wind-power
 - Wind-power plants offer no price stability
 - Wind-power is economically viable on long-term basis
 - In America, 20% of the power requirements are met through wind-power

Passage 7

A group of prospective jurors was asked by the judge whether any of them felt they had ever been treated unfairly by an officer of the law. "Once got a ticket for running a stop sign," Caroline replied, "even though I definitely came to a complete stop." "Did you pay the fine?" the judge questioned. "Yes." "If you thought you were innocent," the judge went on, "why didn't you contest it?" "Your Honour," she replied, "there are so many times I didn't get a ticket for running a stop sign, that I figured this evened things out a little."

24. Which one of the following is correct?
- Caroline was caught travelling without ticket in a local train
 - Caroline was caught while driving at a speed above the speed limit
 - Caroline was driving without a driving licence
 - Caroline was fined for jumping the stop signal
25. Which one of the following is correct?
- Caroline made a complaint against the traffic inspector for his high-handedness
 - Caroline had to pay a bribe
 - Caroline was sent to the jail for her crime
 - Caroline decided to pay the fine

25. Which one of the following is correct?

- Caroline had been penalised many times before for driving offences
- Caroline was an officer of the law
- Caroline was a prospective juror
- Caroline was undergoing police training

Passage 8

Personally, I have been very fortunate and almost inevitable, I have received courtesy from my own countrymen as well as from the English. Even my goalers and the policemen, from place to place have been kind to me and much of the bitterness of conflict and the sting of goal-life has been toned down because of this human touch. It was not surprising that my own countrymen should treat me so for I had gained a measure of notoriety and popularity among them. Even for Englishmen I was an individual and not merely one of the mass and I imagine the fact that I had received my education in England, brought me nearer to them.

26. The phrase 'almost inevitably' in this passage means
- without precedence
 - unexpectedly
 - invariably
 - considerably
27. The writer is of the opinion that the bitterness of conflict has been toned down because of
- the adversary's courteous behaviour
 - the adversary's diplomatic behaviour
 - his good behaviour
 - the writer being close to the Englishmen
28. The writer's own countrymen treated him with love and regard because of
- a human touch in their nature
 - his good political work
 - his courage and generosity
 - his widespread popularity among the masses

Passage 9

English is generally acknowledged to be the world's most important language. It is perhaps worth trying to understand briefly the basis for that evaluation. There are after all thousands of languages in the world and each seems to be uniquely important to those who speak it as their native language, the language they acquired at their mother's knee. But, there are some objective standards to judge their relative importance.

One criterion is the number of speakers of the language. A second is the extent to which a language is geographically dispersed: in how many continents and countries is it used or its knowledge necessary? A third is its functional load: how extensive is the range of purposes for which it is used? In particular, to what extent is it the medium for highly valued cultural manifestations such as science or literature? A fourth is the economic and political influence of the native speakers of the language.

29. The author wants to evaluate the importance of the English language because it is
 (a) the language of the Britishers
 (b) studied as second language in India
 (c) the most useful language of the world
 (d) used in many countries
30. The speakers of every language
 (a) consider their language as the most important
 (b) do not like other languages
 (c) treat all the languages alike
 (d) want to learn English
31. The writer's evaluation of the importance of the English language is based on
 (a) general notions
 (b) linguistic assumptions
 (c) subjective feelings
 (d) objective criteria

Passage 10

The spectre of unemployment is looming large on almost every graduate with a general purpose degree. This education has very little relevance to life and therefore, the young generation is getting frustrated. If we look deeper into the problems of extremism and terrorism, perhaps unemployment and frustration of young people is one of the chief reasons for this malaise. The most dangerous trend is the growing violence in the human heart. The first task of every university is to ensure that this violence to each other does not become the new human culture. The sociologists have a lot to contribute by analysing the thought-processes of the young persons and evolving the remedial measures.

32. The young generation is getting frustrated because
 (a) they have taken general purpose degrees
 (b) they remain unemployed
 (c) they are drawn to terrorism
 (d) there is violence around them
33. Enormous responsibility to comprehend the problems of young generation lies with
 (a) the press and TV media
 (b) our political leaders
 (c) the sociologists
 (d) education administrators
34. The increase in violence in our society is
 (a) a sign of revolutionary zeal
 (b) the result of modern system of education
 (c) the urge to surpass others in life
 (d) the result of frustration in life

Passage 11

There is a natural tendency in every animate being to resent restrictions. If you block the growth of a plant, it will try to pierce through the blockade. If you enclose a worm or fish in a glass jar, you will find it restlessly moving higher and thither to find a way out. Similarly if you confine a bird or an animal in a

cage or a room, you will find, it gets constantly trying to break through the cage or the room in a fit of escape. Only when the urge to be free is inborn in all animate beings. It gets suppressed only on its identification with the situation. The urge to be free is also a reason present in inanimate objects but it is latent and ultimately gets fulfilled. It is for this reason that matter constantly changes its shape. The change is, in a way, a fulfilment of that urge.

35. The natural tendency among the living beings is to
 (a) submit to the circumstances
 (b) strive for freedom
 (c) place restrictions in the way of others
 (d) create blockades
36. A worm in a glass jar first tries to
 (a) adjust itself (b) break the jar
 (c) move out of it (d) ignore the change
37. An animal will sit quietly in a cage after it has
 (a) eaten well
 (b) struggled enough
 (c) identified itself with the changed circumstances
 (d) given up hope of freedom
38. Matter constantly changes its shape because it
 (a) is inanimate
 (b) also has an urge to be free
 (c) is moulded into different shapes by men
 (d) has not soul

Passage 12

At what age should school begin? The answer must depend upon the home, its topography rather than upon its oral or psychological character. A child who lives on a farm in the countryside can, happily and profitably, spend his time wandering about, watching animals, reaping, thrashing etc. until the time comes when it is necessary to begin formal instruction. But for the urban child whose parents live in a cramped apartment, it is quite otherwise. For him, school is desirable as an escape into freedom—freedom of movement, freedom of noise and freedom of increase the size of dash companionship.

39. Topography means the science of
 (a) drawing maps
 (b) description of features of a place
 (c) shooting photographs
 (d) description of topics
40. Formal instruction here implies
 (a) school discipline
 (b) rigid code
 (c) regular education at school
 (d) disciplined conduct at school
41. The author believes that
 (a) a child in a countryside need not have formal instruction
 (b) an urban child likes freedom of all kinds
 (c) a countryside child is benefitted by the free environment
 (d) an urban child must begin formal instruction late

11. The author thinks that the problem as to when the children should go to school depends rather on the
- (a) psychological character of home
 - (b) moral character of home
 - (c) topographical character of home
 - (d) spiritual character of home

Passage 13

If you want your mate to stop guessing about your feelings and motives, you have to be prepared to reveal yourself. And in order to reveal yourself, you have to know yourself. You can't talk openly and honestly with your mate, until you have first been honest with yourself first. Take time off to be alone. Use that time not simply to engage in passive meditation but to carry on an active inner dialogue with yourself. It involves revelation, self-analysis and re-evaluation. Change is impossible otherwise. No architect in any field will attempt to make new plans without assessing the present situation. So too, each of us can and must make an assessment of our own assets or liabilities.

12. Your mate shall stop guessing about your feelings when
- (a) you are honest
 - (b) you know yourself
 - (c) he reveals himself to you
 - (d) you talk openly
13. You can talk openly and honestly to your mate only when you
- (a) reveal your emotions and feelings
 - (b) are honest with him
 - (c) do not engage yourself in passive meditation
 - (d) are honest with yourself
14. You should take time off to be alone so that
- (a) you talk to yourself
 - (b) you engage yourself in passive meditation
 - (c) your motives and feelings are clear
 - (d) you do not change yourself
15. No architect plans without assessing the present situation because
- (a) each of us can and must make an assessment
 - (b) self-analysis and re-evaluation are necessary for him
 - (c) change is impossible otherwise
 - (d) no assessment of our own assets and liabilities is possible
16. The word 'revelation' in the passage means
- (a) revolution
 - (b) knowing the unknown
 - (c) rational
 - (d) religious

Passage 14

When we speak of 'Freedom of Press', we usually mean it in a very technical sense. That is, we mean freedom from direction or censorship from the government. In India, the press is free in this restricted sense. But the real restrictions on the press come from (i) the advertisers from whom it gets money and (ii) the owner or company who owns the newspaper. So, even if an

editor dares to support a public policy like a ban on smoking in public places, he may not always be successful in pursuing this because his paper may be owned by a company which produces cigarettes. Such restrictions are often invisible unlike government censorship, and are worse.

48. The meaning of the phrase 'Freedom of Press' in the passage is
- (a) the ability of the newspapers to criticise the government
 - (b) the ability of the newspapers to criticise censorship
 - (c) the ability of the newspapers to express independent views
 - (d) the ability of the newspapers to publish advertisements
49. In India, real restrictions on the press do not come from
- (a) people
 - (b) the government
 - (c) owners of companies
 - (d) the public policies
50. Which of the following statements sums up the writer's intention?
- (a) The press must have freedom to print what they want
 - (b) Unseen factors control people's freedom
 - (c) Government should not control the freedom of the press as that is dangerous
 - (d) Several factors control the freedom of the press indirectly and they are more dangerous

Passage 15

There is a widely held but mistaken belief that meetings are for solving problems and making decisions. For a start, the number of people attending a meeting tends to be inversely proportional to their collective ability to reach conclusions and make decisions. And these are the least important elements. Instead, hours are spent in side issues, playing elaborate games with one another.

51. According to the author, meetings
- (a) are a waste of time
 - (b) help to solve problems
 - (c) are a form of playing elaborate games
 - (d) allow decisions to be made
52. The words that show that many people believe meetings are important are
- (a) widely held
 - (b) collective ability
 - (c) number of people
 - (d) solving problems
53. The author believes in the sanctity of holding meetings for
- (a) practical value
 - (b) transactional features
 - (c) collective opinion
 - (d) decision making

Passage 16

My duties in the zoo included feeding the lions. The popular belief is that lions have sweetness of character, sagacity and courage. But my experience with them shattered this myth. Albert, the male, often used to surprise me by suddenly jumping out against the bars with a hair-raising cough of wrath. When I leapt in the air like a startled stag, I am sure he enjoyed his hastily snatching the biggest joint of meat, he would pinch the meat belonging to the lioness and the cubs.

54. The traditional image of a lion according to the passage is that
 (a) he is intelligent, kind and handsome
 (b) he is foolish, short-tempered and dangerous
 (c) he is wise, gentle and brave
 (d) he is noisy, hungry and wrathful
55. The sentence, "I leapt in the air like a startled stag" indicates that the writer was
 (a) extremely frightened (b) very surprised
 (c) quite shocked (d) absolutely delighted
56. The lion in this passage is described as if
 (a) he was an unusually cruel beast
 (b) he had a personality like a human
 (c) he was a beast with a sense of wrath
 (d) he had a mind like a monster

Passage 17

Attracted by the serenity of the evening, a friend and I lately went to one of the public walks near the city. Here we sauntered together for sometime. Then my friend, stopping suddenly, caught me by the elbow and led me out of the public walk. I could perceive by the quickness of his pace and by his frequently looking behind, that he was attempting to avoid somebody who followed. We now turned to the right, then to the left, but in vain. The person whom he attempted to escape, gained upon us each moment. So that, at last we finally stood still, resolving to face what we could not avoid.

57. The author's friend took him away from the public walk, as
 (a) the public place was dirty, crowded and noisy
 (b) it was impossible to meet their friend
 (c) he wanted to avoid a person following them
 (d) the public was looking strangely at them
58. The author concludes from his friend's quick pace and his frequent looking back
 (a) that he was running out of time
 (b) that he was worried about reaching home early
 (c) that he wanted to escape from a person following him
 (d) that he was troubled inwardly
59. His friend caught the author by the elbow
 (a) to check the author from falling down
 (b) as the author was not in a position to walk on his own
 (c) as he was panicked at the sudden appearance of a person he didn't like
 (d) as he had stepped on a slippery thing

Passage 18

American Indians believed that there were spirits everywhere in nature that made grass and the plants to grow and the wind to blow. Every bird and animal had a spirit. To obtain some of this mystery power from nature and to secure the life long protection of an individual spirit, every boy and every girl in some tribes spent a night or a few days and nights, alone in a solitary place, believed to be especially strong in supernatural power. Usually the longest vigil was of four nights in the Plains and five in the Plateau, for these were mystic numbers. Fasting and thirsting, the child waited for a voice to speak to him.

60. The ceremony of the solitary retreat was observed by
 (a) every boy and every girl in all the tribes
 (b) every boy in every tribe and every girl in some tribes
 (c) only every girl in some of the tribes
 (d) every girl in all the tribes and every boy in some of the tribes
61. The purpose of the retreat was to
 (a) keep a vigil
 (b) hear a voice
 (c) observe a fast
 (d) secure the aid of a spirit for oneself
62. The way to perform the vigil was
 (a) to chant mystic numbers
 (b) to go to the plains or the Plateaus
 (c) to fast and wait alone
 (d) to make it last as long as possible

Passage 19

An eleven-year boy walking behind his parents and a pet dog off England's highest cliffs, which rise to 230 metres at their peak, blown off in a gale to a height of at least 170 metres. The gale drowned out the boy's screams while his parents walked on ahead. They realised what had happened only when the dog barked furiously at a helicopter flying in the sky. The pilot of the helicopter displayed exemplary presence of mind, and picked up the boy from the cliff to the great relief of his parents who found him alive and kicking.

63. The parents did not hear the boy scream because
 (a) they were far away
 (b) of the sound of the gale
 (c) of the drone of the helicopter
 (d) of the barking of the dog
64. The gale struck the boy while he was
 (a) jumping off the cliff
 (b) playing with the dog
 (c) looking at the helicopter
 (d) walking behind his parents
65. The parents discovered the mishap only when they
 (a) saw the helicopter rescuing the boy
 (b) heard the dog barking furiously
 (c) realised the fury of the gale
 (d) noticed the destruction of plants and trees

Passage 20

The dabbawallahs are partly a by-product of Mumbai's overcrowding. There was a time when many men could get away to lunch, but those more comfortable days ended as the city grew. But the conservatism of married men being well known, they still wanted home-made lunch. An Indian loves his lunch as much as anybody and feels that only his wife can guarantee the quality. Quantity he requires, that restaurant food is expensive, of poorer quality and is served in meagre portions.

65. According to the author, the dabbawallahs
- are responsible for the overcrowding of Mumbai
 - often create a lot of problems for the city
 - have come mostly from rural areas
 - came into existence as a consequence of Mumbai's overcrowding
66. The past was more comfortable for the people of Mumbai because
- many of them were rich and could afford good food
 - they could bring home-made food for lunch
 - many of them could go home to lunch
 - they could eat their lunch outside
67. Which of the following best describes the author's attitude to the dabbawallahs?
- objective
 - enthusiastic
 - appreciative
 - critical

Passage 21

Birds which spend the summer in the higher reaches of mountains come down during the winter to the lower foothills or even the plains. This is very common in India where the mighty Himalayas lie close to the Indo-Gangetic plain. Birds are punctual too unless they are delayed by bad weather. We may calculate almost to a day when we may expect our bird friends to return, carrying winter on their backs. Some birds make the long journey in easy stages, stopping to rest on the way. Others fly great distances without pausing to rest and feed. Some fly by day, some both by day and by night, but most to them speed on their way through darkness after the sun has set.

68. During the winter, commonly birds in India
- move higher towards the mountain
 - come down to the foothills
 - travel in the night
 - remain where they had been staying
69. Birds sometime get delayed in their migration because
- they have to take rest and feed
 - they lack the sense of time
 - of bad weather
 - they lose the sense of direction
70. Mostly the birds make their long journey
- during the day time
 - at sunrise
 - at midnight
 - in the darkness

Passage 22

The real reason why I should not like to be in the book trade for life is that while I was in it I lost my love of books. A bookseller has to tell lies about books and that gives him a distaste for them; still worse is the fact, that he lies constantly dusting them and hauling them to and fro. There was a time when I really loved books—loved the sight and smell and feel of them, I mean, at least if they were fifty or more years old. Nothing pleased me quite so much as to buy a whole lot of them for a few rupees at an auction.

72. The author lost his love of books
- by not reading books for a long time
 - by being in the book trade for a long time
 - as he could not get good books to read
 - as he was prevented from owning and reading books
73. What is the most likely reason for a bookseller developing a distaste for books?
- To sell books, he has to tell lies
 - He has to constantly handle all kinds of bad books
 - He has to be with books without reading them
 - He has to satisfy the whims of the customers
74. From the passage it is clear that the author
- liked to read books while working in the bookshop
 - liked the outward appearance of books, their sight and smell, more than their contents
 - liked to buy a lot of books at auctions
 - never liked books as he had lost love for them

Passage 23

I am convinced that school learning is unnatural and bad for human beings. In school, we sat on the floor and chorused our lessons. The teachers were terrible. They would write something on the board, ask us to take it down and go out to gossip or to smoke beedies. I was very naughty. I got punished and thrashed very often. But, it did not stop me from mischief. My family insisted that I should attend school, but did not scold me when I failed. I barely managed to pass each year. It was the same story when I joined college. I scraped through my BA examination. What a relief it was to know that I need never go into a classroom again!

75. From the passage which one of the following statements appears to be true?
- The teacher used to punish the author everyday
 - The punishment given by the teachers helped to improve the behaviour of the author
 - The punishment did not stop the boy's mischief
 - The punishment was so mild that the author enjoyed it
76. 'I scraped through my BA examination' means that the author passed the BA examination
- with great difficulty
 - easily and with credits
 - using unfair means
 - only after several attempts

77. Which one of the following statements truly indicates the author's opinion about the education system?
- The author is appreciative of it
 - He is highly critical and sarcastic about it
 - He thinks that it is good but the teachers are bad
 - He thinks that it is imperfect but can be improved

Passage 24

As probably the least strenuous, safest physical activity, walking is the most acceptable exercise for the greatest number of people. Walking at a comfortable speed improves the efficiency of the cardio-respiratory system by stimulating the lungs and heart, but at a more gradual rate than most other forms of exercise. There is evidence that walking may actually open up narrowed areas in the coronary blood vessels, lessening chances of a heart attack. For the tense person who smokes a 'killer' combination-walking offers added help by decreasing the abnormally high levels of carbon monoxide and nicotine in the blood. Walking may also increase the elasticity of the blood vessels, decreasing the likelihood that they will rupture under pressure—one cause of strokes.

78. Walking is recommended because it
- helps to reduce fat
 - is inexpensive
 - is not very strenuous
 - is the only way to digest food
79. The chances of a heart attack are
- decreased by walking
 - completely wiped out by walking
 - temporarily postponed by walking
 - unrelated to walking
80. Strokes occur because of
- the elasticity of blood vessels
 - changes in blood pressure
 - widening of arteries
 - bursting of blood vessels

Passage 25

There are many ways of sending secret messages. An interesting method was used by a Chinese General called Pingyo, 2000 years ago. Pingyo's army was far from their homeland. Between the soldiers and home, there were many enemies. But Pingyo sent letters to his king and the enemy could not read them. He sent them like this: A strong messenger was chosen from among the soldiers. His hair was cut off and a letter was written on his bald head. Then he was dressed as a poor farmer and sent home. His journey lasted many weeks. During this time his hair grew and covered the message. The enemy stopped him many times. He was searched but the letter was not found. When he reached the king's palace his hair was cut off again and the letter was read to the king.

81. The messenger was dressed as a poor farmer as
- he could walk fast
 - farmers are less talkative
 - the General favoured farmers
 - a farmer would arouse less suspicion

82. The messenger's hair was cut off because
- a message could be written only on a bald head
 - it would make the long journey comfortable
 - the new hair would cover the message
 - the bald head would make him look like a monk
83. This method of sending the message was convenient as
- the enemy could be cheated easily
 - it was more economical
 - the message was sent in person
 - the message was not known to the messenger

Passage 26

While the lion and the tiger are the focus of special conservation efforts due to their vastly reduced numbers, it is the leopard, among the big cats, that may now face the greater threat from poachers and illegal wildlife traders. The danger was brought home last year when sales inspectors stopped and searched a truck in Uttar Pradesh. They stumbled upon packages of leopard skins numbered and signed "Tsering", the trade name of a major dealer, who, officers suspect, was planning to smuggle them out of India via Nepal and Tibet. There were also claws and other body parts. The leopard is threatened by exactly the same predators as the tiger by traditional medicine practitioners in China, Japan and other East Asian countries. Leopard parts can easily be mistaken for a tiger's and are greatly valued by apothecaries.

84. There is fresh reason to pay attention to the reduced number of
- cats
 - tigers
 - leopards
 - lions
85. The body parts of which animals have medicinal value in traditional Chinese medicine?
- Tigers
 - Leopards
 - Lions
 - All members of the cat family
86. According to the passage, the dangerous groups that prey on are
- sales-tax inspectors and Tserings
 - smugglers and truckers
 - illegal hunters and traditional apothecaries
 - the police and the customs officials

Passage 27

Pioneering Indian-American actor Sabu, who produced the 1940 classic *The Thief of Baghdad*, but could not make its sequel before his death in 1962, has had his dream come true 60 years later. All thanks to his daughter. Two years ago, Sabu's daughter Jasmine published *Moon Shadow: The Adventures of the Thief of Baghdad*, a tale for adolescent readers in which she resurrected Abu, The Thief of Baghdad, the character her father had immortalised, who this time rescues the princess and the kingdom of Basrah from the machinations of Khaled, a neighbouring king.

After producing the thief of Baghdad, Sabu wanted to

- ensure the success of his daughter as an actress
- produce a play on the life of Khaled
- produce a sequel to the Thief of Baghdad
- retire from his job as a producer

In his new incarnation, Abu emerges as

- ruthless villain
- a benevolent hero
- an ardent lover
- an ideal king

Sabu's dream has 'come true' means

- his daughter has acted in a film
- his daughter has written a book
- Sabu has written a book
- his daughter has continued the story of Abu

Passage 28

Spring is the season of renewal, when new green can be seen in the trees and the lawns of parks. Spring flowers have blossomed in a riot of scent and a rainbow of colours. Houses shake out their dust and housewives go about in a flurry of activities. Woolens begin to disappear, the light cottons begin to come back. Lazy lizards come out of their winter sleep and go back to their job of fly-hunting.

- The spring season is usually a
 - time for regeneration
 - time to plant saplings
 - period of plenty
 - festive time
- According to the passage, when spring comes, it brings with it
 - a riot of green colours
 - increased activity
 - excessive movement
 - disorganised enthusiasm
- According to the passage, the lazy lizards come out to
 - bask in the Sun
 - catch flies
 - hunt for a mate
 - adore the spring time.

Passage 29

Why don't I have a telephone? Not because I pretend to be cool or pose as unusual. There are two chief reasons: because I don't really like the telephone and because I find I can still work and play, eat, breathe and sleep without it. Why don't I like the telephone? Because I think it is a pest and a time-waster. It may create unnecessary suspense and anxiety, as when you wait for an expected call that doesn't come or irritating delay as when you keep ringing a number that is always engaged. As for speaking in a public telephone booth, that seems to me really horrible. You would not use it unless you were in a hurry, you will find other people waiting before you.

- The author compares the telephone with a pest because it is
 - helpful to us
 - harmful to us
 - troublesome and destroys our spirit
 - small and delicate

- According to the passage, waiting for an expected call that does not come, makes you feel
 - unnecessarily apprehensive
 - the boredom of waiting
 - important and proud
 - nervous and worried
- Speaking in a public telephone booth is horrible because
 - you have to pay for it
 - you have to talk in the presence of others
 - you have to wait for your turn though you are in a hurry
 - it is often out of order

Passage 30

There are many types of protein molecules in the body and each type is specific to its function, for example, proteins such as keratin and collagen give strength and elasticity to hair, as well as to skin and tendons; haemoglobin and myoglobin are the oxygen-binding proteins of the blood and the muscles respectively and ovalbumin, the principal protein of egg white is responsible for setting and foaming properties of eggs. A particularly important group of proteins known as enzymes, directs all the body cells chemical reactions. These reactions provide the basis of every type of cell activity, including growth, repair the production of energy and the excretion of waste productions.

- From the passage it is clear that there are several types of proteins which
 - can create problems in our body
 - carry out specific tasks
 - are found in all organisms
 - have interchangeable functions
- Proteins are classified according to
 - the number of molecules
 - their names
 - their functions
 - the part of the body they are found in
- The function of the enzymes is to
 - direct chemical reactions in body cells
 - bind oxygen in the blood
 - give strength and elasticity to hair
 - set and form properties of an egg.

Passage 31

My father and mother were the complements of each other. My mother was fragile, my father robust. Her face was responsive, my father's impassive. My mother's face ripples to emotions as waters to the wind. My mother's was not intellectual. Her natural propensity was intuitive. Her face illustrated the saying: appearances are deceptive, for they did not show the immense strength of her moral convictions. No one could have inferred from it that she was capable of such fanaticism as she showed over them.

99. By saying that his mother was the complement of his father the author suggests that she was
- like his father
 - opposed to his father
 - different from his father
 - indifferent to his father
100. The words her face was responsive mean that
- her face clearly showed her feelings
 - her face was very attractive
 - her face was passive
 - one had to look at her face when she spoke
101. The author's mother held strong views based on
- religious scriptures
 - legal provisions
 - social customs
 - ethical judgements

Passage 32

While it is true that there is no law that compels us to say 'please', there is a social practice much older and much more sacred than any law which enjoins us to be civil. The first requirement of civility is that we should acknowledge a service. 'Please' and 'Thank you' are the small change with which we pay our way as social being. They are the little courtesies by which we keep the machine of life oiled and running sweetly. They put our interaction upon the basis of a friendly cooperation and easily give a take, instead of on the basis of superiors dictating inferiors. It is a very vulgar mind that would wish command where he can have the service for the asking, and have it with willingness and good feeling instead of resentment.

102. According to the author
- we should not say 'Please' as it is against the law
 - we may or may not say 'Please' according to our mood
 - to say please in an outdated custom
 - we must say 'Please' as it is a civilized custom
103. The writer thinks that
- courtesies make life oily and sticky
 - the lesser the courtesies, the more the frankness in our line
 - courtesies make life pleasant
 - courtesies make life mechanical

104. The writer is of the opinion that
- only subordinates should use 'Please' and 'Thank you' when talking to superiors
 - friends should use 'Please' and 'Thank you' only among themselves
 - 'Please' and 'Thank you' should be used by everybody
 - 'Please' should be used by inferiors and 'Thank you' by superiors

Passage 33

It seems to me that we cannot learn too early in life to respect the privacy of the individual. When my daughter began to write her memoirs, at the age of four, I decided that she must have a place to keep them, if only a section of a bureau drawer or as it happened, a box with a key. I remembered the agonies of my own childhood when my sister discovered I was writing poems and began to tease me by chanting them in public. I tried desperately to hide the notebook of poems. No place in the house seemed secure. For a while, I carried it around in the right leg of my trousers until the elastic broke and the book fell out at the feet of enemy.

105. The author arranged a safe place to keep the memoirs written by her daughter because he
- thought that the memoirs would be lost otherwise
 - recognised the need for respecting the privacy of her daughter
 - decided that the memoirs should not be read by strangers
 - knew that the memoirs could fetch a lot of money
106. The author's sister caused great agony to her by
- openly reciting the poems written by the author
 - discovering that the author was in the habit of writing poems
 - teasing her for the mistakes found in the poems
 - warning the author against writing any more poems
107. No place in the house seemed secure enough to keep the notebook of poems; so the author
- kept it in a bureau drawer
 - kept it in a box with a key
 - carried it inside the trousers
 - threw it at the feet of the enemy

Exercise II

Previous Years Exam Questions

Questions (Q.Nos. 1 to 188) In this section, you have some short passages. Each passage is followed by questions based on the passage. First, read a passage and answer the questions based on it. You are required to select your answers based on the content of the passage.

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Passage 1

Cozette could have been a pretty child, but she was thin and pale and her eyes were stained with weeping. She was dressed in her thin torn cotton dress and she shivered all the time. Here and there on her body were blue marks from the beatings that her mistress had given her. Her naked legs were red and rough. When she spoke, her voice trembled. Everything about the child, her looks, her behaviour, her speech, her silence, every small gesture she made, showed a terrible fear. She was so afraid that, even though she was wet through, she dared not go near the fire to warm herself, but sat shivering in a corner of the room.

1. Cozette could not be a pretty child because

- (a) she was pale and emaciated
- (b) she was weeping
- (c) she was scantily dressed
- (d) she was trembling with fear

2. Cozette's voice trembled because

- (a) she was feeling cold
- (b) she was frightened
- (c) there was no fire near her
- (d) she was wearing a thin, cotton dress

3. Cozette's terrible fear is conveyed most vividly by the description of

- (a) her constant shivering
- (b) her tear-stained eyes
- (c) her trembling voice
- (d) her inability to go near the fire

4. The cause of Cozette's fear is explained by

- (a) her pale appearance
- (b) her torn dress
- (c) the blue marks on her body
- (d) her speech

Passage 2

Discussions on drug addiction should also be concerned with the vast majority of people who are not addicts. Their homes and lives are insecure because our narcotics laws drive such people to crime. The drug addict is almost never dangerous when he is under the influence of drugs. What makes him dangerous is the desperate need for money to buy the next dose. Drugs are available only in an illegal black market. The costs are stupendous, and this is what drives the addict to steal, rob and even kill.

5. According to the author, discussions on drug addiction are generally concerned with

- (a) addicts
- (b) non-addicts
- (c) criminals
- (d) black marketers

6. Addicts take to criminal acts because

- (a) drugs make them lose self-control
- (b) the habit of robbing and stealing is hard to break
- (c) they need large sums of money to buy drugs
- (d) law is powerless against them

7. The author seems to criticize the narcotics laws for

- (a) being too lenient
- (b) being too complicated
- (c) being ineffective
- (d) driving addicts to crime

8. The word 'stupendous' in the passage means

- (a) very high
- (b) foolish
- (c) shocking
- (d) illegal

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

- 1. Addiction to drugs is a criminal act.
- 2. Drug addicts cannot be rehabilitated.

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

Passage 3

Even in the most primitive societies the great majority of people satisfy a large part of their material needs by exchanging goods and services. Very few people indeed can make for themselves everything they need—all their food, their clothes, their housing, their tools. Ever since men started living in communities, they have been satisfying their needs by means of specialization and exchange; increasingly each individual has concentrated on what he can do best and has produced more of the special goods or services in which he has concentrated, than he can consume himself. The surplus, he has exchanged with other members of the community, acquiring, in exchange the things he needs that others have produced.

10. Very few people can satisfy their needs today by

- (a) providing things for themselves
- (b) exchanging goods and services
- (c) concentrating on what they can do best
- (d) individual specialization

11. Exchange of goods becomes possible only when
 - (a) there is no specialization
 - (b) the goods are produced in surplus
 - (c) primitive societies become modern
 - (d) individuals make things for themselves
12. Specialization and exchange began when men started
 - (a) big industries
 - (b) concentrating on their work
 - (c) producing things for individual use
 - (d) living in communities
13. Exchange of goods and services becomes necessary because
 - (a) man is a social animal
 - (b) reciprocity is the law of life
 - (c) trade and commerce are means of progress
 - (d) we cannot produce everything we need ourselves

Passage 4

I came home from one vacation to find that my brother Ron had brought a dog while I was away. A big burly, choleric dog, he always acted as if he thought I wasn't one of the family. There was a slight advantage in being one of the family. For he didn't bite the family as often as he bit strangers. Mother used to send a box of candy every Christmas to the people he bit. The list finally contained forty or more names. Nobody could understand why we didn't get rid of the dog?

14. Which of the following descriptions fits the dog?
 - (a) The dog was tiny and delicate
 - (b) The dog was sturdy and short-tempered
 - (c) The dog was huge and cool
 - (d) The dog was small and sweet-tempered
15. The dog did not consider the writer as one of the family. What do you think was the consequence of this?
 - (a) The dog barked at him all the time
 - (b) The dog drove him out of his own house
 - (c) The dog behaved with him in an unfriendly way
 - (d) The dog bit him more than he bit others in the family
16. The Christmas list contained more than forty names. What does this suggest?
 - (a) The writer's mother had a lot of friends
 - (b) The writer's family celebrated Christmas well
 - (c) The writer's dog had bitten at least forty people
 - (d) The writer's mother sent them candy boxes

Passage 5

A little girl was learning a history lesson with her governess. All the morning she had been reading it over and hearing it explained by her governess, but no good came of either the reading or the teaching. The governess went over the lesson several times, explained the meaning, and for the last time, asked her pupil to read it over. After due time had been given, the girl was examined as to her knowledge of the lesson; but not a single answer could she give correctly. The governess lost patience with her, and threatened to punish her unless she could state where a certain treaty was signed.

17. According to the passage, the little girl read the lesson and heard it explained all the morning because
 - (a) the girl did not like her governess
 - (b) the governess could not explain it long enough
 - (c) the girl could not understand it
 - (d) the girl read the lesson only once
18. With reference to the passage, consider the following statements
 1. The governess taught the same lesson several times.
 2. The governess wanted to complete her teaching work quickly.
 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
19. After reading the whole passage, which of the following impressions do you think correct about the inability of the girl to answer questions correctly?
 - (a) The dullness of the girl
 - (b) The incompetence of the governess
 - (c) The difficulty of the language
 - (d) The lack of time
20. Which of the following correctly expresses the meaning of 'lost patience with her'?
 - (a) The inability of the governess to endure further the girl's failure to answer
 - (b) The governess lost her enthusiasm to teach the girl
 - (c) The governess felt that the girl cannot be taught the lesson
 - (d) The governess felt that she was not good enough to teach the girl

Passage 6

Many doctors flatly refused to believe Jenner when he announced that he had found a preventive against smallpox. They declared vaccination to be a dangerous practice. But the dread of smallpox was in everybody's heart, and people flocked to Jenner to be vaccinated. The Latin word for cow is 'vacca', it is the root from which the word vaccination was formed. Some of the 'vacca' used by Jenner were not pure and some harm were done; but when supplies of pure vaccine were available, the practice of vaccinating spread all over England and from England to other countries. We hardly hear of outbreaks of smallpox now.

21. The passage describes
 - (a) how smallpox may be treated
 - (b) how vaccines were manufactured in England
 - (c) the dangers of vaccination especially for children
 - (d) the gradual acceptance of vaccination as a preventive against smallpox
22. Vaccination sometimes proved harmful because
 - (a) vaccination was a dangerous practice
 - (b) some of the vaccines used were of a poor hygienic standard
 - (c) there are physiological differences between cows and human beings
 - (d) vaccination is given at a very early age

People hastened to get themselves vaccinated because

- many doctors supported Jenner's claims
- fear of the terrible disease drove them to take the risk of vaccination
- supplies of pure vaccine had now become available
- the practice of vaccinating had spread all over the world

Vaccination was intended by Jenner to

- cure people suffering from smallpox
- delay the death of smallpox victims
- build up a defence against smallpox germs
- prevent cows from spreading the disease

With reference to the passage, consider the following statements

- Many doctors did not believe that Jenner was a doctor.
 - There are no outbreaks of smallpox nowadays.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- 1 only
 - 2 only
 - Both 1 and 2
 - Neither 1 nor 2

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Passage 7

Literature and History are twin sisters, inseparable. In the days of our own grandfathers, and for many generations before them, the basis of education was the Greek and Roman classics for the educated, and the Bible for all. In the classical authors and in the Bible, History and Literature were closely interwoven, and it is that circumstance which made the old form of education so stimulating to the thought and imagination of our ancestors. To read the classical authors and to read the Bible was to read at once the History and the Literature of the two greatest races of the ancient world. No doubt the classics and the Bible were read in a manner we now consider uncritical but they were read according to the best tenets of the time and formed a great humanistic education. Today the study both of the classics and of the Bible has dwindled to small proportions. What has taken their place? To some extent the vacuum has been filled by a more correct knowledge of history and a wider range of literature. But I fear that the greater part of it has been filled up with rubbish.

3. Which of the following statements best reflects the underlying tone of the passage?

- Literature and History are mutually exclusive
- Literature and History are complementary to each other
- The study of Literature is meaningless without any knowledge of History
- Literature and History are inseparably linked together in the classics and the Bible

The author of the above passage says that in the past the basis of education for all people, irrespective of their intellectual calibre was

- Greek and Roman classics
- the Bible
- a correct knowledge of history
- a wider range of literature

- The author of the above passage says that the classics and the Bible were read by his ancestors
 - methodically and with discretion
 - in a manner that broadened their view of life
 - with great emphasis on their literary values
 - without critical discrimination but in the light of their humanistic culture
- According to the author of the above passage, the old form of education, based on the study of the classics and of the Bible, has
 - succeeded in creating interest in history
 - laid the basis of human civilization
 - had a gradual decline in our time
 - been rejuvenated in the context of modern education
- The author of the above passage fears that the greater part of the vacuum created by lack of interest in the classics and the Bible has been filled up by
 - a richer sense of history
 - a wider range of literature
 - worthless ideas
 - a new philosophy of life

Passage 8

During his early days as editor of the popular magazine, Saturday Evening Post, George Lorimer did much of the reading of unsolicited stories. This meant endless hours of sitting at the desk, pouring over big stacks of manuscripts, trying to decide which were worthy of publication and which were not. Lorimer became an expert at making these decisions.

One day he received a huffy letter from a would-be writer who had a complaint. "Last week you rejected my story," she wrote. "I am positive you did not read it, because, as a test, I pasted together pages 14, 15 and 16. The manuscript came back with the pages still pasted. There is no question in my mind but that you are a sham and a disgrace to your profession."

Lorimer's reply was succinct: "Madam, at breakfast when I crack open an egg, I don't have to eat the whole egg to know it is bad."

- Lorimer did much reading of the stories
 - if they were the solicited ones
 - when they appeared to be bad
 - when they were from women writers
 - when they came unsolicited
- Lorimer was a good editor because
 - his reply to the angry writer was polite
 - he apologized for rejecting the story without reading it
 - he could find the worth of a story with a little effort
 - he was prompt in writing letters
- The lady wrote a huffy letter because
 - her story was rejected
 - her story was rejected unread
 - her story was rejected although it was good
 - Lorimer was biased in his decision
- Lorimer's reply was
 - irrelevant
 - rude
 - witty
 - funny

35. Lorimer read the stories
 (a) because he enjoyed reading them
 (b) in order to publish them
 (c) only to find fault with them
 (d) in order to review them

Passage 9

As the tortoise tucks its feet and head inside the shell and will not come out even though you may break the shell into pieces, even so the character of the man who has control over his motives and organs, is unchangeably established. He controls his own inner forces, and nothing can draw them out against his will. By this continuous reflex of good thoughts and good impressions moving over the surface of the mind, the tendency to do good becomes strong, and in consequence, we are able to control the Indriyas or sense organs.

36. The author uses the phrase 'inner forces' in this passage. Which of the following would be its most correct meaning in the context?
 (a) Emotional disturbances in man
 (b) Strength of the internal organs
 (c) Forces produced by sense organs
 (d) Reflection of the intellect
37. Which of the following statements would illustrate the metaphor in the passage?
 (a) Man is slow-moving and slow-witted
 (b) A man of character refuses to be influenced by outside compulsions against his will
 (c) Man confines himself to a life of isolation
 (d) Man cannot have a good character or strong will
38. Which of the following statements may be assumed to reflect the central theme of the passage?
 (a) Good thoughts lead to the control of the sense organs
 (b) Control of the sense organs leads to good thoughts
 (c) Character, though established, may be disturbed by outside forces
 (d) No man can achieve success in destroying the inner forces
39. Which of the following statements would be most correct in explaining the metaphorical meaning of 'break the shell into pieces'?
 (a) Destruction of the human body
 (b) Breaking of the physical environment of man
 (c) Attempt to destroy man's character
 (d) Inflicting physical and mental agony on man
40. The passage consists of two long sentences and a short one. The purpose of this style could be to suggest that
 (a) it is impossible for man to attain perfection of character
 (b) the attainment of perfect character is the result of a long process of mental discipline
 (c) the whole life process is clumsy
 (d) there is a lot of confusion in our understanding of sense organs, character, etc

Passage 10

One of the most serious problems confronting our country is that of a fast-growing population. In fact, it is at the root of many other problems. At the moment, thanks to planning, we are able to produce food and cloth sufficient for our people and even a little in excess. But if the population continues to grow at this rate, it will not be long before the surplus turns into a bare minimum, and even a deficit. The position in regard to accommodation is even now far from satisfactory in spite of our efforts.

41. "It is at the root of many other problems" means that
 (a) it is found along with many other problems
 (b) it is caused by many other problems
 (c) it gives rise to many other problems
 (d) it is buried under many other problems
42. The present satisfactory position in regard to food and cloth is due to
 (a) the fact that the population has been controlled
 (b) our good luck
 (c) good rainfall
 (d) our economic planning
43. If the population of India continues to increase at this rate, the situation in regard to food and cloth
 (a) is likely to remain the same
 (b) is likely to become less satisfactory
 (c) is likely to improve
 (d) is likely to vary up and down
44. The situation in respect of accommodation
 (a) is less than satisfactory
 (b) is quite satisfactory
 (c) is improving rapidly
 (d) is the result of total neglect
45. At present Indians have
 (a) more provision for cloth than accommodation
 (b) more provision for accommodation than cloth
 (c) abundance of cloth and accommodation
 (d) scarcity of cloth and accommodation

CDS 2011-II

Passage 11

One day, we were becalmed among a group of small islands, most of which appeared to be uninhabited. As soon as we were in want of fresh water, the captain sent the boat ashore to bring off a cask or two. But, we were mistaken in thinking there were no natives, for scarcely had we drawn near to the shore when a band of savages rushed out of the bush and assembled on the beach, brandishing their clubs and spears in a threatening manner.

46. The captain sent the boat to the shore to
 (a) look for inhabitants
 (b) find help
 (c) find a place to settle there
 (d) fetch some water

47. The savages brandished their spears in order to
 (a) display their skill
 (b) frighten the crew
 (c) welcome the crew to the island
 (d) tell the crew to leave
48. The inhabitants of the islands were
 (a) man-eaters (b) pirates
 (c) cruel people (d) primitive tribes

Passage 12

Nelson Mandela was appointed national volunteer-in-chief of the Defence Campaign; his deputy was Maulvi Cachalia whose father had been one of the bravest resisters alongside Gandhi in 1907. Mandela toured the Cape, Natal and the Transvaal, visiting houses in the townships, explaining the plans, sometimes talking through the night. His task was to inspire people with confidence in their ability to overcome oppression through a direct non-violent challenge to the government. As always, there were the problems of being black in small towns, no hotels or taxis for Africans, nor were there telephone lines in township homes. This meant walking miles to the location and knocking on a likely looking door. Sometimes they were welcomed by an enthusiastic stranger, sometimes rebuffed by the cautious.

49. The purpose of Mandela's talks was to help people
 (a) court arrests
 (b) oppose oppression
 (c) join him in his campaign tours
 (d) get small town facilities
50. It is clear from the passage that the black Africans
 (a) enjoyed small town facilities
 (b) were helped by Gandhi in their freedom struggle
 (c) had an unfavourable government
 (d) liked visiting homes in townships

Passage 13

One day an army group won a land battle against the enemy. The commander feared that the enemy's powerful air force might bomb his camp that night in revenge. So he ordered all lights to be put out at 7.00 pm. At midnight the commander went round inspecting the camp. Seeing a light in a tent, he entered it. His son, an officer under him, was writing a letter. The son explained that he was writing to his mother about his brave deeds in battle. The commander told his son to add to his letter that by the time his mother received the letter he would have been shot dead for indiscipline.

51. The commander went round the camp at midnight because he
 (a) was too tired from the day's battle to go to sleep
 (b) wished to check if his soldiers had obeyed his order
 (c) was too worried about the next day's battle
 (d) wished to check if enemies had entered his camp
52. The commander entered his son's tent because he
 (a) wished to see and talk to his son
 (b) suspected that enemies had entered his tent
 (c) wished to send a message to his wife
 (d) had to punish any soldier who disobeyed his order

53. The son was writing a letter because he
 (a) wanted to write to his mother about his father's brave deeds in battle
 (b) loved his mother so much that he had to write to her
 (c) was eager to tell his mother about his own deeds
 (d) did not care for orders, since his father was the commander

Passage 14

The heat-wave deepened during the following few days while Jack and I lazed about in the house and yards, wearing ragged shirts and discarded garments, because the more presentable ones were being packed by mother. She was obviously not strong enough to cycle down to Hampshire, where father and Jack had been one weekend, to see and rent a cottage in Ropley, near Alresford. From this prospective journey Jack had returned with half a dozen photographs taken with a plate-camera which he had made for himself, the aperture being a pinhole. This was only one of his many ingenious artefacts. I had studied the pictures, which included a church that leaned backwards, in the hope of finding that perpetually teasing certainty which we look for when about to take some adventurous step into the unknown. But Ropley remained unreal.

54. During the hot summer days the author and Jack
 (a) were taking adventurous steps into the unknown
 (b) went visiting several churches in Ropley
 (c) were busy repairing a camera
 (d) were passing their time in idleness
55. They were planning
 (a) to move out to Ropley
 (b) a trekking expedition to Alresford
 (c) to do some photography
 (d) to make some artefacts
56. The author and Jack were wearing ragged shirts and discarded garments because
 (a) they were very poor
 (b) it was summer
 (c) all their good clothes were already packed
 (d) they were lazing about
57. The plate camera
 (a) was the only artefact made by father and Jack
 (b) was the only artefact Jack had made for himself
 (c) was only one of Jack's many such artefacts
 (d) was borrowed by Jack from his friend for taking half a dozen photographs
58. Father and Jack had been to Ropley one weekend
 (a) to take photographs of the church that leaned backwards
 (b) because Ropley was unreal
 (c) to take some adventurous step into the unknown
 (d) to see and rent a cottage there

Passage 15

One day a tea contractor, Mr Sharma was working on an estate with his wife and daughter. He noticed a light movement on the edge of the jungle, so he stopped to watch for a moment. To his astonishment a large tigress appeared and came towards

Mr Sharma. The tea contractor was a very brave man. He told his wife and daughter to run towards a nearby road, while he stepped to fight the tigress with a knife.

The tigress sprang at Mr Sharma and knocked him down, but he managed to wound it with his knife. As a result, the tigress and Mr Sharma knocked each other unconscious. Luckily for Mr. Sharma, a friend heard the noise of the fight and came to investigate. He found Mr Sharma and carried him to the road. Then, he stopped a car and sent the injured man to a hospital, where he eventually recovered.

The tigress disappeared for a few days but was later hunted down and shot by a game ranger. The game ranger discovered that the tigress had injured her paw in a wire trap and had been unable to hunt wild animals in its normal manner.

59. When did Mr Sharma's friend go to see, what was wrong?
 (a) When he saw the tigress attacking his friend
 (b) Just before the tigress was knocked down
 (c) When the friend was knocked down
 (d) When he heard something unusual
60. When Mr Sharma saw the tigress, he was
 (a) surprised (b) afraid (c) nervous (d) angry
61. Mr Sharma stayed on to fight the tigress for
 (a) he wanted to try to protect his wife and daughter
 (b) he was a strong man who loved fighting
 (c) he couldn't run as quickly as his wife
 (d) the tigress caught him before he could run

CDS 2010-I

Passage 16

The sky was already full of rusting wings. But when Jean stepped into the still lusterless water, he seemed to be swimming in an indeterminate darkness until he saw the streaks of red and gold over the horizon. Then he suddenly swam back to land and clambered up the winding path to his house. After a great deal of panting he reached a little gate, pushed it open and climbed a stairway. The house above the world had its huge bay-windows through which one could see the horizon from one edge to the other. Here, no one complained of exhaustion. Everyone had his joy to conquer, everyday.

62. Which of the following is/are indicated by the description in the passage?
 1. Time before sunrise 2. Time after sunset
 3. Clouds 4. Birds
 Select the correct answer using the codes given below
 (a) 2 and 3 (b) 2 only (c) 2, 3 and 4 (d) 1 and 4
63. What do the words 'great deal of panting' imply?
 1. Jean was too weak to walk.
 2. Jean's house was on a hill.
 3. Jean was too tired to walk after swimming.
 4. Jean's house was too far away from the shore.
 Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
 (a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 only (c) 2, 3 and 4 (d) 1 and 4

CDS 2010-I

Passage 17

Punctually at midday he opened his bag and spread out his professional equipment, which consisted of a dozen cowrie shells, a square piece of cloth with obscure mystic charts on it, a note book, and a bundle of Palmyra writing. His forehead was resplendent with sacred ash and vermilion, and his eyes sparkled with a sharp abnormal gleam which was really an outcome of a continual searching look for customers, but which his simple clients took to be a prophetic light and felt comforted. The power of his eyes was considerably enhanced by their position placed as they were between the painted forehead and the dark whiskers which streamed down his cheeks: even a half-wit's eyes would sparkle in such a setting. To crown the effect he wound a saffron-coloured turban around his head. This colour scheme never failed. People were attracted to him as bees are attracted to cosmos or dahlia stalks.

64. From the description of this passage one can make out the person to be a
 (a) snake charmer
 (b) footpath vendor
 (c) astrologer
 (d) priest
65. The eyes of the person described sparkled because
 (a) he was sitting under ware/are midday Sun
 (b) he was always looking for possible clients
 (c) his forehead was bright with ash and vermilion
 (d) he was full of joy
66. The person opened his bag
 (a) to search for something he needed
 (b) to indicate the start of his work
 (c) to keep his professional equipment
 (d) to take out things for display
67. The tone of the description is
 (a) sad (b) neutral
 (c) ironic (d) sympathetic

CDS 2010-I

Passage 18

'Punctuality' said Louis XIV, 'is the politeness of Kings'. It is the mark of a gentleman, and 'the necessity of men in business'. Washington once took his secretary to task for being late. The secretary laid the blame upon his watch. Washington retorted "Then sir, either you must get a new watch or I must get a new secretary". Much of our success in life depends upon our being punctual in our undertakings and appointments. Hence the necessity of steadily cultivating this virtue in our daily life.

68. Washington wanted
 (a) to get a new watch
 (b) to get a new secretary
 (c) his secretary to get a new watch
 (d) his secretary to be punctual

Punctuality is a virtue

68. (a) which is appreciated by kings
(b) which is difficult to cultivate
(c) which is necessary for success in life
(d) which can make daily life pleasant

CDS 2010-I

Passage 19

Fortunately it is as yet only through fantasy that we can see what the destruction of the scholarly and scientific disciplines would mean to mankind. From history we can learn what their essence has meant. The sheer power of disciplined thought is revealed in practically all the great intellectual and technological advances which the human race has made. The ability of the man of disciplined mind to direct this power effectively upon problems for which he has not specifically trained is proved by examples without number. The real evidence for the value of liberal education lies in history and in the biographies of men who have met the valid criteria of greatness. These support overwhelmingly the claim of liberal education that it can equip a man with fundamental powers of decision and action, applicable not only to boy-girl relationship, to tinkering hobbies, or to choosing the family dentist, but to all the great and varied concerns of human life — not least, those that are unforeseen.

70. Liberal education enables a person to
(a) read with more discernment than others
(b) apply general principles to resolve issues
(c) gain prestige
(d) develop a clearer understanding of history than others
71. In this passage, the author stresses the importance of
(a) education for living
(b) technological advances
(c) increased interest in the study of history
(d) satisfying the desire for security
72. In this passage, the expression 'specifically trained' refers to
(a) characteristically trained (b) particularly trained
(c) peculiarly trained (d) ostensibly trained
73. According to the author, 'the great and varied concerns of human life' are about
(a) fundamental rights (b) challenges facing mankind
(c) tinkering hobbies (d) liberal education

CDS 2010-I

Passage 20

Now-a-days we are amused by professionals. Why listen to your friends singing when you can hear the great singers of the world on the gramophone or the radio? Why read even a detective story if you can see one at the cinema, and why play football with players who are not very good when you can go, by train or car, to see some of the best players in your country playing an important match; or, if you have a television set, just sit comfortably at home and watch the same without the trouble of going outside?

74. The primary criticism of the author about his contemporaries is that
(a) they are unprofessional and unskilled
(b) they want to enjoy all the good things of life
(c) they waste all their time with amusements
(d) they have a lazy and mechanical attitude towards amusements
75. The impression you get about the author is that he is
(a) a cynic (b) an old timer
(c) a reformer (d) a social critic

CDS 2010-I

Passage 21

A male Jackdaw's courtship behaviour is astonishingly human. All his movements are consciously strained and his proudly reared head and neck are permanently in a state of self-display. He provokes the other Jackdaws continually if the female Jackdaw is looking on and he purposefully becomes embroiled in conflicts with otherwise deeply respected superiors. Above all, he seeks to impress his loved one with the possession of a potential nesting site, from which he drives all other Jackdaws, irrespective of their rank.

76. A 'courtship behaviour' may best be described as
(a) the behaviour of a Jackdaw who shows off his feathers
(b) the behaviour of a male bird to attract a female bird
(c) the behaviour by which a male bird displays its beauty to the female bird
(d) the behaviour of any male to win a female of the same species
77. Which of the phrases best helps to bring out the precise meaning of 'consciously strained'?
(a) Proudly reared and exhibited
(b) Permanently in a state of display
(c) Purposefully put in a state of display
(d) Possession of nesting site
78. The most important 'trick' of the Jackdaw to win his female is
(a) displaying his head and neck
(b) to be like a human being
(c) to become embroiled with other birds
(d) to possess a place for building a nest
79. The Jackdaw fights with other Jackdaws because
(a) he does not respect the senior birds
(b) he wants to fight with his rivals
(c) he does not like to be challenged
(d) he wants to show off
80. Which of the following statements best describes the central theme of the passage?
(a) The courtship behaviour of birds
(b) The similarities between the courtship behaviour of birds and men
(c) The astonishing facts about the Jackdaw's love life
(d) The scientific study of the Jackdaw's life

CDS 2010-I

Passage 22

Young seekers after peace know that only equal trust shown to all the peoples of the earth and not just to a few of them, can lead to the healing of the wounds that tear them apart and so it is essential never to humiliate the members of a nation whose leaders have committed inhuman acts. Essential also is boundless concern for so many men and women who today, as exiles or immigrants, live on foreign soil. If every home was open to somebody of foreign origin, the racial problem would be partially solved.

81. For the reconciliation and unity it is essential
- to have no discrimination in the trust shown to the people of the earth
 - to have young seekers after peace
 - to have confidence in at least a few of the people
 - to punish the leaders who committed inhuman sins
82. To make the members of a nation responsible for the inhuman acts of their leaders is
- unimportant
 - understandable
 - unjust
 - undesirable
83. Boundless concern should be shown to
- one's own country men alone
 - the people belonging to our friendly nations only
 - the foreigners who just visit our country
 - all the exiles living away from their native lands
84. The theme of the passage is
- rigid nationalism alone can help peaceful co-existence
 - trusting all the people of the earth may lead to serious problems
 - being cautious of others is a must to live in peace
 - concern for everyone irrespective of the race or country

CDS 2010-I

Passage 23

We shall go on to the end, we shall fight in France, we shall fight on the seas and oceans, we shall fight with growing confidence and strength in the air, we shall defend our island whatever the cost may be, we shall fight on the beaches, we shall fight on the landing grounds, we shall fight in the fields and in the streets, we shall fight in the hills. We shall never surrender, and even if this island or a large part of it were subjugated and starving, then our empire beyond the seas would carry on the struggle, until the New World steps forth to the rescue and the liberation of the Old.

85. On the basis of the passage, which of the following statements may be said to be correct?
- The speaker is encouraging his men for the conquest of France
 - The speaker is aggressive and maniacal war-monger
 - The speaker is not satisfied with the conquest of the island
 - The speaker is a patriot urging the defence of his motherland

86. The speaker in the passage wants to go on fighting because
- he is a raving lunatic
 - he is in a state of utter despair
 - he expects help from other quarters
 - he is the leader of a suicide squad
87. Which of the following pairs of the phrases helps best to bring out the intention of the speaker?
- "Go on to the end" ; "shall never surrender"
 - "Growing confidence" ; "subjugated and starving"
 - "Subjugated and starving" ; "fight on the landing ground"
 - "Fight in the streets" ; "subjugated and starving"
88. The passage consists of repetitive patterns in syntax and vocabulary. The effect of this style is that it
- reveals the speaker's defects in giving a speech
 - produces the impression of bad poetry
 - conveys the speaker's helpless situation
 - reinforces the speaker's basic intention

CDS 2009-II

Passage 24

Popular illusions about birds extend further than the use of the word 'egg-shape' that would suggest that all eggs are alike. For instance, there is the popular idea that owls hoot. Actually, only very few owls hoot and these include the common brown or tawny-wood owl. The white barn owl screeches; the little owl has a wailing cry; the long-eared owl barks; and the short-eared owl snorts! Another mistaken idea is that all ducks 'quack', because the common farmyard duck is a domesticated form of the common wild duck or mallard that quacks. Actually most wild ducks call with whistles.

89. The main purpose of this passage is
- to describe the life of popular birds
 - to show our incorrect ideas of bird life
 - to show our perfect knowledge about birds
 - to describe the calls of owls and ducks
90. The impression created by repeating the terms, 'popular' and 'common' are
- human beings are closely attached to birds
 - our ideas about birds are derived from the most common types
 - owls and ducks are our favourite birds
 - domesticated birds are our source of information about the bird world
91. The common duck is not a separate species but a tamed version of wild variety because it
- whistles like most wild ducks
 - grunts like the tufted duck
 - has the same call as other ducks
 - quacks like the mallard

Passage 25

"What is sixteen and three multiplied?" asked the teacher. The boy blinked. The teacher persisted, and the boy promptly answered: "twenty-four", with, as it seemed to the teacher, a wicked smile on his lips. The boy evidently was trying to fool him and was going contrary on purpose. He had corrected this error repeatedly, and now the boy persisted in saying "twenty-four". How could this fellow be made to obtain fifty in the class test and go up by double-promotion to the first form, as his parents fondly hoped? At the mention of "twenty-four" the teacher felt all his blood rushing to his head. He controlled himself, and asked again: "How Much?" as a last chance. When the boy said the same thing obstinately, he felt as if his finger was releasing the trigger: he reached across the table, and delivered a wholesome slap on the youngster's cheek.

92. The boy answered the question
 (a) with fear and anxiety
 (b) with the intention to fail in the class test
 (c) to make some fun in the class
 (d) when the teacher persisted in asking
93. The teacher felt blood rushing to his head because
 (a) there was an arrogant smile on the boy's lips
 (b) he thought the boy was hopelessly dull
 (c) he thought the boy made the mistake deliberately
 (d) the boy gave a wrong answer to such a simple question
94. The teacher controlled his anger because
 (a) he remembered the fond hopes of boy's parents
 (b) he wanted to give another opportunity to the boy
 (c) the boy was too young to pick up mathematics fast
 (d) he believed that the boy must be taught the lesson again

Passage 26

I was at the shop early. He was standing behind the counter and as soon as I saw him, I knew that there would be some unpleasantness. Higson is never at his best unshaven, in slippers and braces and smoking on an empty stomach. The atmosphere of the little shop was heavy with the bitter odour of fresh newspaper's print and ink: stacks of crisp newspapers and magazines lay neatly on the counter, and Higson and the boy were making up the daily mend.

95. At the shop Mr Higson appeared in
 (a) his joy of smoking
 (b) his most slipshod condition
 (c) the most unusual condition
 (d) in a strange mood
96. The overall atmosphere in the shop was
 (a) pleasant, wholesome and welcome.
 (b) heavy with a lot of goods placed there
 (c) with the inactivity of the early morning
 (d) congenial and businesslike

Passage 27

A village must have some trade; and this village has always been full of vitality and power. Obscure and happy, its splendid energies had found employment in wresting a livelihood out of the earth, whence had come a certain dignity, and kindness, and love for other men. Civilization did not relax these energies,

but it had diverted them; and all the special qualities, which might have helped to heal the world, had been destroyed. The family affection, the affection for the commune, the sane pastoral virtues - all had perished. No villain had done this thing: it was the work of ladies and gentlemen who were rich and often clever.

97. Village life is praised by the author because it
 (a) helps villagers to achieve material prosperity
 (b) makes men complacent
 (c) breeds humane virtues
 (d) is free from the din and hurry of city life
98. Civilization mainly destroys
 (a) the ability to create employment
 (b) family affection and pastoral virtues
 (c) medical facilities for the rural people
 (d) agricultural trade
99. The tone used by the author in the last sentence of the passage is
 (a) lamenting (b) sarcastic
 (c) complimentary (d) ironic

Passage 28

The art of growing old is one which the passage of time has forced upon my attention. Psychologically there are two dangers to be guarded against in old age. One of these is undue absorption in the past. It does not do to live in memories, in regrets for the good old days. One's thoughts must be directed to the future. This is not always easy; one's past is a gradually increasing weight. The other thing to be avoided is clinging to youth on the hope of sucking vigour from its vitality.

100. "By the art of growing old", the author means
 (a) some special skill by applying which one can grow old
 (b) that growing old is like creating a work of art
 (c) the acceptance of old age as a fact of life
 (d) the refusal on one's part to grow old
101. The passage deals with the process of growing old. What does it describe?
 (a) The decay of the senses in old age
 (b) The psychological problems of old men
 (c) The desire in man to grow old
 (d) An old man's ability to recollect his past
102. "It does not do to live in memories." This statement means that
 (a) the past is not contained in memories
 (b) the old men are very forgetful
 (c) old men often think of the past
 (d) thinking of the past does no good to old men
103. It is difficult for old men to think of the future because
 (a) they are unable to think
 (b) they do not know what the future is like
 (c) the past occupies their minds
 (d) their feeling that the past was far more happier than the present grows stronger day by day

Passage 29

It was Galileo and Newton—notwithstanding that Newton himself was a deeply religious man—who destroyed the old comfortable picture of a friendly universe governed by spiritual values. And this was effected, not by Newton's discovery of the law of gravitation nor by any of Galileo's brilliant investigations, but by the general picture of the world which these men and others of their time made the basis of the science, not only of their own day, but of all succeeding generations down to the present. That is why the century immediately following Newton, the eighteenth century, was notoriously an age of religious skepticism. Skepticism did not have to wait for the discoveries of Darwin and the geologists in the nineteenth century. It flooded the world immediately after the age of the rise of science.

104. 'The old comfortable picture of a friendly universe' was
- a universe governed by religious beliefs
 - a universe with men like Newton who were deeply religious
 - a universe investigated by Galileo and Newton
 - the century immediately following Newton
105. Religious skepticism arose because
- Galileo and Newton were not religious, being scientists
 - Newton discovered the law of gravitation
 - of the discoveries of Darwin and the geologists of the nineteenth century
 - of the picture of the world that became the basis of science after the seventeenth century

Passage 30

Although Louis Braille died when he was only forty-three years old, he succeeded in devising a system of reading and writing for the blind which is now taught all over the world. Braille lost his sight accidentally as a child. Nevertheless, he was able to complete his education at a school for the blind in Paris and became a teacher. In his day, the few books that were available for blind people were printed in big, raised type; the letters used were those of the ordinary alphabet. The reading of such books required immense effort. Not only that, writing was almost impossible, for a blind person was still restricted to an alphabet which was extraordinarily difficult to reproduce on paper. Braille's idea was to use raised dots, instead of raised letters. He evolved a system, which made use of only six dots in all. By various combinations of these dots, it not only proved possible to represent each letter in the alphabet, but punctuation marks, numbers and musical notation as well. Reading and writing for the blind have thus become enormously simplified. The sensitive fingers of a blind person can travel rapidly over the dots; and there is a small machine, something like a typewriter, which enables the blind to write quickly and clearly.

106. Louis Braille

- was born blind
- lost his sight when he was a child
- lost his sight accidentally when he was forty-three years old
- was not blind, but studied at a school for the blind

107. Before Braille's invention, the blind had difficulty in reading because

- there were only printed books
- there were no schools for the blind
- the few books available used the raised letters of the ordinary alphabet
- the books meant for the blind were heavy

108. Braille's system uses

- only six dots
- numbers and musical notation
- ordinary alphabets in big raised type
- a combination of alphabet and punctuation

109. Braille's system allows the blind

- to write with ease
- to read easily
- to read as well as write with ease
- to read easily but to write with great effort

Passage 31

The Indian culture of our times is in the making. Many of us are striving to produce a blend of all cultures that seem today to be in clash with one another. No culture can live, if it attempts to be exclusive. There is no such thing as pure Aryan culture in existence in India today. Whether the Aryans were indigenous to India or were unwelcome intruders, does not interest me much. What does interest me is the fact that my remote ancestors blended with one another with the utmost freedom and we of the present generation are a result of that blend. I do not want my house to be walled in, on all sides and my windows to be stuffed. I want the cultures of all lands to be blown about my house as freely as possible. But I refuse to be blown off my feet by any. I would have any young men and women with literary tastes to learn as much of English and other world-languages as they like; and then expect them to give the benefits of their learning to India and the world alike like a Bose, a Ray or Tagore. But I would not have a single Indian forget, neglect or be ashamed of his mother tongue, or feel that he or she cannot think or express the best thoughts in his or her own vernacular. Mine is not a religion of the prison house.

110. The author views Indian Culture as

- pure Aryan culture
- a clash of cultures
- a continual blend of cultures
- the culture of remote ancestors

111. The author thinks that

- the Aryans were indigenous to India
- the Aryans were unwelcome intruders
- the question whether the Aryans were indigenous or not is not of interest
- the culture that we have inherited is the Aryan culture

112. The author wants

- the cultures of others to be kept out
- the cultures of others to replace our old culture
- the freedom to blend other cultures with our own
- the preservation of the culture of our ancestors

113. The author wants Indians to
- learn only English, as much as they like
 - learn English and other world languages
 - learn only the mother tongue or the vernacular
 - English and other world languages in addition to the mother tongue

CDS 2009-I

Passage 32

Whatever could be said was said. All held him guilty. Even his own mother who claimed to understand him the best. All had betrayed him in his hour of need. Yet, there he was still with a sparkling hope and knew that the truth must prevail. In the cold, dark and damp cell he never for a moment lost faith in God and goodness and was waiting anxiously for an angel to come, plead non guilty for him and free him of his miseries.

114. Three of the following statements indicate that he had a sparkling hope. Which statement does not?
- He had never lost faith in God
 - He was sure there was goodness
 - He could have evidence in his favour
 - He knew that the truth must prevail
115. Whatever others said about him, he
- betrayed no one
 - thought over the problem
 - never lost faith in goodness
 - raised his voice against injustice
116. In the dark dungeon he always waited for
- his mother
 - the jailer
 - the verdict freeing him of his miseries
 - the angel to come and plead for him
117. The truth must prevail means
- he was true
 - angel will reveal truth
 - truth always wins in the end
 - we must plead for the truth

Passage 33

Once while travelling by the local bus, I got a seat beside a very strange man. He seemed interested in every passenger aboard. He would stare at a person, scribble some odd mathematical notations on his long notebook and then move on to the next. Being quite interested in what he was doing I asked him what all those notations meant and then came the startling reply. He saw a man's face not as a single unit, but as thousands of squares put together. He was infact a statistical expert and a budding artist learning the art of graphics.

118. The man was scribbling down
- the figures of co-passengers
 - the details of thousands of squares put together
 - some mathematical formulae and calculations
 - some mathematical signs

119. The man caught author's attention because
- he was sitting next to him
 - he was staring at every person in the bus
 - he would stare at every person and then scribble down some mathematical notation
 - he was a budding artist learning the art of graphics
120. The author found that man's reply quite startling because
- a statistical expert cannot be a budding scientist
 - a budding artist cannot be a statistical expert
 - graphics is still a rare art form and he was learning it while travelling in a bus
 - the fact that "a man's face can be analysed as thousands of squares" was a strange concept
121. From the passage, we gather that
- the author is very inquisitive
 - the author tries to poke his nose in other people's business
 - the author is interested in mathematical notations
 - the author wants to talk to fellow passengers in the bus

Passage 34

With the inevitable growth of specialisation I see the universities facing two great dangers. First, it is very easy to get so involved in the technical details of education that the object of education is lost. And secondly, in an effort to condition a university to the needs of its students and to the needs of the state it may lose its power to make or mould those students into responsible men, capable of thinking for themselves and capable of expressing the results of their thoughts to others.

122. The author calls growth of specialization 'inevitable'. Which one of the following statements is likely to be the most correct reason for this inevitability?
- Universities give grants only to do specialization work in different disciplines
 - The professors and researchers in universities are competent only for specialized work
 - Specialization helps economic growth of the nation
 - In an age of science and technology specialization becomes necessary
123. Which one of the following statements most correctly suggests the central theme of the passage?
- The aim of education is specialization
 - The aim of education is to mould the youth to work for the state
 - The aim of education is to make the youth capable of independent thought and expression
 - The aim of education is to enable the youth to earn a comfortable living
124. Which one of the following statements most correctly suggests the warning implied in the passage?
- University education should not be concerned with technical details

- (b) Universities should not subordinate themselves to the interests of the state
 (c) Universities should be concerned only with the needs of students
 (d) Universities should not go in for any specialization

Passages 35

One December night, a family had gathered around their fireside and piled it high with wood gathered from mountain streams and ruins of great trees that had come falling down the mountain sides. The fire roared and brightened the room with its light. The faces of the father and mother had a quiet gladness; the children laughed; the oldest daughter was the picture of happiness at seventeen; and the aged grandmother who sat sewing in the warmest place was the picture of happiness grown old.

125. The firewood had been
 (a) brought (b) stolen (c) collected (d) found
126. The parents looked
 (a) serene (b) cheerful (c) gloomy (d) dull
127. The oldest daughter looked
 (a) stupid (b) glad (c) intelligent (d) mournful

Passage 36

The unpleasant feeling passed and she glanced guardedly up at him. He was walking unmarked in moonlight, innocent of her reaction to him. She felt then - this thought had come to her before - that there might be more to him than she had imagined. She felt ashamed she had never thanked him for the help he had given her father.

128. She glanced at him when
 (a) he walked alone and unnoticed in moonlight
 (b) she was sure that she was not being noticed
 (c) her reactions did not have any effect on him
 (d) the unpleasant feeling passed
129. Her unpleasant feeling passed when
 (a) he did not take any notice of her
 (b) the moonlight was beautiful
 (c) she realized her sense of shame
 (d) she looked carefully at him
130. She was ashamed because
 (a) she was spying on him
 (b) there was more to him than she had imagined
 (c) a recurring thought came back to her
 (d) she had never thanked him for his help to her father

Passage 37

As I slung my pack onto my shoulders a big mosquito thudded against my cheek. There had been a few through the day, but it was early in the season - the ice had gone out just two weeks before - and I had scarcely noticed them. But now as I walked down the ridge, the last breeze faded, and they were on me. Rising in clouds from the soggy tundra, they pelted against my face. I reached in my pocket for the repellent and came up empty.

131. The traveller could not feel the breeze because
 (a) the mosquito had bitten him
 (b) he was at the foot of the ridge
 (c) there was no ice on the mountain
 (d) there was no breeze on the tundra mountain
132. The traveller carried with him
 (a) mosquito repellent (b) a pack of food
 (c) a sling (d) a back-pack
133. When he was in the arctic, the time of the year was
 (a) middle of winter (b) early autumn
 (c) early spring (d) middle of summer

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Passage 38

He dropped off to sleep. The cigarette slipped out of his mouth and burnt a great black hole in his only shirt. The smart of the burn awoke him, and he got up, cursing under his breath, and fumbled in the dark for a needle in order to sew up the hole. Otherwise his wife would see it in the morning and would nag away at him for a couple of hours. But he could not find a needle. He fell asleep again.

134. The cigarette fell out of the man's mouth because
 (a) he fell off his stool
 (b) he was surprised to see that it had made a hole in his shirt
 (c) he fell asleep while smoking
 (d) he fumbled in the dark for a needle
135. The man woke up in the dark because
 (a) the cigarette had burnt his favourite shirt
 (b) the cigarette had burnt his only shirt
 (c) the cigarette had to be lit again
 (d) the cigarette had burnt him
136. The man got up to search for a needle because
 (a) his wife would be very upset
 (b) the cigarette had damaged his only shirt
 (c) he wanted to mend the shirt
 (d) the burn-hole was huge and black
137. The man wanted to sew the hole because
 (a) he wanted to avoid being scolded by his wife
 (b) he had nothing else to do
 (c) he had no other shirt
 (d) he wanted to sleep again
138. Which one of the following statements best sums up the man's reaction to his problem?
 (a) The man is extremely upset to find the shirt burnt and frantically tries to repair the damage
 (b) The hole in the shirt and the wife's anticipated nagging are minor problems, the greater one is that the man cannot find a needle
 (c) Neither the shirt hole nor the nagging nor the lack of a needle is of great consequence
 (d) The man is terrified of his wife and dreads her discovering the burnt shirt

Passage 39

It happened one day, about noon, going towards my boat, I was exceedingly surprised with the print of a man's naked foot on the shore, which was very plain to be seen in the sand. I stood like one thunder-struck, or as if I had seen an apparition. I listened, I looked round me, I could hear nothing, nor see anything. I went up the shore, and down the shore, but it was all one; I could see no other impression but that one. I went to it again to see if there were any more, and to observe if it might not be my fancy; but there was no room for that, for there was exactly the very print of a foot toes, heel and every part of a foot.

139. On finding the footprint on the shore, what did the author do?
- Did not pay much attention to it
 - Observed it with curiosity
 - Began to investigate its origin
 - Ran away in fear
140. Which one of the following words best describes the emotion evoked by the footprint in the author?
- Curiosity
 - Indifference
 - Fear
 - Surprise
141. How does the author convince himself that the footprint is a real one?
- By finding the person who made it
 - By being told about it by a witness
 - By thinking about it for some time
 - By examining it carefully and noticing its details
142. Which one of these expressions best brings out the effect of the footprint on the author?
- Seen an apparition
 - Stood like one thunder-struck
 - Went up the shore
 - Looked round himself
143. The passage is full of short simple sentences. Their purpose is to
- facilitate easy understanding
 - give a plain narration
 - convey breathless excitement
 - imply the inability of the author to write in a better way

Passage 40

While I stood drinking in the beauty of this placid scene I became conscious of an alteration. In a moment the sole porter emerged from his midday nap, operated a signal that clanked noisily into position, and then ambled slowly towards me for my return-half-ticket, whilst I remarked that his red amiable face and easy-going gait were in perfect harmony with the tranquil surroundings. A wisp of smoke on the horizon with a dark snake crawling beneath it announced the approach of the train. As it drew nearer, the deep silence of the place was gradually displaced by a creaking of brakes and a hissing of steam.

Save for myself, no one entered the train and no one alighted. The porter with leisurely expertness, trundled a couple of milk churns on board, the door was slammed, the guard signalled to the driver, and we moved off, leaving the small station once more to its drowsy silence.

144. What does the author suggest by the word 'placid'?
- The scene was filled with noise of the train
 - The place was filled with lively humanity
 - The place was quite and lonely
 - The horizon looked smoke laden
145. Who/What does first break the silence of the station?
- The train
 - The porter
 - The passenger
 - Milk churns
146. Who had a midday nap?
- The author
 - The passenger
 - The Station-master
 - The porter
147. The central idea of the passage is
- leisure and peace
 - hurry and noise
 - activity
 - the Porter
148. The meaning of drowsy is
- untidy
 - sleepy
 - freezing
 - drugged

Passage 41

Deriving your authority from the government, your position would secure the respect and consideration of everyone, especially in a service where official rank carries so much weight. This would secure to you every attention and comfort on your way and there, together with a complete submission to your orders. I know these things are a matter of indifference to you except so far as they may further the great objects you have in view, but they are of importance in themselves, and of every importance to those who have a right to take an interest in your personal position and comfort.

149. 'The great objects' in the passage means
- significant items
 - noble goals
 - precious merchandise
 - objects of praise
150. The writer is asking his reader to accept
- great objects
 - a respected position
 - an official rank
 - a significant assignment
151. The person addressed is most likely a
- social worker
 - government servant
 - commercial agent
 - foreign dignitary
152. The writer's attitude towards the person addressed is characterised by
- officiousness
 - flattery
 - humility
 - arrogance
153. The above passage most probably is a part of a
- speech
 - official communication
 - written report
 - personal letter

Passage 42

The New Year is a time for resolutions. Mentally at least, most of us could compile formidable lists of do's and don'ts. The same old favourites recur year in and year out with monotonous regularity. Past experience has taught us that certain accomplishments are beyond attainment. If we remain inveterate smokers, it is only because we have so often experienced the frustration that results from failure. Most of us fail in our efforts at self-improvement because our schemes are too ambitious and we never have time to carry them out. We also make the fundamental error of announcing our resolutions to everybody so that we look even more foolish when we slip back into our old bad ways.

154. The phrase 'formidable lists of do's and don'ts' means that
- (a) the bad points of our character are formidable
 - (b) the list is so long that it is frightening
 - (c) the things that need to be included is frightening
 - (d) the realisation that we are so imperfect is frightening
155. "The same old favourites recur..... with.. monotonous regularity" implies that
- (a) we want to be so perfect that we include some items regularly
 - (b) we have been so regularly doing certain things that they have become monotonous
 - (c) in spite of repeated failures, we still would like to try one more time
 - (d) some favourite actions if repeated often could become monotonous
156. The author seems to imply that many are inveterate smokers because
- (a) they have not really tried to give up smoking
 - (b) they know from past experience that they can, never succeed in their attempt to give up
 - (c) they want to forget the frustration of not smoking
 - (d) they do not have the will power to stop smoking
157. The author says that most of us fail in our attempts at self-improvement because
- (a) we set too high goals for ourselves
 - (b) we do not have the persistence of mind
 - (c) our nature is such that we cannot become perfect
 - (d) certain imperfections have become a part and parcel of our lives
158. The author seems to think that others
- (a) feel happy when we slip back to our old ways
 - (b) do not really want us to improve ourselves
 - (c) are ready to tease and laugh at our attempts
 - (d) might embarrass us by praising our attempts

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Passage 43

As civilization proceeds in the direction of technology, it passes the points of supplying all the basic essentials of life, food, shelter, cloth, and warmth. Then we are faced with a choice between using technology to provide and fulfil needs which have hitherto

been regarded as unnecessary or, on the other hand, using technology to reduce the number of hours of work which a man must do in order to earn a given standard of living. In other words, we either raise our standard of living above that necessary for comfort and happiness or we leave it at this level and work shorter hours. I shall take it as axiomatic that mankind has, by that time, chosen the latter alternative. Men will be working shorter and shorter hours in their paid employment.

159. "Then we are faced with a choice ..." what does 'then' refer to?
- (a) Then automation takes over many aspects of human life
 - (b) The present state of civilization
 - (c) The past stage of civilization
 - (d) After having provided the basic essentials of life
160. What does the passage suggest about the use of technology?
- (a) It creates new and essential needs for mankind
 - (b) It is opposed to the basic essentials of life
 - (c) It is complementary to a raised standard of living
 - (d) It is responsible for man's love of comfort and happiness
161. What does increased use of technology imply?
- (a) An advanced stage in human civilization
 - (b) A backward step in human culture
 - (c) Unnecessary comfort and happiness for mankind
 - (d) Man's zest for more and more work
162. What does the author suggest?
- (a) Man will gradually rise above his present stage in civilization
 - (b) Man will gradually settle down to the same stage with fewer hours of work
 - (c) Man will gradually raise his standard of living by working longer hours
 - (d) Man will gradually earn a given standard of living with the help of technology

Passage 44

It is said that ideas are explosive and dangerous. To allow them unfettered freedom is, in fact, to invite disorder. But to this position, there are at least two final answers. It is impossible to draw a line round dangerous ideas, and any attempt at their definition involves monstrous folly. If views, moreover, which imply disorder are able to disturb the foundations of the state, there is something supremely wrong with the governance of the state. For disorder is not a habit of mankind. We cling so eagerly to our accustomed ways that, as even Burke insisted, popular violence is always the outcome of a deep popular sense of wrong.

163. What is the central point that the passage emphasizes?
- (a) It is unnecessary to define dangerous ideas
 - (b) Dangerous ideas are born out of the enjoyment of freedom
 - (c) A well-governed state is unaffected by dangerous ideas
 - (d) Dangerous ideas originate from man's preoccupation with politics

164. From a close study of the passage, which one of the following statements emerges most clearly?
- The author is against the exercise of political freedom
 - He is indifferent to dangerous and explosive ideas
 - He welcomes violence as a method to change governments
 - He warns that violence is the outcome of popular dissatisfaction with the government

165. The author says, "We cling eagerly to our accustomed ways". Which one of the following statements may be considered as the assumption of the author?
- We are afraid of social changes
 - Mankind is averse to any disorder
 - We have developed inertia that makes us incapable of social action
 - There is an all-round lack of initiative in the society

166. Which of the following statements may most correctly bring out the significance of the opinion of Burke quoted in the passage?
- Burke advocated violence against injustice
 - Burke's opinion coincides with the author's opinion on explosive and dangerous ideas
 - Burke hated any popular uprising
 - Burke had no belief in political liberty

Passage 45

The psychological causes of unhappiness, it is clear, are many and various. But all have something in common. The typical unhappy man is one who, having been deprived in youth of some normal satisfaction, some come to value this one kind of satisfaction more than any other, and has therefore given to his life a one-sided direction, together with a quite undue emphasis upon the achievement as opposed to the activities connected with it. There is, however, a further development which is very common in the present day. A man may feel so completely thwarted that he seeks no form of satisfaction, but only distraction and oblivion. He then becomes a devotee of 'pleasure'. This is to say, he seeks to make life bearable by becoming less alive. Drunkenness, for example, is temporary suicide — the happiness that it brings is merely negative, a momentary cessation of unhappiness.

167. Who is a typical unhappy man?
- One who has been deprived of normal satisfaction in youth
 - One who finds life unbearable and attempts suicide
 - One who does not mind momentary unhappiness
 - One who seeks every form of satisfaction
168. "One sided direction" refers to the pursuit of which one of the following?
- Drinking and forgetfulness
 - The satisfaction one had been deprived of
 - Activities leading to happiness
 - Every form of psychological satisfaction
169. Which one of the following is the correct statement?
- Drinking helps the unhappy only to.....
 - forget their dissatisfaction

- get sublime happiness
- get the motivational needs fulfilled
- concentrate harder

170. What does "becoming less alive" imply?
- Neglect of health
 - Decline in moral values
 - Living in a make believe world
 - Leading a sedentary way of living

Passage 46

What is to be the limit of forgiveness? It would probably have been allowed by many of the ancients that an unforgiving temper was not to be commended. They would have said, we are not to exact a penalty for every nice offence, we are to overlook some things, we are to be blind sometimes. But they would have said at the same time, we must be careful to keep our self-respect, and to be on a level with the world. On the whole, they would have said, it is the part of a man fully to requite to his friends their benefits and to his enemies their injuries.

171. Which one of the following is the correct statement?
- According to the writer we must
- ignore an offence if it is nice
 - forgive people if they bring us nice presents
 - forgive pretty offenders
 - not punish each and every offence

172. Which one of the following is the correct statement?
- We must
- be blind if we want to forgive others
 - be blind to the faults of our friends
 - be indifferent to what others do
 - overlook certain things

173. Which one of the following is the correct statement? In ancient times people were
- ordered to lose their tempers
 - permitted to lose their tempers and not forgive their enemies
 - told that it was not good to have an unforgiving temper
 - advised to forgive each and every offence committed by both friends and foes

174. What is the underlying tone of the passage?
- We must be forgiving in general
 - We must forgive our friends
 - There is no limit whatsoever to our duty to forgive
 - We must always punish the wrong doer

Passage 47

Once upon a time I went for a week's holiday in the Continent with an Indian friend. We both enjoyed ourselves and were sorry when the week was over, but on parting our behaviour was absolutely different. He was plunged in despair. He felt that because the holiday was over all happiness was over until the world ended. He could not express his sorrow too much, but in me the Englishman came out strong. I could not see what there was to make a fuss about. It wasn't as if we were parting forever or dying. "Buck up", I said, "do buck up". He refused to buck up, and I left him plunged in gloom.

175. What is the continent in the context of the passage?

- (a) An island (b) The countryside
(c) Africa (d) Europe

176. What does the author mean by 'buck up'?

- (a) Buckle yourself up (b) Stand up
(c) Cheer up (d) Shut up

177. Why was the Indian friend plunged in despair?

- (a) He was hopeless
(b) He experienced racial discrimination
(c) He would never be so happy again
(d) He had spent lot of money

178. What does 'but in me the Englishman came out strong' imply?

- (a) He was a strong Englishman
(b) He had the typical English character
(c) The Englishman went out of him
(d) He started following Indian traditions

179. What is the author's intention in the passage?

- (a) To contrast the Indian character with the English character
(b) To show that an Indian is sorrowful
(c) To ridicule the Indian traditions
(d) To praise the Englishman

Passage 48

The world is very full of people-appallingly-full, it has never been so full before, and they are all tumbling over each other. Most of these people one doesn't know and some of them one doesn't like. Well, what is one to do? There are two solutions. One of them is the Nazi solution. If you don't like people, kill them, banish them, and segregate them. The other way is much less thrilling, but it is on the whole the way of the democracies, and I prefer it. If you don't like people, put up with them as well as you can. Don't try to love them; you can't, you'll only strain yourself. But try to tolerate them.

180. What does the author mean by 'appallingly'?

- (a) He is making an appeal to the leaders of the masses
(b) In disconcertingly large numbers
(c) Very interesting
(d) Unpredictably

181. Which one of the following is the correct statement?

According to the writer, Nazi solution is

- (a) the easiest solution (b) the readiest solution
(c) the national solution (d) the Hitlerian solution

182. Which one of the following is the correct statement?

The author thinks that the other solution is much less thrilling because it is

- (a) dull (b) based on tolerance
(c) not based on love (d) lacking in adventure

183. Which one of the following is the correct statement?

The author prefers the second solution because

- (a) he likes it
(b) he is not a Nazi
(c) he is essentially being a democrat
(d) there is no other way

Passage 49

We should preserve nature to preserve life and beauty. A beautiful landscape, full of green vegetation, will not just attract our attention but will fill us with infinite satisfaction. Unfortunately, because of modernization, much of nature is now yielding to towns, roads and industrial areas. In a few places some Natural reserves are now being carved out to avert the danger of destroying Nature completely. Man will perish without Nature, so modern man should continue this struggle to save plants, which give us oxygen, from extinction. Moreover, Nature is essential to man's health.

184. What does 'nature' in the passage mean?

- (a) Countryside covered with plants and trees
(b) Physical power that created the world
(c) Inherent things that determine character
(d) Practical study of plants and animals

185. Which one of the following is the correct statement?

According to the passage,

- (a) beauty is only skin-deep
(b) everything is beautiful in its natural state
(c) there is beauty in Nature
(d) Nature is a moral teacher

186. What does the writer suggest?

- (a) We should not modernize, so that Nature can be preserved
(b) While modernizing we should be careful not to destroy Nature completely
(c) All Nature has been destroyed by modern living
(d) Carving out Natural reserves will hamper the growth of industries

187. What does 'struggle' in the passage mean?

- (a) Man's struggle to exist in the world
(b) Man's struggle to save Nature
(c) Man's struggle to catch up with modern trends
(d) Man's struggle to conserve oxygen

188. Why a beautiful landscape 'will fill us with infinite satisfaction'?

- (a) We love beauty
(b) It is full of green vegetation
(c) It will ensure our future existence
(d) It will show our command over Nature

Answers

Exercise I

1. (c) In statement 1 'totally prohibit' is wrong because this is not mentioned in the passage. As per passage modern economics see everything from monetary approach, attitude for natural resources is not uneconomic as given in statement 2. Only option (3) can be linked with passage as it is given directly in the passage.
2. (a) Buddhist point of view says that non renewable resources should be used only when need cannot be avoided and conservation is highest concern. Same thing is mentioned in option (a). Other options are not true as per passage.
3. (c) Buddhist economists are not concerned with the prices of oil instead they are against the use of non renewable resources extravagantly or carelessly. So option (c) is right.
4. (b) Purpose of writing this passage is to emphasize the need of conservation of non renewable resources and author indicates this by giving Buddhist point of view in favor of this; he discusses modern economists to show dissent to their monetary approach to these non renewable energy resources versus renewable resources. So Option (b) is more appropriate than option (a).
5. (c) Passage starts on this note and in whole of passage this idea is developed through various examples.
6. (d) According to passage domestic chores are monotonous hence time consuming activities. Other options are not given in the passage. Option (b) is wrong because 'demanding' is against the spirit of passage. As robots are for time saving to gain leisure time but not to decrease the workload, as can be inferred from the passage.
7. (a) Robots are already being used of risky tasks as in mines and factories. Risky is synonym to hazardous.
8. (a) Development is work of scientists and it is said in passage that it requires a lot of research for developing robots. Question of capital investment is appropriate only after the model has been developed already.
9. (a) Meaning of 'insurmountable' is unattainable as used in passage.
10. (d) Passage starts with this sentence. Other options are out of context and are too farfetched.
11. (d) Passage says that industries in the world require huge supply of energy but they cannot base their demand on the oil wells only as they would dry in coming time and therefore can be called 'fragile'. So oil wells are described as 'fragile base'.
12. (d) The issue discussed in this passage is popular one as everyone is concerned with depleting oil supplies. Solution to the problem is scientific. It is a matter of concern for any department related to energy supplies for industries. But the type of writing as used in passage is political. As 'can not be allowed' seems very political in essence.
13. (c) Death is natural phenomenon as leaves or fruits fall from the trees. This is destiny of all.
14. (d) Ripeness is figurative for maturity which indicates fullness. Passage implies that a natural inevitable phenomenon like death occurs after a certain period, for a fruit this period is related with ripening of it.
15. (b) Option (b) is only logical statement which can be the answer of this question. Other options are not even close as these do not bring equality issue to fore.
16. (b) Theme of passage is uniqueness brought by innovative ways - 'stand out', 'set yourself apart', 'distinctive approach' 'no longer just another team' are some of phrases which clears the opinion of the author.
17. (b) Last line of passage shows the profession of the author.
18. (d) As described in the Q. NO 16. Theme of passage is uniqueness brought by innovative ways - 'stand out', 'set yourself apart', 'distinctive approach' 'no longer just another team' are some of phrases which clears the opinion of the author.
19. (c) As author wants to do something different from others to get noticed in competition he took the less treaded path of writing scripts for minor characters.
20. (d) First sentence of the passage states it.
21. (d) According to passage, wind power has now entered the commercial mainstream from being understood as an alternative energy. Subsequent parts of the passage describe it with examples of India and Germany.
22. (c) Passage says 25000 MW installed but the option says 25000 MW generated, these are two different things. In option (d) America is wrong as Germany is being discussed in the passage not the America. Option (b) is against the passage content. Only option (c) is directly stated in passage.
23. (d) 'Getting a ticket for running a stop sign' means getting a slip mentioning fine amount after jumping the stop signal. Caroline was driving without license or not is clear from passage. Speed limit is not an issue here. Local train is out of context.
24. (d) It is clear from the answer Caroline gave to Judge when he asked the same question.
25. (c) She was a part of the group of prospective jurors who were attending the training session as mentioned in the passage.
26. (c) It is clear from the intent of the whole passage that the courtesy was invariably given to author hence it was almost inevitable.
27. (d) Author gave the toned down reason to 'human touch' and this human touch comes from closeness of author to Englishmen.
28. (d) 'Should treat' indicates that they started to treat him respectfully because of his widespread popularity.
29. (c) In first sentence of the passage author presents English as most important language and in next sentence he states this as a reason for studying its evolution.
30. (a) This question is to be answered by option method as all other options are against the content of the passage.
31. (d) Objective evaluation is based on rationale and detailed in second part of passage by the author.

32. (b) Unemployment is given as the reason for the frustration of the youngsters. This employment results from the value less degrees and result of frustration is terrorism. So option (a) and (b) should be understood in this way. Option (d) is out of context.
33. (c) Responsibility of comprehending, analyzing the thought process of young person is given to sociologists by the author.
34. (d) Passage mentions that frustration is the reason of the violence along with unemployment. This is directly written in the passage.
35. (b) To resist restrictions and struggle to come out of it is natural tendency for living beings.
36. (c) It is directly written in the passage that it moves here there to find a way out.
37. (c) As identification with the situation increases urge to get free get suppressed.
38. (b) Urge to free is given as the reason for constantly changing its shape.
39. (b) Dictionary meaning of TOPOGRAPHY
- Detailed, precise description of a place or region.
 - Graphic representation of the surface features of a place or region on a map, indicating their relative positions and elevations.
 - A description or an analysis of a structured entity, showing the relations among its components
40. (c) School Education is formal instruction based education. Other options are just the parts of school discipline.
41. (c) Passage distinguishes the situations of the children of Urban and countryside, finds benefits of countryside children as they are freer.
42. (a) Topographical relevance is central point of passage.
43. (d) When you talk openly you reveal yourself to your partner, subsequently partner stop guessing.
44. (d) According to passage first you have to be honest with yourself. See the third line of passage.
45. (a) Leaving passive meditation one should try to talk actively with oneself.
46. (c) Change is only possible after assessing the present situation for an architect.
47. (b) Revelation is to disclose, to know the unknown, to open the hidden truth.
48. (c) 'Freedom of Press' is freedom from restriction in technical terms.
49. (d) People in option (a) is out of place. The public policies can only be the option. Other two are direct controllers of the press as per passage.
50. (d) Last sentence contains the answer. These 'invisible' restrictions are 'indirect factors'.
51. (a) Meetings are a waste of time as hours are spent on side issues or blaming each other than on the core issues or agendas.
52. (a) If something is widely held then it is believed by many people in a wide region.
53. (c) Option (d) is refuted in first sentence of the passage. Option (b) is out of context. From the option (a) and (c), latter is explicitly written in passage.
54. (c) according to passage lion has sweetness of character, gentle, sagacity, wise and courage, braveness.
55. (c) Startled means shocked and it also fits well with reference to the passage.
56. (c) Monster, human similarity or usual cruelty is not discussed in passage.
57. (c) As mentioned in the passage reason for going out of park was to avoid someone following the author's friend.
58. (d) 'Turning back again and again' and unusual pace indicates inwards trouble. These signs indicate that it is more than just escaping or avoiding. Option (a) and (b) are totally wrong in context of passage.
59. (c) Holding elbow of near one suddenly after seeing something is sign of panic. Other options are inappropriate as they have not even mentioned in the passage.
60. (b) Though question is little bit confusing along with statement in passage but it can be said that every boy and every girl is involved, might be in some tribes though.
61. (a) Author mentions that purpose of all this retreat was to secure the lifelong protection of an individual spirit and gain some mystery power by getting aid of these wandering spirits which were heard during this vigil.
62. (c) Last line of passage clears the option choice.
63. (b) Sound of gale suppressed the voice of little boy.
64. (d) First sentence of passage clearly shows that boy was walking behind his parents.
65. (b) When their dog started to bark furiously at helicopter then they realized/discovered that what had happened?
66. (d) Author thinks that dabbawallahs are by-product (produced simultaneously as a necessity) of over population of city.
67. (c) Passage links comfort with taking lunch at home for its proximity.
68. (d) Author explains role of dabbawallahs as a necessity and gives reasons for it so it is his objective observation for them.
69. (b) During winter, birds travel for coming down the hill.
70. (c) Birds on their part are very punctual but due to bad weather conditions they get delayed.
71. (d) Sunrise and day time are wrong. In dark does not imply midnight.
72. (b) Being in book trade for long time he left the book trade.
73. (a) It is mentioned in passage in third sentence.
74. (c) Last sentence of passage talks about auction and interest of author for it.
75. (c) Author himself declares that his mischief did not stop.
76. (a) His trend of passing examinations is shown as 'barely managed' and this trend of passing examinations with difficulty continues for BA examination also.
77. (c) Author starts passage on this note. Then he depicts teacher's attitude in lighter vein.
78. (c) Walking is least strenuous, safe exercise and is acceptable or recommended.
79. (a) Walking helps reducing the chances of heart attack by opening up the narrowed areas.
80. (d) Rupture/ bursting are given as a cause strokes after losing elasticity of blood vessels.

81. (d) Most probable reason for this type of disguise is avoiding suspicion of enemy. Now farmers can be associated with less talkative nature but that cannot be reached at from the passage.
82. (a) Plan was to hide the message and this methodology was adopted. Writing the message is possible on bald head is logical.
83. (a) To hide the message from the messenger is not given in the passage. Economical is not the intent of sender. Sending in person is not a guarantee of safe message. Intention of General was to conceal the message from the enemy.
84. (c) As tigers and lions are difficult to poach, leopards have become the centre point of poaching so there number will come down.
85. (a) Tigers are given medical value in China as given in passage.
86. (c) Other options do not have poachers in them.
87. (c) It was a dream of Sabu to make a sequel for the Thief of Bagdad.
88. (b) As he rescues the kingdom of Bagdad along with Princess he cannot be said to be only ardent lover. He is benevolent (kind) hero.
89. (d) Dream was to make a sequel hence to continue the story and it comes true when his daughter did that.
90. (a) Some examples of regeneration are given in passage to support this option. Festive time is not given in the passage. Period of plenty is too wide a term. Option (b) is not from passage.
91. (b) Everywhere there is spurt in activity – housewives, houses, lizards, flowers, etc.
92. (b) Lizards come out for fly-hunting as mentioned in last sentence of the passage.
93. (c) Author compares the telephone with a pest because it is killer of valuable time.
94. (d) It creates suspense and anxiety if expected call does not come.
95. (c) you always find people waiting before you in public booth and you are already in hurry unless you have gone for public booth so altogether this becomes horrible experience according to passage.
96. (b) In very first sentence of the passage it has been given that each type of protein performs specific function. Interchangeability of functions is not discussed in the passage. Availability in all organisms is not mentioned in passage.
97. (c) Passage confirms this option with giving examples of proteins and then explaining their functions.
98. (a) Function of enzymes is to direct all body cells chemical reactions.
99. (c) Different but completing each other in a sense can be interpreted through the passage for father mother of the author.
100. (a) Responsive face means evidently showing the inward feelings. Other options are absurd.
101. (d) Moral view point is based on ethical judgments.
102. (d) Option (a) is wrong as it goes against the passage. It is courtesies not options of mood to say 'please' as per passage. Option (c) is also against the sense of passage. According to author it should be used as a civilized custom.
103. (c) According to author these little courtesies keep machinery of life oiled and running sweetly or in other sense keeping life pleasant.
104. (c) Author has not mentioned specific use of these words in specific groups. So it is like a social custom for author that should be used by all.
105. (b) First sentence of the passage is reflecting the purpose of author to look for a place to put her daughter's memoirs.
106. (a) It mentioned in the passage as it is. It is matter of just locating the place of this in passage. Other options are far from the passage content.
107. (c) As no place in the house looked safe for author he put it right leg of his trousers. This question is about the poems of author not about the memoirs of her daughter so option (b) or (a) are wrong.

Exercise II

- (a) The first sentence of the passage gives the answer.
- (b) Answer can be inferred from the second last sentence of the passage.
- (d) The last sentence of the passage gives the answer.
- (c) The third sentence of the passage gives the answer.
- (a) The first sentence of the passage gives the answer.
- (c) The last sentence of the passage gives the answer.
- (d) The second sentence of the passage gives the answer.
- (a) 'Stupendous' in the passage means very high.
- (a) Answer can be inferred from the second last sentence of the passage.
- (a) The second sentence of the passage gives the answer.
- (b) Obvious answer from among the given options.
- (d) clearly stated in the passage.
- (d) The first few lines of the passage give the answer.
- (b) Clear from the reading of the passage.
- (d) The fourth sentence of the passage gives the answer.
- (c) Clear from the second last and the third last sentences of the passage.
- (c) Can be inferred from the second sentence of the passage.
- (a) Clearly stated in the passage.
- (a) According to the passage other three can't be the answers.
- (a) Option (a) correctly expresses the meaning.
- (d) Clear from the reading of the passage.
- (b) Refer to 'Some of were done'.
- (b) Can be inferred from the third sentence of the passage.
- (c) Refer to 'preventive against smallpox'.
- (b) Can be inferred from the last sentence of the passage.
- (a) Easy choice from among the given options.
- (b) Clearly stated in the passage.

28. (d) Refer to 'No doubt humanistic education'.
29. (d) Can be inferred from the last few sentences.
30. (c) Can be inferred from the last sentence.
31. (d) The first sentence of the passage gives the answer.
32. (c) Easy choice from among the given options.
33. (b) Can be inferred from the second paragraph.
34. (c) The last sentence of the passage gives the answer.
35. (b) The last two sentences of the passage give the answer.
36. (c) Clear from the reading of the passage.
37. (b) Easy choice from among the given option.
38. (a) Refer to 'By this sense organs'.
39. (c) Obvious from the reading of the passage.
40. (b) Easy choice from among the given options.
41. (c) Obvious choice from among the given options.
42. (d) Refer to the third sentence of the passage.
43. (b) Can be inferred from the second last sentence of the passage.
44. (a) The last sentence of the passage gives the answer.
45. (a) Clear from the reading of the passage.
46. (d) The second sentence of the passage gives the answer.
47. (b) Refer to 'threatening manner'
48. (d) Refer to 'band of savages'.
49. (b) The third sentence of the passage gives the answer.
50. (c) Obvious from the reading of the passage.
51. (b) Obvious from the reading of the passage.
52. (d) All other options are inappropriate.
53. (c) The second last sentence of the passage gives the answer.
54. (d) Refer to 'The heat wave lazed about'.
55. (a) Clear from the reading of the passage.
56. (c) The first sentence of the passage gives the answer.
57. (c) Clearly stated in the passage.
58. (d) Clearly stated in the passage.
59. (d) Refer to 'Luckily investigate'.
60. (a) Can be inferred from the sentence 'To his astonishment'.
61. (a) Can be inferred from the last sentence of the first paragraph.
62. (d) Clear from the reading of the passage.
63. (c) The words 'great deal of panting' imply (2), (3) and (4).
64. (c) Clear from the reading of the passage.
65. (b) Refer to '..... and his eyes sparkled for customers'.
66. (d) Can be inferred from the first sentence of the passage.
67. (b) Other three options are clearly inappropriate.
68. (d) Obvious from reading of the passage.
69. (c) Clear from the passage.
70. (b) The last sentence of the passage gives the answer.
71. (a) Easy choice from among the given options.
72. (b) Correct in the context of the passage.
73. (b) Can be easily inferred from the passage.
74. (d) Clear from the reading of the passage.
75. (d) Easy choice from among the given options.
76. (d) Option(d) best describes a 'courtship' behaviour.
77. (c) Option(c) brings out the precise meaning.
78. (d) The last sentence of the passage gives the answer.
79. (d) Can be inferred from the sentence '..... provoked.....respected superiors'.
80. (c) Clear from the reading of the passage.
81. (a) Can be inferred from the beginning of the passage.
82. (c) Refer to '..... so it is essential.....inhuman acts'.
83. (d) Refer to 'Essential also soil'.
84. (d) Clear from the reading of the passage.
85. (d) Clear from the reading of the passage.
86. (c) Easy choice from among the given options.
87. (a) Option(a) is the appropriate choice.
88. (d) Obvious choice from among the given options.
89. (b) Clear from the reading of the passage.
90. (b) Option(b) is the most appropriate choice.
91. (d) The second last sentence of the passage gives the answer.
92. (d) Refer to 'The teacher persisted, and the boy promptly answered'.
93. (c) Refer to 'He had corrected twenty-four'.
94. (a) Clear from the reading of the passage.
95. (c) Can be inferred from the third sentence of the passage.
96. (b) Can be inferred from the last sentence of the passage.
97. (c) Can be inferred from the first half of the passage.
98. (b) Refer to 'The family affection all had perished'.
99. (b) Obvious choice from among the given option.
100. (c) Most appropriate meaning in the context of the passage.
101. (b) Clear from the reading of the passage.
102. (d) Easy choice from among the given option.
103. (d) Can be inferred from the second last sentence of the passage.
104. (a) Can be inferred from the first sentence of the passage.
105. (d) Can be inferred from the middle part of the passage.
106. (b) Clearly given in the passage.
107. (c) Refer to 'In his day, effort'.
108. (a) Clearly stated in the passage.
109. (c) Refer to 'Reading and writing for the blind have thus become enormously simplified'.
110. (c) Refer to '..... remote ancestors.....char blend'.
111. (c) Clearly stated in the passage.
112. (c) Refer to 'I want the cultures as possible'.
113. (d) Can be inferred from the second half of the passage.
114. (c) Statements(a),(b) and(d) clearly indicate hope.
115. (c) Clear from the reading of the passage.

116. (d) Refer to '..... was waiting anxiously for him'.
117. (c) Obvious choice from among the given options.
118. (d) Clearly given in the passage.
119. (c) Can be inferred from the third and the fourth sentences of the passage.
120. (d) Obvious choice from among the given options.
121. (a) Clear from the reading of the passage.
122. (d) Obvious choice from among the given option.
123. (c) Can be inferred from the last few lines of the passage.
124. (a) Refer to the second sentence of the passage.
125. (c) Refer to '..... with wood gathered
126. (b) Clear from the reading of the passage.
127. (b) Clear from the reading of the passage.
128. (d) The first sentence of the passage gives the answer.
129. (c) Clear from the reading of the passage.
130. (d) The last sentence of the passage gives the answer.
131. (b) Refer to 'But now breeze faded'.
132. (d) The first sentence of the passage gives the answer.
133. (b) Refer to the ice had gone out just two weeks before'.
134. (c) Can be inferred from the first two sentences of the passage.
135. (d) Refer to 'The smart of the burn awoke him'.
136. (c) Refer to 'in order to sew up the hole'.
137. (a) Can be inferred from the third last sentence of the passage.
138. (c) Easy choice as he fell asleep again.
139. (c) Clear from the reading of the passage.
140. (d) Clearly given in the beginning of the passage.
141. (d) Can be inferred from the last few sentences of the passage.
142. (a) Option (a) best brings out the effect of the foot-print on the author.
143. (c) Most appropriate choice from among the given option.
144. (c) 'Placid' means calm and peaceful.
145. (b) The second sentence of the passage gives the answer.
146. (d) Clear from the second sentence of the passage.
147. (a) Clear from the reading of the passage.
148. (b) 'Drowsy' means sleepy.
149. (a) Most appropriate choice in the context of the passage.
150. (c) Can be inferred from the first few lines of the passage.
151. (b) Can be inferred from the beginning of the passage.
152. (a) Clear from the reading of the passage.
153. (d) Most appropriate choice from among the given options.
154. (b) Easy choice from among the given options.
155. (-) Clear from the reading of the passage.
156. (b) Refer to 'because we have so often experienced the frustration that results from failure'.
157. (b) Can be inferred from the passage.
158. (c) Can be inferred from the last sentence of the passage.
159. (d) Can be inferred from the first sentence of the passage.
160. (c) Clear from the reading of the passage.
161. (d) Easy choice from among the given options.
162. (b) Can be inferred from the second last and the third last sentences of the passage.
163. (b) Clear from the reading of the passage.
164. (d) Can be inferred from the second half of the passage.
165. (c) Most appropriate choice from among the given options.
166. (a) Can be inferred from the last sentence of the passage.
167. (a) The third sentence of the passage gives the answer.
168. (c) Clear from the reading of the passage.
169. (a) Can be inferred from the last few lines of the passage.
170. (c) Most appropriate choice from among the given options.
171. (d) Refer to '..... we are not to exact blind sometimes'.
172. (d) Clearly stated in the passage.
173. (c) Can be inferred from the second sentence of the passage.
174. (a) Clear from the reading of the passage.
175. (d) 'Europe' is the most appropriate choice.
176. (c) In the context of the passage 'buck up' means cheer up.
177. (a) Refer to 'He felt the world ended'.
178. (b) Obvious choice from among the given options.
179. (a) Clear from the reading of the passage.
180. (b) 'Appalling' means shocking or extremely bad.
181. (a) Clear from the reading of the passage.
182. (b) Clear from the reading of the passage.
183. (c) Refer to 'The other way is much I prefer it'.
184. (a) Clear from the reading of the passage.
185. (c) Can be inferred from the beginning of the passage.
186. (b) Can be inferred from the second last sentence of the passage.
187. (b) Can be inferred from 'man should continue this struggle to save plants'.
188. (c) Most appropriate from among the given options.