

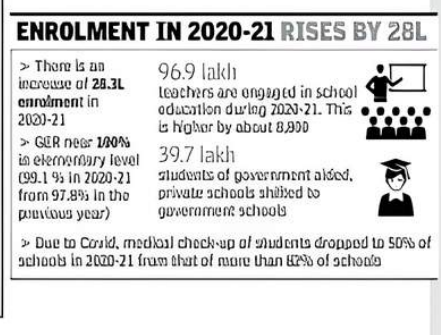
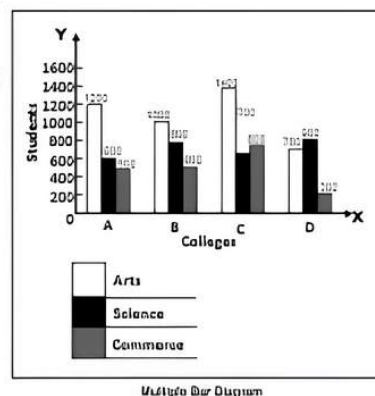
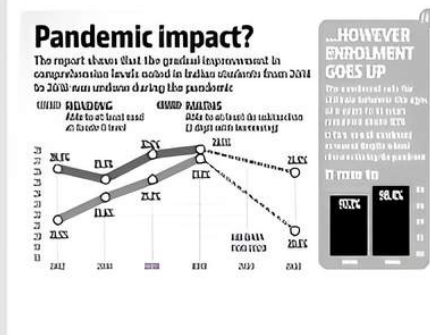
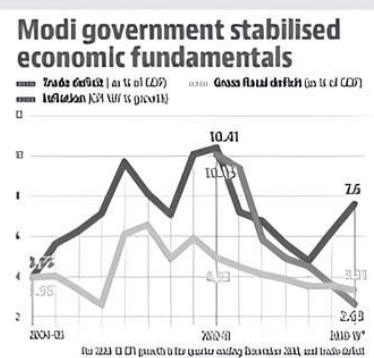
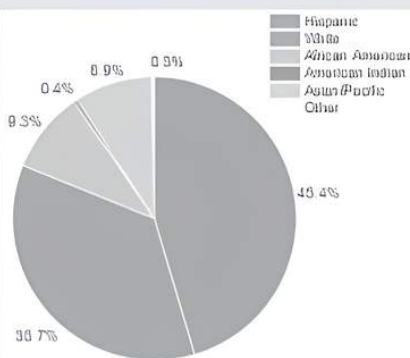
# 1

# READING

## Reading Comprehensions

**Table 1. Main Characteristics of the Study Populations.<sup>a</sup>**

Characteristics	Patients with Secondary Thrombosis (N=1010)	Patients with Secondary Thrombosis (N=146)	Control Subjects (N=150)
Age .... yr	67.0±16.7	65.8±17.4	65.4±15.7
Male sex .... no. (%)	71 (40.4)	65 (44.5)	69 (45.3)
Smokers .... no. (%)	40 (22.1)	49 (33.5)	45 (30.0)
Hypertension .... no. (%)	46 (24.1)	37 (25.3)	46 (30.7)
Hypertension .... no. (%)	25 (14.3)	17 (11.6)	25 (16.7)
Obesity .... no. (%)	11 (7.7)	12 (8.2)	16 (10.7)
Diabetes .... no. (%)	16 (10.5)	12 (8.2)	11 (7.3)
Smokers for thrombophilia .... no. (%)	42 (44.4)	64 (43.1)	—
Thrombophilia .... no. (%)	297	153	—



Reading comprehension tests the ability to understand or to make meaning out of a written passage. Above is a typical example of Case based factual passage, where data interpretation and analysis is needed as part of the comprehension. CBSE has made quite a few changes in the pattern lately. This chapter will explain in detail the new types of passages, along with lots of solved examples to hone your Reading Skills!

## Topic Notes

- Marking Scheme
- Tips and Tricks
- Type 1: Descriptive / Literary Passage
- Type 2: Case-based Factual Passage
- Type 3: Note Making and Summarisation

Reading comprehension tests the ability to comprehend or make meaning out of a written passage. Traditionally, it only entailed the application of a set of isolated skills such as identifying words, searching for the main idea, identifying cause and effect relationships, comparing and contrasting, and sequencing the events as they occurred. But, recent research has proven reading comprehension to be a complex and active process of constructing meaning, that is not solely based on skill application. Reading, which many people feel to be a simple and effortless activity, actually consists of a set of complex, well-developed, and well-practiced skills and abilities.

## Marking Scheme

In the latest pattern of CBSE Class XI English Core, two types of passages with a combined word limit of 600-750 words are asked. These passages are incorporated with the aim of developing the skill set included in the course curriculum for this grade. The two passages are of the following types:

### Descriptive / Literary Passage (10 marks)

- One passage of 350-400 words will be asked, to test comprehension, interpretation, analysis, inference, and vocabulary skills.
- Extracts from fiction, drama, poetry, essay or biography can also be asked.
- MCQ/Objective Type Questions and Short Answer type questions (to be answered in 40-50 words) will be asked.
- **Skills tested:** Skimming, scanning, reading for details, comprehending the writer's opinions clearly, etc.

### Case-based Factual Passage (8 marks)

- One case-based factual passage of 300-350 words will be asked, based on visual input, statistical data, chart, illustrations, etc., to test comprehension, inference, evaluation, analysis and interpretation.
- MCQ/Objective Type Questions and Short Answer type Questions (to be answered in 40-50 words) will be asked.
- **Skills tested:** Developing the ability and knowledge required in order to engage in independent reflection and inquiry.

### Note Making and Summarisation (8 marks)

- Note making is a technique of recording important points from a lecture, meeting or reading.
- One passage of approximately 200 - 250 words will be asked, to understand what you are learning and clarifying the thought process.
- **Skills tested:** Fluency, correct usage of punctuation, re-writing a text and usage of abbreviations.

## Tips and Tricks

Reading comprehension passages can be energy-sapping, information-intensive, and mind-boggling at times! So, it is important to bear a few things in mind while attempting reading comprehension questions to sail through smoothly.

### 1. Always read the questions first

It is vital that you read the questions (MCQs) first and then quickly skim through the passage. This will prepare you to focus on the things you need to look for in the passage. Focus on the questions, and not on a particular option to answer questions correctly.

### 2. Make predictions and think ahead

While reading, always remember to think and reflect. It is vital to gain understanding of the passage. This also makes you a quick reader.

### 3. Attempt the easiest passage first

Look at both the passages and get a basic idea of what they are talking about. Focus on the one that you can manage more easily. Then you can go back to the tricky passage later with a calmer mind.

### 4. Concentrate on the main idea of the passage

While the details in a reading passage are important, don't get carried over when reading examples, illustrations, and so on. You just need to understand the main points of the text and not

the examples. Being able to gauge the overall flow and structure will help you analyse and answer the questions.

**5. Focus on the overall structure of the passage**

You do not need to memorise each word in the passage. Getting a hang of the flow, organisational structure and main points in the passage should be your main priority. For factual or specific point questions, you can always re-read the passage.

**6. Remember that the correct answer is present in the passage**

The right answer is always based on the information given within the passage. In case you get confused, remember that any option that is out of the scope of the passage or one which requires you to know something from your background knowledge is never the correct answer.

**7. Study the table, figure or graph thoroughly**

In order to answer the questions related to visual or graphical data, it is necessary to read the information in the given reference thoroughly.

**8. For the vocabulary question**

Look at the lines mentioned to infer and identify the word that needs to be replaced in the given phrase. If you do not know the correct word, read the referred lines again. Try to understand the sentences' meaning as given in the questions, and then find out the related word from the given lines.

## **Descriptive / Literary Passage**

A discursive/literary passage is often based on a person's opinion which is generally argumentative, persuasive, or interpretative. These types of passages help develop the student's grasp of the difference between opinions and reality, or to distinguish between the literal and figurative meanings. After reading such a passage, students need to arrive at a conclusion through reasoning and intuition, rather than through deciphering straightforward facts. The purpose of such passages is to make students evolve into independent thinkers.

### **Example 1.**

**Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

*1. India stands at a unique juncture in its history, with roughly half of its population between the age of 25 to 30. India is poised to become the country with the highest number of young people on the planet in*

*less than five years. Despite attempts by the ruling dispensation to impose monolithic notions of 'national unity,' India's diversity remains one of its greatest strengths.*

*2. Among the biggest challenges confronting the country's youth are a broken education system, lack of opportunities for decent jobs and abysmal public healthcare facilities. We are projected to provide the planet close to one out of five software engineers. However, certain demographers believe we are home to the world's most undernourished, ill and illiterate in terms of sheer numbers; we have more mobile phones than usable toilets.*

*3. Young women and men in India understand that the flip side of diversity is the deep divisions and inequalities that exist. Divisions not only on the basis of age, gender and sexual orientation, but also class, ethnicity, region, religion and last but not the least – the most pernicious system of discrimination of them all, the caste system. In the recent years, however, the gap between the rich and the poor has widened and placed India among the most unequal countries in the world.*

*4. For the first time, in a country of 1.3 billion people, there are around one billion SIMs. It is safe to assume that in most parts of urban India, there are more SIMs than human beings. The Internet has transformed human society in a way few could have imagined a decade and a half ago. The Internet was meant to be 'a universal commons' (like the air we breathe) that would not just inform but also educate the ordinary citizens. What has changed in the last 25 years is that the Internet has come to be dominated by a few giant conglomerates who want to control what we read, hear and watch. These corporates are clubbed together under the acronym FAAAAAN – Facebook (including WhatsApp), Amazon, Apple, Alphabet (the holding company of Google), Alibaba and Netflix.*

*5. For people of India, the biggest challenge while accessing the Internet is to distinguish between truth and falsehood, fake news and even between misinformation and disinformation – information is deliberately disseminated for political or commercial reasons despite being untrue, aka propaganda.*

*6. Young Indians must realise that by law, hate speech that propagates intolerance among groups is not freedom of expression. It's interpretation, of course, along with the reasonable restrictions to the right to free speech, is up for debate. In the recent months, the manner in which people have been lynched based on rumours circulated on WhatsApp groups is particularly horrifying and deplorable. This is clearly a law and order problem; the law agencies seem ill-equipped to handle violent mobs. The problem is not medium*

of communication but what is communicated. Don't shoot the messenger, fix the problem.

7. It is worth repeating the analogy about what information in the digital age signifies: The World Wide Web has become akin to a surgeon's scalpel that can heal and also kill. The sharp knife that can remove a diseased part of a human body to make it healthy or the scalpel that is misused to maim and murder. Young

Indians in different walks of life have to constantly evaluate and negotiate both the power of information in strengthening freedom and the shocking threats to freedom, life and livelihood. The relationship is a complex one – but then we are living in an increasingly complex world. At the same time, some things are simple and incontrovertible. The youth will determine the future.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below:

(A) When the author mentions that India stands at a unique juncture in its history with roughly half of its population between the age of 25 to 30, the author intends to say that:

- (a) Young women and men in India understand that the flip side of diversity are the deep divisions and inequalities that exist.
- (b) The youth will determine the future of India.
- (c) India is poised to become the country with the highest number of young people on the planet in less than five years.
- (d) Young Indians in different walks of life have to understand that some things are simple and incontrovertible.

(B) "Certain demographers believe we are home to the world's ..... mobile phones than usable toilets." Pick the option in which the meaning of the word 'home' is NOT the same as it is in the passage.

- (a) The church itself was frequently the home of anchorites.
- (b) He sat down in a chair, and stretched out his legs, with an air of being at home.
- (c) Nothing of this kind was ever seen before in the home of animal species.
- (d) India is home to lakhs of persons with disability.

(C) Share evidence from the text, in about 40 words to support the writer's view that India's diversity has negative aspects as well.

(D) Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following:

The writer refers to the idea of a 'universal commons' regarding the Internet to suggest

.....

#### Fact-based question

This is a direct question about the main idea of the passage. Since the passage talks about the different types of literature in this passage, students need to skim through in order to derive the correct answer.

#### Context-based question

This question talks about the meaning of a word in the context of the passage. Look for words that describes the keyword. In such questions, the direct meaning of the word is not asked.

#### Context-based question

The question asks you to find evidence from the text to support the writer's point of view given in the question. You need to find a particular paragraph from the passage and answer the question using that.

#### Vocabulary-based question

Students need to infer what the writer wants to say by referring to the internet as a 'universal commons'. The particular part of the passage needs to be re-read until the meaning of the term is clear.

- (E) How can we control the circulation of false news / rumours through digital platforms?
- By imposing stringent law and order on people.
  - By making law agencies well-equipped to handle violent mobs.
  - By changing the medium of communication.
  - By checking the authenticity of what is being communicated.
- (F) Explain, in about 40 words, why the author has used the term 'unique juncture' for India's population demographic.
- (G) In the line, "...the World Wide Web had become akin to a surgeon's scalpel...", what does the word "scalpel" refer to?
- (H) Pick the option that CORRECTLY lists the final feelings of the author with reference to the use of internet as a medium of communication by Indians.
- |                |                   |
|----------------|-------------------|
| (I) Hopeful    | (IV) Sad          |
| (II) Angry     | (V) Mindful       |
| (III) Confused | (VI) Disappointed |
- Options :
- |                   |                    |
|-------------------|--------------------|
| (a) (II) and (VI) | (b) (I) and (V)    |
| (c) (I) and (IV)  | (d) (VI) and (III) |

#### Fact-based question

A fact mentioned in the passage is being asked here. Look for the sentences surrounding that information in order to attempt such passages.

#### Fact-based question

The student needs to find the reason why the author has used the term 'unique juncture' to refer to India. The passage can be skimmed through to find the reasoning behind the author calling it so.

#### Vocabulary-based question

This is another vocabulary question which tests the comprehension of meaning of a word in the passage. Look for the meaning in context in case you are confused about its literal meaning.

#### Inference-based question

Look for keywords in the passage which conveys the feelings of the writer with context to the information given in the passage.

**Ans. (A)** (b) The youth will determine the future of India.

**Explanation:** The author means that the youth will determine the future of India. The youth in India are in majority by sheer numbers. They will play an integral role in shaping the immediate and long-term future of India. Hence, (b) is correct.

**(B)** (b) He sat down in a chair, and stretched out his legs, with an air of being at home.

**Explanation:** The meaning of 'home' in the passage is a place where we live and can relax. In (a), home means a place, (c) means place of animals and (d) means place where one can live. Hence, (b) is correct.

**(C)** The writer has talked about the 'flip' side of diversity, which refers to the deep divisions and inequalities that exist in India. These divisions exist not only on the basis of age, gender and sexual orientation, but also class, ethnicity, region, religion and caste.

**(D)** that the Internet should remain equally accessible to all without restrictions.

**(E)** (d) By checking the authenticity of what is being communicated

**Explanation:** False news and rumours can be controlled by keeping a check on the authenticity of what is being communicated. Hence, (d) is correct.

**(F)** The author has used the term 'unique juncture' for India's population demographic because roughly half of its population is between the age of 25 and 30. India is poised to become the country with the highest number of young people on Earth in less than five years.

**(G)** The word 'scalpel' refers to a surgeon's knife which is used to create incisions in the body.

**(H)** (b) (I) and (V)

**Explanation:** The author is mindful and hopeful that the youth will be able to determine the future. Hence, (b) is correct.

**Example 2.** Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

1. Today I, Rabindranath Tagore, complete eighty years of my life. As I look back on the vast stretch of years that lie behind me, and see in clear perspective the history of my early development, I am struck by the change that has taken place, both in my own

attitude and in the psychology of my countrymen - a change that carries within it a cause of profound tragedy.

2. Our direct contact with the larger world of men was linked up with the contemporary history of the English people whom we came to know in those earlier days. It was mainly through their mighty literature that we formed our ideas with regard to these newcomers to our Indian shores. In those days, the type of learning that was served out to us was neither plentiful nor diverse, nor was the spirit of scientific enquiry very much in evidence. Thus, their scope being strictly limited, the educated of those days had recourse to the English language and literature. Their days and nights were eloquent, with the stately declamations of Burke, with Macaulay's long-rolling sentences; discussions centered upon Shakespeare's drama and Byron's poetry, and above all, upon the large-hearted liberalism of the nineteenth-century English politics.

3. At the time, tentative attempts were being made to gain our national independence, but at heart we

had not lost faith in the generosity of the English race. This belief was so firmly rooted in the sentiments of our leaders to lead them to hope that the victor would, by his own grace, pave the path of freedom for the vanquished. This belief was based on the fact that England at the time provided shelter to all those who had to flee from persecution in their own country. Political martyrs who had suffered for the honour of their people were accorded unreserved welcome at the hands of the English.

4. I was impressed by this evidence of liberal humanity in the character of the English, and thus, I was led to set them on the pedestal of my highest respect. This generosity in their national character had not yet been vitiated by imperialist pride. About this time, as a boy in England, I had the opportunity of listening to the speeches of John Bright, both in and outside parliament. The large-hearted, radical liberalism of those speeches, overflowing all narrow national bounds, had made such a deep impression on my mind that something of it lingers even today, even in these days of graceless disillusionment.

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below:

- (A) Choose the option that best captures the central idea of the passage from the given quotes.

<p>“Jai Hind” —Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose</p> <p>(I)</p>	<p>“People are trapped in history and history is trapped in them” —James Baldwin</p> <p>(II)</p>
<p>“A nation's culture resides in the hearts and in the soul of its people.” —Mahatma Gandhi</p> <p>(III)</p>	<p>“History is who we are and why we are the way we are.” —David McCullough</p> <p>(IV)</p>

- (a) (I)                      (b) (II)  
(c) (III)                    (d) (IV)

#### Theme-based Question

Read the passage and find the idea it talks about. Compare it with the options given and select the appropriate one out of the four.

- (B) What is the tone of the following context: “...a change that carries within it a cause of profound tragedy”?

#### Tone of the Passage

Comment on the tone of the passage using the quote given in the question. It tests your understanding of the emotion in which the passage was written.

(C) Which of the following is relevant for the title of the passage?

- (a) Proud to be Independent
- (b) Crisis of Civilisation
- (c) Happy Indians
- (d) The Civilised Englishmen

**Inference-based Question**

*Read the passage until the central idea is clear to you. Using that, select the option that suggests a title relevant to that.*

(D) Our ..... was a hurdle in our quest for freedom.

- (a) distrust in the Englishmen
- (b) faith that they were good
- (c) belief
- (d) fear of the Englishmen

**Fact-based Question**

*A particular fact from the passage is highlighted here. Students are required to select the option that ties logically to it.*

(E) Which of the following sentences make the correct use of 'vanquished', as used in the passage?

- (a) The soldier successfully vanquished his rivals.
- (b) He tried to vanquish her fears.
- (c) Be courageous to vanquish all evils.
- (d) Vanquish your disease with this medicine.

**Vocabulary-based Question**

*The student will need to ascertain the context in which the word is used and relate it to the options given.*

(F) Complete the following with a phrase or sentence from Paragraph 4.

Opinion: .....

Reason: Liberal humanity of the English.

**Inference-based Question**

*Solve this question by finding the writer's opinion from the passage. You need to look at the cause-effect relationship with the reason being the cause.*

(G) Supply any one point to justify the following in about 40 words: "...attempts were being made to gain our national independence, at heart we had not lost faith in the generosity of the English race".

**Context-based Question**

*The student needs to read the sentence clearly and write how the passage justifies it. This is an evaluation based question. The student is required to express his own understanding.*

(H) Evaluate, in about 40 words, why the 'liberal humanity' of the English that Tagore talked about was fundamentally biased.

**Context-based Question**

*This question asks you to provide reasoning in favor of the statement in the question. The answer should be brief and to the point and give evidence for the statement in the question.*

**Ans. (A) (c) (III)**

**Explanation:** In this passage, the author doesn't talk about patriotism. So, (a) cannot be the answer. Rabindranath Tagore also doesn't talk about the history of mankind. Hence, (b) and (d) are also not the answers. Rabindranath Tagore tells us how Indian culture was influenced by the mannerism and speeches of the white people. Hence, (c) is correct.

(B) In the given passage, Rabindranath Tagore feels that this change is heartbreaking and is no less than a tragedy. These lines reflect his anguish.

(C) (b) *Crisis of Civilisation*

**Explanation:** The passage is not about independence or the Indian people. In this passage, Rabindranath Tagore expresses his agony over the cultural changes that have come around in Indian culture due to

colonial rule. He calls this as no less than a tragedy that the real flavour of Indian civilization has been lost. Hence, (b) is correct.

- (D) *(b) faith that they were good*

**Explanation:** Rabindranath Tagore said that "they had not lost faith in the generosity of the English race." He doesn't talk about the distrust or fear of Englishmen. So, (a) and (d) are not the answers while (c) is also wrong. Hence, (b) is correct.

- (E) *(a) The soldier successfully vanquished his rivals.*

**Explanation:** 'Vanquish' means to defeat. All the sentences in given options refer to defeating either the enemy (a), fears (b), evils (c) or disease (d). But in the passage, 'vanquished' is used to refer to the defeated side in the war of independence. Hence, (a) is correct.

- (F) *Opinion: Put them on the pedestal of my highest respect.*

- (G) *During the independence struggle, many Indians believed that the English would grant them freedom since they believed in radical ideas such as equality and universal suffrage.*

- (H) *The liberal humanity of the English was fundamentally biased because they did not want to give India freedom or believe that Indians could rule them.*

## Case-based Factual Passage

A case-based factual passage contains information about a particular subject in a clear, straightforward, and direct manner. It is usually a passage with verbal/visual inputs like statistical data, charts, images, graphs, etc., from which the students need to study and interpret clues, decipher them, and answer the questions given. It focuses completely on details or facts and helps students develop their skills of scanning for details and skimming for main ideas. It gives a comprehensive view on the information provided and may include instructions to do something, a report about new findings, or a description of something. Moreover, it gives students relevant exposure to technical language and ensures their comprehension around the same.

### Example 3.

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. Conflict between people takes the form of assertiveness, aggression, and violence. It is fuelled by many factors, including greed, selfishness, desire, jealousy, envy, fear, hate, and lust for power. From the perspective of yogic philosophy, these fuels for conflict are all caused by the clouding of our perception called 'avidya'. Because of 'avidya' we do not recognise our true spiritual kinship with other people, and we are prone to experience those fuels of conflict. These fuels are widely varied, but have one commonality; experience of any of these emotions or desires is done from the "I" perspective. People who feel these emotions want more or less of something for themselves, as compared to what they see in other people. These people do not identify with others but feel separated from them, left out, or isolated.

2. Two powerful tools exist to reduce the effect of these "fuels" within ourselves: cultivating the right attitude, and behaving in constructive ways. Some of us feel envious or jealous when we see someone who is happy, successful, or content. We may feel disgust or even hatred at the sight of a drifter or a drug addict. We need a change in attitude, a change that will help us purify our minds and become more peaceful. We should practise being pleased when we see someone who is happy. We should try to be compassionate towards those in misery, and be joyful to see the virtues of others. In cultivating this attitude, we become more accepting of the world and more peaceful towards others. Non-possessiveness can be practised, as can contentment.

3. Our behaviour- how we act - includes both how we treat others, and how we treat ourselves. To be satisfied in our lives and more peaceful in our treatment of others, we should practice non-violence, truthfulness and non-stealing. These qualities will help us become happier in our lives and less aggressive towards others. We should decide what is proper here. Practising meditation is also known to reduce stress and increase happiness.

4. A study was conducted to examine how meditation frequency (from daily to non-practice) is related to greater happiness, and how dispositional mindfulness and self-compassion could mediate this relationship. Correlations analyses were conducted for the frequency of meditation practice, dispositional mindfulness (FFMQ), self-compassion (SCS-SF) and happiness (PHI). The results from the data collected by 365 participants through the survey showed that mind-fulness and self-compassion scales were positively and significantly correlated with the happiness measure. Furthermore, as expected, frequency of meditation was positively and significantly correlated with mindfulness scales, self-compassion scales, and happiness.

Table 1

	Frequency of mediation	Happiness
Mindfulness scales		
Observing	.445	.387
Describing	.210	.398
Acting with awareness	.137	.347
Non-judging	.327	.391
Non-reactivity	.442	.499
FFMQ total score	.441	.555
Self-compassion scales		
Self-kindness	.377	.598
Common humanity	.344	.558
Mindfulness	.421	.546
SCS total score	.424	.630
Happiness	.222	-

On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below:

(A) Infer two ways we can get rid of 'avidya' in our daily lives based on your reading of the passage.

- (a) Seeking help from counselors or therapists.
- (b) Practicing meditation and mindfulness.
- (c) Cocooning ourselves from society.
- (d) Sharing our happiness with the less fortunate.

#### Inference-based question

*This question tests your understanding of the concept in the context of the passage. It is important to understand the passage as a whole in order to attempt this question.*

(B) Why does the writer suggest that we can increase happiness in our lives? Answer in about 40 words.

#### Fact-based question

*This question tests the direct comprehension of the information conveyed in the passage. Use the method of elimination in case you are unable to find the correct option for this question.*

(C) List the qualities that the writer asks us to inculcate to increase happiness and reduce aggression towards others.

#### Vocabulary-based question

*This is a vocabulary question that tests the comprehension of meaning of a word in the passage and to look for another word which means the same. Look for the meaning in context in case you are confused about its literal meaning and then search for the word which is the closest to it.*

(D) Identify which of the following characters is an example of avidya:

- (a) Binu: I have stopped having migraines after I started practising meditation.
- (b) Saksham: I am angry at my cat for spilling the kettle of milk.
- (c) Faizan: I am in a state of peace and heavenly calm after trekking through the Himalayas.
- (d) Harris: I used to feel scared of dark spaces as a kid, but now I am no longer scared.

#### Inference-based question

*This question deals with hypothetical examples and requires the student to apply their reading skills carefully and comprehend the facts given in the text to select the correct option.*

- (E) "These fuels are widely varied, but have one commonality." What is the 'one commonality' the author is referring to?
- (a) Egocentrism                      (b) Avidya  
(c) Possessiveness                (d) Discontentment

#### Fact-based question

This question tests the direct comprehension of the information conveyed in the passage. It is important to understand what the writer is trying to convey in the passage in order to answer questions of this type.

- (F) Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference, with respect to the following:

The writer says that we do not recognise our true spiritual kinship with others because of avidya. By the phrase 'true spiritual kinship' he means to say that .....

#### Inference-based question

This question deals with the meaning of a particular term in the context of the passage. It requires the student to read and interpret before reaching a conclusion.

- (G) Does the following statement agree with the information given in paragraph 1?

When we think from the "I" perspective, we do not identify with the feelings or emotions of others.

Select from the following:

True - if the statement agrees with the information

False - if the statement contradicts the information

Not Given - if there is no information on this

#### Fact-based question

This question requires you to understand the passage and then apply your reading in order to answer the question. Look for keywords in the passage to guide you.

**Ans. (A)** (c) Cocooning ourselves from society

**Explanation:** Seeking help from counselors, practicing meditation and sharing our happiness with others are effective ways to get rid of 'avidya' from our lives. Only (c) is not an effective method. Hence, (c) is correct.

- (B) The author suggests that practicing meditation and mindfulness will help us to combat feelings of 'avidya' in our lives. It will help us to increase our mental well-being as well as physical health. This will lead to higher happiness and satisfaction in our lives.

- (C) The writer mentions the qualities of non-violence, truthfulness and non-stealing to increase happiness and reduce aggression towards others.

- (D) (b) Saksham: I am angry at my cat for spilling the kettle of milk.

**Explanation:** Since avidya refers to negative or violent emotions, option (b) is the right answer. Saksham is angry at his cat which is a negative emotion. On the other hand, (a) Binu, (c) Faizan and (d) Harris do not disclose any negative emotions. They seem content with their lifestyle.

- (E) (a) Egocentrism

**Explanation:** The author is referring to egocentrism. Hence, (a) is correct.

- (F) Human beings are very similar to each other and we need to recognise it.

- (G) The writer states that when we think from an "I" perspective, we feel separated, left out or isolated. Hence, the statement is true.

**Example 4.** Read the passage given below carefully and answer the questions that follow:

1. The Sahara sets a standard for dry land. It's the world's largest desert. Relative humidity can drop into the low single digits. There are places where it rains only about once a century. There are people who reach the end of their lives without ever seeing water pouring from the sky. Yet beneath the Sahara, are vast aquifers of fresh water, enough liquid to fill a small sea. It is fossil water, a treasure laid down in prehistoric times, some of it possibly a million years old. Just 6,000 years ago, the Sahara was quite a different place. It was green. Prehistoric rock art in the Sahara shows something surprising: hippopotamuses, who need water year round.

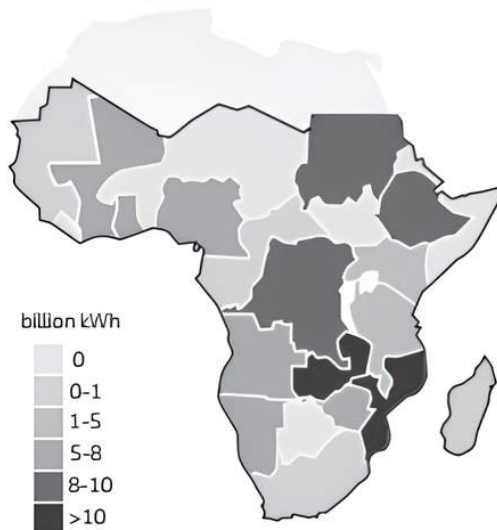
2. We don't have much evidence of a tropical paradise out there, but we had something perfectly livable, says Jennifer Smith, a geologist at Washington University in St. Louis. At times when the Northern Hemisphere tilts sharply towards the sun and the planet makes its closest approach, the increased blast of sunlight during the North's summer months can cause the African monsoon (which currently

occurs between the Equator and roughly 17°N latitude) to shift to the North as it did 10,000 years ago, inundating North Africa.

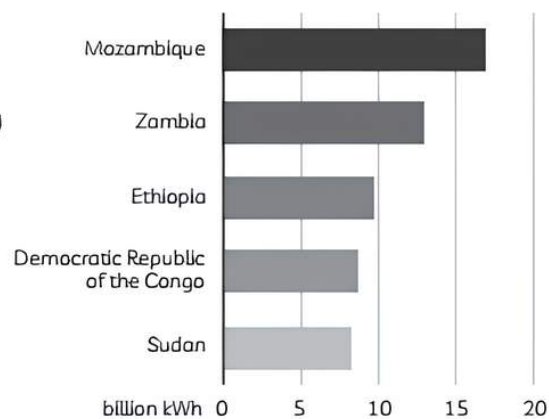
3. Around 5,000 years ago, the monsoon shifted dramatically southward again. The prehistoric inhabitants of the Sahara discovered that their relatively green surroundings were undergoing something worse than a drought (and perhaps they migrated towards the Nile Valley, where Egyptian culture began to flourish at around the same time).

4. As the land dried out and vegetation decreased, the soil lost its ability to hold water when it rained.

Fewer clouds formed from evaporation. When it rained, the water washed away and evaporated quickly. There was a kind of runaway drying effect. Around 4,000 years ago, the Sahara became what it is today. No one knows how human-driven climate change may alter the Sahara in the future. It's something scientists can ponder while sipping bottled fossil water pumped from the underground. "It's the best water in Egypt," Robert Glegengack, a University of Pennsylvania geologist, said — "clean, refreshing mineral water". If you want to drink something good, try the ancient buried treasure of the Sahara".



Top Hydro Generators In Sub-Sahara Africa



On the basis of your understanding of the above passage, answer the questions given below:

- (A) In the line, Prehistoric rock art in the Sahara' the word 'prehistoric' DOES NOT mean:
- (a) primitive                      (b) modern  
(c) ancient                        (d) pristine

#### Fact-based Question

This question tests the direct comprehension of the information about a term as presented in the passage. Do not confuse this question to be a vocabulary question testing antonyms. It requires the student to get a grasp of the passage and understand the context of the term.

- (B) Which of the following statements about the Sahara desert is correct?
- (a) the inability of soil to hold water  
(b) the washing away and the fast evaporation of water  
(c) the tendency of soil to absorb all the water  
(d) strong sunlight in the desert

#### Fact-based Question

This question is about understanding the passage correctly and being able to identify whether the statements presented about it are correct or incorrect. Look for the part of the passage which contains the idea mentioned in the question, then correlate it with the correct option.

- (C) Complete the following analogy using a word from the passage.  
Flood: Drought:: Condensed: .....

#### Vocabulary-based Question

The student will need to find out the relation between the two words on the left hand side first. Solve the blank by finding a word that completes the relation on the right hand side.

- The student needs to analyse and compare the effects of the African monsoon shifting southward 5000 years ago.*

- This question also tests the students' basic understanding of the information provided in the text. The phrase mentioned in the question would not have a direct meaning in the passage. You need to read the passage carefully and understand the concept behind it so as to understand the meaning of that phrase.*

- (c) (III)

- This question tests the students' skill of visual comprehension as they are required to study the map and then answer it. Read the question with a calm mind first then go to the relevant section of the map in order to answer it. Always remember to read and understand the legend of the map before attempting map-based questions.*

- The student is asked to value the statement by giving one piece of evidence either for or against it.

**Explanation:** The term prehistoric refers to the period of history for which no written records are available. Primitive refers to an early stage in the development history. Ancient refers to something that no longer exists. Modern is something that belongs to the most recent times as opposed to older times. Pristine is something new. Hence, (b) is correct as it refers to a new time period as opposed to the older period.

- Explanation:** It is clearly mentioned in the passage that "As the land dried out and vegetation decreased, the soil lost its ability to hold water when it rained." Hence, (a) is correct.

- Explanation:** The dryness in the soil occurs when it is unable to hold water. So, (c) is not the answer. However, strong sunlight cannot dry up the water bodies if there is enough rainfall or there is water absorbed in the soil. So, (d) is also not the answer. Hence, (b) is correct.

- (G)** Yes, I think so because hydro-generators produce hydro-electricity which is eco-friendly. No, I do not think so because dams have to be built for installing hydro-generators which cause displacement of local population, flora and fauna.

## Note Making and Summarisation

Making notes is a sophisticated writing technique that is becoming more and more important as a result of the overflow of knowledge. It is important to keep in mind the essential components of any given subject. Taking notes requires a variety of abilities and is a complex activity. Making notes is advantageous since it conserves time, energy, and space at work, when attending a lecture in school or college, at a meeting, etc. It boosts our confidence so we can revise the topic whenever we desire.

### Types of Passage

- (1) **Factual passage:** A factual passage contains information on a subject's traits. It contains instructions, summaries, and reports. It aids learners in gaining a thorough understanding of the subject and creating an in-depth perception of a particular person, location, object, or thing.
- (2) **Discursive Passage:** Argumentative, interpretive, and persuasive literature are all examples of discursive passages. Opinions or feedback may be included in such passages. It enables students

to reach a conclusion based on understanding and reasoning as opposed to intuition. It gives a fair and impartial viewpoint on the subject under discussion.

### Tips to Create Effective Notes

- (1) Write clear, concise sentences that are simple to read.
- (2) Arrange your thoughts into a main header, subheadings, and sub-subheadings.
- (3) Be careful not to make your summary longer than one-third of the original content.
- (4) Don't forget to title your notes. This would provide better understandings of the subject.
- (5) Pay close attention to the passage's key points.
- (6) Underline any word that can be used as symbols or abbreviations.
- (7) Notes should be neatly organized and written in points.
- (8) Verify that no errors or omissions have been made by comparing your notes to the paragraph after you've finished.

### Use of Abbreviation

Symbol	Meaning	Abbreviation	Meaning
+(ve)	Positive	w/o	Without
-(ve)	Negative	etc.	Etcetera
>	Greater than	Dept.	Department
<	Less than	Govt.	Government
@	At the rate of	Mr.	Mister
le.	That is	Ms.	Miss
e.g.	For example	Pt.	Point
viz.	Namely	Univ.	University
%	Per cent	Disc.	Discount
100	Hundred	Sept.	September
/	Per, each	Hon.	Honourable
&	And	Capt.	Captain
↑	Increase/rise	Ltd.	Limited
↓	Decrease/decline	Asap	As soon as possible
≠	Is not the same as	Info.	information

## Format to be followed

Main Sections : 1, 2, 3, 4, etc.  
Sub Sections : (a), (b), (c), (d), etc.  
Sub-sub Sections : (i), (ii), (iii), (iv), etc.

or you may use **Decimal System**

Main Sections : 1, 2, 3, 4, etc.  
Sub Sections : 1.1, 1.2, 2.1, 2.2, 2.3 etc.  
Sub-sub Sections : 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 2.1.1, 2.1.1, etc.

### Indented Format

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
(a) \_\_\_\_\_  
(i) \_\_\_\_\_  
(ii) \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) \_\_\_\_\_  
(c) \_\_\_\_\_  
(i) \_\_\_\_\_  
(ii) \_\_\_\_\_  
(iii) \_\_\_\_\_

### Indented Format

1. \_\_\_\_\_  
1.1 \_\_\_\_\_  
1.2 \_\_\_\_\_  
2. \_\_\_\_\_  
2.1 \_\_\_\_\_  
2.2 \_\_\_\_\_  
2.2.1 \_\_\_\_\_  
2.2.2 \_\_\_\_\_

### Example 5. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

Information is power. It is predictable, therefore, that those in authority will seek to manipulate others through the control of data. However, all information in a democratic society should be freely available unless there are specific, well-formulated reasons for withholding it in the interest of security.

The Freedom of Information (FOI) functions at a number of different levels: in itself, for the fulfillment of all other rights and as an underpinning of democracy.

Information held by public bodies is not only for the benefit of officials, politicians or other designated people associated with the organisation, but also for the public as a whole. Unless there are good reasons for withholding such information, all interested parties should be able to access it. More importantly, freedom of information is a key component of transparent and accountable government. It plays a key role in enabling citizens to see what is going on within government, and in exposing corruption and mismanagement. Transparent and open government is also essential if voters are to be able to assess the performance of elected officials and if individuals are to exercise their democratic rights effectively, for example, through timely protests against new policies, or by using their vote against candidates who have indulged in undemocratic activity.

Freedom of expression and access to information is a fundamental right and must be held as a cornerstone of democracy. In its absence, government can,

and often does, behave with impunity. It is argued, however, that it is not an absolute right – the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR) for instance, specifies certain permissible constraints. One of these is the right of the state to withhold information ‘for the protection of national security or of public order, or of public health and morals’. This is irascibly vague and provides many loopholes for governments to use this wording as a basis for restricting information that is inconsistent with their ambitions.

The public’s right to know is an intrinsic part of informed public debate, which has traditionally been dependent on the freedom to receive and impart information without government interference. However, it may also be argued that this does not mean a right to receive any type of information from the government. It is of paramount importance that any restrictions on information or expression regarding security matters must designate in law only the specific and narrow categories of information absolutely necessary to protect a legitimate national security concern. A threat to national security can be defined as ‘any expression or information that is intended to incite imminent violence, or is likely to incite violence.’

(A) On the basis of your reading of the above passage, make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it.

(B) Write a summary of the above passage in 80-100 words:

**Ans. (A) Title: Freedom of Information (FOI)**

**Notes:**

**1. Information**

- 1.1. Pwr
- 1.2. Access: Officials, politicians, public
- 1.3. Should be freely avlbl

**2. Importance**

- 2.1. Fulfill rights
- 2.2. Supports dmcrcy

**3. Functions**

- 3.1. Transparent and accessible Govt.
- 3.2. Citizens aware of the workings of Govt.
- 3.3. Expsgrptn and msmng

**4. Freedom of Expression and Access to Information**

- 4.1. cornerstone of demcrcty
- 4.2. Fndmntl but not abslt
- 4.3. Impunity behaviour in absence
- 4.4. In public interest

**5. Reason for Withholding Information**

- 5.1. NS prot.
- 5.2. Prot. of public health & morals
- 5.3. Likely to incite violence

**Key to Abbreviations**

Abbreviations	Words
pwr	power
avlbl	available
dmcrcy	democracy
govt	government
expsg	exposing
crptn	corruption
msmng	mismanagement
fndmntl	fundamental
abslt	Absolute
NS	National Security
Prot.	Protection
&	And

(B) **Summary:**

Freedom of Information (FOI) is essentially important for the fulfilment of public rights and as a support for democracy. Information is power and thus, its access must not be limited to officials or politicians but should include the public. Its function is to assure a transparent and accountable government, inform the public about the workings within the government and expose corruption and mismanagement. Freedom of expression and access to information is imperative for an informed public debate. They are fundamental but not absolute rights, with restrictions for information of national security or with potential to incite violence.

**Example 6. Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:**

*You may never want to fly kites to keep away evil spirits, as the Chinese have done for centuries, or to make rain, as the Tibetans did, but some more modern and western uses may tempt you to try experimenting yourself along similar lines. Ancient and medieval Chinese sources, describe kites being used for measuring distances, testing the wind, lifting men, signalling and communication for military operations.*

*The earliest known Chinese kites were flat (not bowed) and often rectangular. Later, tailless kites incorporated a stabilizing bowline. Kites were decorated with mythological motifs and legendary figures; some were fitted with strings and whistles to make musical sounds while flying. From China, kites were introduced to Cambodia, India, Japan, Korea and the western world.*

*The most widespread use of kites in modern times has been for meteorological investigations. Everybody knows about how Benjamin Franklin, the great American scholar and statesman, sent a kite up in 1752 during a thunderstorm to prove that lightning was caused by electricity. He produced sparks at ground level from a key hung on the wet line as the current flowed down it.*

*A second investigator repeated Franklin's experiment shortly afterwards and was killed. By sending up instruments on kites it has been possible to make readings of air pressure, temperature, speed, direction and humidity. Although thermometers had been sent up long before, it was not until 1894, that a self-reading thermometer, a thermo graph, was sent up by a kite. The army, navy and air force have used kites in various ways for decades. Another Korean version of the invention of the kite tells how a general used*

one to carry a line across a stream. This line then formed the basis of a bridge.

(A) On the basis of your reading of the given passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it.

(B) Write a summary of the given passage in 80-100 words.

**Ans. (A) Title: Kites and Their History**

**Notes:**

**1. History of Flying Kites**

- 1.1. Used by Chinese to keep away evil spirits
- 1.2. Tibetans used them for making rain
- 1.3. Intrdcd to rest of the world from China

**2. Earlier Uses of Kites**

- 2.1. measuring dist
- 2.2. testing wind
- 2.3. lifting men
- 2.4. signally & comm.

**3. Modern Uses of Flying Kites**

- 3.1. for mtrlglinvstgtns
- 3.2. started with Benjamin Franklin's famous expt
  - 3.2.1. msrg air pressure, temp, humidity

- 3.2.2. msrg wind speed and direction

**Key to Abbreviations**

Abbreviations	Words
intrdcd	introduced
mtrlggl	meteorological
invstgtns	investigations
expt	experiment
msrg	measuring
&	and
dist.	distance
comm.	communication

**(B) Summary:**

In ancient times, kites in China and Tibet were thought to bring rain and keep away evil spirits. The Chinese also used them for other purposes and introduced them to the rest of the world. Some kites were equipped with strings and whistles to generate music while they flew. Others were ornamented with mythological patterns and legendary people. Benjamin Franklin discovered that electricity produced lightning by flying a kite. Kites are presently used for measuring various atmospheric parameters like air pressure, temperature, wind speed, direction etc.



## DESCRIPTIVE / LITERARY PASSAGE Questions

[ 10 marks ]

### Passage 1:

Read the passage given below:

1. What's the one thing that you associate with your college days? For me, it was consuming copious amounts of chai. A cup of tea was a panacea to all troubles and the companion to all joys. In this exclusive interview, we caught up with 65-year-old Deepak Garg, owner of Ganga Dhaba, a spot that every officer from National Academy of Administration has visited multiple times.

2. Deepak begins, "My family has been here for almost 90 years. It was my grandfather who first started working here as the supplier to the hotel that existed then." "In 1964, when Deepak was all of eight, he lost his father and the responsibility of raising four children, fell on his mother.

3. "Our growing up years were a huge struggle. My mother used to teach home science at a local balwadi school, and this was also where my siblings and I studied," he says. In 1978, Deepak says that he started a food joint that he named Om Chinese restaurant. "In those days, there was a huge liking for Chinese food and hence the name and the choice of cuisine," he says.

4. For almost 17 years, things continued and then Deepak got a Public Call Office (PCO) installed for the Officer Trainees. The business did so well that soon he had installed more than ten telephones, with separate cabins, to allow them some privacy while they made and received their calls.

5. "The OTs who would talk on the PCO from here would always refer to the place as 'Ganga Dhaba'. It was because this place is so close to the Ganga hostel inside the academy, that slowly the name changed and it became Ganga Dhaba, "Since it was the OTs that gave us our identity, we decided to change the name and call it Ganga Dhaba", he says.

6. There have been instances when Deepak and his family members have learnt dishes from the OTs. He says, "So many dishes on our menu today are because some officer came in and decided to teach us how to make them."

7. We have seen two generations of officers, served the parents, who now as the parents come back to drop their children at the

academy and tell us to take care of them. What more can we ask for? While the money we make is not great, the respect and the love we have accumulated over the years is what keeps us going," says Deepak, proudly. (400 words)

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

(A) What according to the author, gave him solace during the bad times in his college days?

- (a) Friends (b) Family
- (c) Tea (d) Telephone

(B) Read the following statements:

- (I) Mr. Deepak named his food joint Om Chinese.
- (II) Chinese food was then popular among people.

Choose the correct option:

- (a) (II) is the cause for (I).
- (b) (I) is the cause for (II).
- (c) (I) is true and (II) is false.
- (d) (I) is false and (II) is true.

(C) The writer says that 'tea was a panacea to all troubles and companion to all joys'. Share evidence from the passage to suggest that the food joint business was Deepak Garg's panacea to all of his troubles.

(D) Fill in the blank with an appropriate inference:

When Deepak says that it was the Officer Trainees (OTs) who gave the dhaba its identity, he means to say that .....

(E) "..... his family members learnt dishes from OTs."

Choose the option that lists the inference with reference to the above statement.

- (a) OTs were equally good connoisseurs of food.
- (b) His family was mediocre in cooking.
- (c) His family had close association and good rapport with OTs.
- (d) His family wanted to learn more recipes to expand their business.

(F) Explain, in about 40 words, one instance from the passage that shows Deepak had an acute business sense.

(G) 'While the money we make is not great, the respect and love we have accumulated over the years is what keeps us going.' Comment on the speaker's attitude towards work and relationships in about 40 words.

(H) Read the five headlines (1)-(5), given below:

(1) AN OFFICER TRAINEE OPENS A CAFE WITH A DIFFERENCE

(2) WATCH THE GANGA FLOW BY GANGA DHABA

(3) NATIONAL ACADEMY OF ADMINISTRATION'S OLDEST CATERER

(4) DEEPAK GARG'S INSPIRING STORY

(5) A PASSION FOR FOOD AND PEOPLE

Identify the option that displays the headline/s that DOES/ DO NOT correspond with occurrences in the passage.

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

Ans. (A) (c) Tea

**Explanation:** It is given in the passage that a cup of (c) tea was a solution to all of the author's troubles. Hence, (c) is correct.

(B) (a) (II) is the cause for (I).

**Explanation:** It is clearly given in the passage that 'in those days, Chinese food was popular among people and hence, the author kept the name of his joint as Om Chinese. Hence, (a) is correct.

(C) Deepak Garg believed in keeping a deep and healthy relationship with his customers. He did not earn a lot of profit but the love and respect he received from the Officer Trainees at the institution kept him going. We can say that his food joint business was a panacea to all troubles and companion to his joys.

(D) Most of the repeat customers there were OTs.

(E) (c) His family had close association and good rapport with OTs.

**Explanation:** OTs frequently used to visit the Ganga Dhaba as it was close to the Academy and thus, they had induced good rapport with the joint's owners as they used to teach various dishes to the owners. Hence, (c) is correct.

(F) When Deepak got a Public Call Office (PCO) installed in his restaurant, the business did so well that he decided to add ten more telephones. He also added separate cabins

to allow for caller privacy when customers made or received calls. This shows his acute business style.

(G) The speaker comes across as a kind and friendly person. He values friendship and respect over money and wealth. For this reason, he has stuck to running his food joint even though he does not make a huge profit. He comes across as a well-rounded individual.

(H) (b) (1), (2) and (3)

**Explanation:** The parts (4) and (5) are relevant in the context of the passage. The story of Deepak Garg is inspiring, and he does have a passion for food and people. Options (1), (2) and (3) are not relevant to the passage. Hence, (b) is correct.

## Passage 2:

Read the passage given below:

1. One of the greatest advances in modern technology has been the invention of computers. They are widely used in industries and in universities. Now there is hardly any sphere of human life where computers have not been pressed into service of man. We are heading fast towards the day when a computer will be as much part of man's daily life as a telephone or a calculator.

2. Computers are capable of doing extremely complicated work in all branches of learning. They can solve the most complex mathematical problems or put thousands of unrelated facts in order. These machines can be put to varied uses. For instance, they can provide information on the best way to prevent traffic jams. This whole process by which machines can be used to work for us has been called automation. In the future automation may enable human beings to enjoy more leisure than they do today. The coming of automation is bound to have important social consequences.

3. Some years ago an expert on automation, Sir Leon Bagrit, pointed out that it was a mistake to believe that these machines could think. There is no possibility that human beings will be "controlled by machines". Though computers are capable of learning from their mistakes and improving on their performance, they need detailed instructions from human beings to operate. They can never, as it were, lead independent lives or "rule the world" by making decisions of their own.

4. Sir Leon said that in future, computers would be developed which would be small enough to carry in the pocket. Ordinary people would then be able to use them to obtain valuable information. Computers could be plugged into a national network and be used like radios. For instance, people going on holiday could be informed about weather conditions. Car drivers can be given alternative routes when there are traffic jams. It will also be possible to make tiny translating machines. This will enable people who do not share a common language to talk to each other without any difficulty or to read foreign publications.

5. It is impossible to assess the importance of a machine of this sort, for many international misunderstandings are caused simply due to our failure to understand each other.

Computers will also be used in ordinary public hospitals. By providing a machine with a patient's systems, a doctor will be able to diagnose the nature of his illness. Similarly machines could be used to keep a check on a patient's health record and keep it up to date. Doctors will, therefore, have immediate access to great many facts which will help them in their work.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

(A) State the correct option:

- (a) There is no possibility that human beings could be on their own without any need of machines.
- (b) Human beings are likely to be controlled by machines one day.
- (c) There is no possibility that human beings will ever be controlled by machines.
- (d) Machines can replace humans.

(B) Many international misunderstandings are caused due to our failure to understand .....

(C) Computers can be used to .....

- (a) Find treatment for the patient's illness.
- (b) Prescribe a medicine for the patient.
- (c) Diagnose the nature of patient's illness.
- (d) Keep the patient in good mood.

(D) Explain, in about 40 words, the prediction of Sir Leon about computers in the future.

(E) Share evidences from the text to prove that computers are capable of doing complicated works.

(F) There is no ..... that machines will control human beings.

- (a) automation                      (b) consequences
- (c) record                              (d) possibility

(G) Based on the passage, what is one potential benefit of automation and the use of computers?

(H) The verb form of the word "alternative" is:

- (a) Alternate                      (b) Alter
- (c) Late                              (d) Elate

[Mod. Delhi Gov. QB 2022]

Ans. (A) (c) There is no possibility that human beings will ever be controlled by machines.

**Explanation:** Sir Leon Bagrit, pointed out that it was a mistake to believe that these machines could think. There is no possibility that human beings will be "controlled by machines". Though computers are capable of learning from their mistakes and improving on their performance, they need detailed instructions from human beings to operate. Hence, (c) is correct.

(B) each other

**Explanation:** It is impossible to assess the importance of a machine of this sort, for many international misunderstandings are caused simply due to our failure to understand each other.

(C) (c) Diagnose the nature of patient's illness.

**Explanation:** By providing a machine with a patient's systems, a doctor will be able to diagnose the nature of his illness. Hence, (c) is correct.

(D) Sir Leon predicted that in future, computers would be developed which would be small enough to carry in the pocket and the ordinary people would be able to use them to obtain valuable information. It may also be possible to plug them into a national network and use them like radios.

(E) Computers are capable of doing complicated works such as solving the most complex mathematical problems and putting thousands of unrelated facts in order.

(F) (d) possibility

**Explanation:** There is no possibility that computers will control human beings. Hence, (d) is correct.

(G) One potential benefit of automation and the use of computers is the possibility of enabling human beings to enjoy more leisure time in the future.

(H) (a) *alternate*

**Explanation:** The verb form of the word 'alternative' is *alternate*. It is a proposition or situation offering a choice between two or more things only one of which may be chosen. The other three words have completely different meanings. Hence, (a) is correct.

### Passage 3:

Read the passage given below:

1. Stress is not a novel phenomenon. In fact, the word stress was first used in the fifteenth century. Since the turn of the twentieth century, however, the social consciousness of life's stress has risen dramatically. Stress and anxiety have become common terms.

2. Environment provides human beings with certain harsh incentives and demands, which as long as their intensity and frequency are within the limits of human tolerance, can stimulate their motivation and enhance their productivity. However, when these environmental demands become excessive it leads to stress.

3. Hans Selye, who first began piecing together the puzzle of human stress, holds that it is immaterial whether the agent or situation we face is pleasant or unpleasant; all that counts is the intensity of the demand for readjustment or adaptation. Stress is the body's response to external changes that place demands upon us, both physically and mentally. Stress is neutral, in itself it has no connotation; it is neither positive nor negative. There really is no such thing as plain 'stress'; stress is actually classified into one of two types of stress: *eustress* or *distress*.

4. Hans Selye, came up with this theory of *distress* versus *eustress* in 1975 when he published his theory. *Eustress*, the good stress, can sometimes be beneficial; sharpening our senses and providing the adrenaline rush needed to conquer deadlines and multi-tasking. *Distress* occurs when an individual cannot adapt to stress. It is the harmful stress that can, even in short bursts, depress your immune system, cause weight gain. Over a period of time it can lead to brain neurons dying from atrophy; it puts one at a greater risk for a range of medical conditions including blood pressure, diabetes and heart disease.

5. *Eu*, a Greek prefix for 'healthy', is used in the same sense in the word 'euphoria'. Role models who push us to exceed our limits, physical training that removes our spare tires, and risks that expand our sphere of comfortable action are all examples of *eustress* – stress that is healthful and the stimulus for growth. *Eustress* can be defined as pleasant or positive stress. In fact, *eustress* or controlled stress may sometimes be encouraged as it gives us our competitive edge during performance-related activities. Any performance-related activity, a sports-related game or even a job interview has an optimal amount of stress that can prove to be beneficial. Positive stress lends focus and provides the ability to think quickly, clearly and effectively express your thoughts. We should invite and cultivate as much *eustress* in our lives as we can tolerate. *Eustress* makes us grow, it makes us stronger, and it makes us better people. Whether it's physical or mental, *eustress* is resistance training for our lives! *Eustress* is lifting weights at the gym to build your muscles. *Eustress* is riding a roller coaster or watching an enjoyable horror flick. *Eustress* is a challenging work project that you enjoy using your creative abilities to solve.

6. Often the main problem with *distress* is that you don't know when it's going to end. To turn *distressed* into *eustress* we can try thinking of the stresses as temporary. One of the best ways to convert *distress* into *eustress* is to not try to do a million things at one time, take a big goal and cut it into small pieces, that way you can work more productively and efficiently.

7. Another way to convert your negative experiences into positive experiences is by reframing your stress sensation; for example, if you are anxious about a certain situation, reframe it as if it was excitement.

8. Next time you're feeling stressed because you're sitting in traffic, or you're running late, or your exams are round the corner – notice the feelings and thoughts that arise within yourself. Be aware of your breath, your heart rate, your emotions, your thoughts and when you feel your heart start to pound, when you notice you are breathing rapidly and more shallow, when you feel your emotions are in a fight or flight state – realize that you are NOT in a life or death situation, you are NOT running for your life from a lion! Simple awareness can dissolve the association we make between *distress* and ourselves.

9. Create processes to filter out the distress from your life, while creating environments that foster helpful eustress. By saying YES to eustress and NO to distress, we allow the positive stressors into our lives that provide healthy resistance and facilitate our growth, while keeping out the harmful garbage that does nothing but damage us!

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

(A) In the above passage, which factor has been described to explain human's productivity?

- (a) Stress
- (b) Environment
- (c) Motivation
- (d) Both (a) and (b)

(B) Stress has been termed as beneficial.

Suppose a situation where you have your exam tomorrow. How does stress play a role in your examination enhancement?

(C) 'Healthy', is used in the same sense in the word 'euphoria' which can also be used to describe stress as in?

- (a) Eustress can be defined as pleasant or positive stress.
- (b) Eustress makes us fall and unproductive, it makes us weak.
- (c) Both (a) and (b)
- (d) Eustress cannot be described with the term healthy because stress is not good for us.

(D) Hans Selye, came up with his theory of distress versus eustress in .....

(E) What is the importance of self-awareness in dealing with stress? How can recognizing bodily sensations and thoughts during stressful situations help dissolve the association between distress and oneself?

(F) Hans Selye described stress as 'neutral'. This means:

- (a) stress can be negative and positive.
- (b) stress can be of many types.
- (c) response to a stress can be negative or positive.
- (d) stress is negative that is distress.

(G) Read paragraph B and find the antonym of the word 'apathy'.

- (a) Feelings
- (b) Emotions
- (c) Thoughts
- (d) Both (a) and (b)

(H) How can reframing stress sensations help convert negative experiences into positive ones? Provide an example of reframing stress as excitement.

[Mod. Delhi Gov. Term-1 SQP 2021]

Ans. (A) (b) Environment

**Explanation:** Environment provides human beings with certain harsh incentives and demands, which as long as their intensity and frequency are within the limits of human tolerance, can stimulate their motivation and enhance their productivity. Hence, (b) is correct.

(B) Stress has been termed as beneficial. Eustress can enhance performance by motivating us to study.

(C) (a) Eustress can be defined as pleasant or positive stress.

**Explanation:** 'Healthy', is used in the same sense in the word 'euphoria' which can also be used to describe stress as in Eustress can be defined as pleasant or positive stress. In fact, eustress or controlled stress may sometimes be encouraged as it gives us our competitive edge during performance-related activities. Hence, (a) is correct.

(D) Hans Selye, came up with his theory of distress versus eustress in 1975.

(E) Simple awareness can dissolve the association we make between distress and ourselves. Being aware of your breath, your heart rate, your emotions, and your thoughts help to release stress.

(F) (c) Response to a stress can be negative or positive

**Explanation:** Stress is neutral, in itself it has no connotation; it is neither positive nor negative. There really is no such thing as plain 'stress'; stress is actually classified into one of two types of stress: eustress or distress. Hence, (c) is correct.

(G) (d) Both (a) and (b)

**Explanation:** The antonym of apathy is both feelings and emotions. Apathy denotes a lack of responsiveness to something that might normally excite interest or emotion. Hence, (d) is correct.

(H) Another way to convert your negative experiences into positive experiences is by reframing your stress sensation; for example, if you are anxious about a certain situation, reframe it as if it was excitement.

#### Passage 4:

Read the passage given below:

1. I got posted in Srinagar in the 1980s. Its rugged mountains, gushing rivers and vast meadows reminded me of the landscapes of my native place – the Jibhi Valley in Himachal Pradesh. Unlike Srinagar that saw numerous tourists, Jibhi Valley remained clouded in anonymity. That's when the seed of starting tourism in Jibhi was planted. I decided to leave my service in the Indian Army and follow the urge to return home.

2. We had two houses – a family house and a traditional house, which we often rented out. I pleaded with my father to ask the tenant to vacate the house so that I could convert it into a guesthouse. When my family finally relented, I renovated the house keeping its originality intact, just adding windows for sunlight.

3. I still remember the summer of 1992 when I put a signboard outside my first guesthouse in Jibhi Valley! The village residents, however, were sceptical about my success. My business kept growing but it took years for tourism to take off in Jibhi Valley. Things changed significantly after 2008 when the government launched a homestay scheme. People built homestays and with rapid tourism growth, the region changed rapidly. Villages turned into towns with many concrete buildings. Local businesses and tourists continued putting a burden on nature.

4. Then, with the 2020-21 pandemic and lockdown, tourism came to a complete standstill in Jibhi Valley. Local people, who were employed at over a hundred homestays and guesthouses, returned to their villages. Some went back to farming; some took up pottery and some got involved in government work schemes. Now, all ardently hope that normalcy and tourism will return to the valley soon. In a way, the pandemic has given us an opportunity to introspect, go back to our roots and look for sustainable solutions.

5. For me, tourism has been my greatest teacher. It brought people from many countries and all states of India to my guesthouse. It gave me exposure to different cultures and countless opportunities to learn new things. Most people who stayed at my guesthouse became my repeat clients and good friends. When I look back, I feel proud, yet humbled at the thought that I was not only able to fulfill my dream despite all the challenges, but also play a role in establishing tourism in the beautiful valley that I call home. (394 words)

**Source:** [https://www.outlookindia.com/outlooktraveller/explore/story/71458/how-](https://www.outlookindia.com/outlooktraveller/explore/story/71458/how-one-mans-conviction-put-jibhi-valley-on-the-world-tourism-map)

[one-mans-conviction-put-jibhi-valley-on-the-world-tourism-map](https://www.outlookindia.com/outlooktraveller/explore/story/71458/how-one-mans-conviction-put-jibhi-valley-on-the-world-tourism-map)

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

(A) The scenic beauty of Srinagar makes the writer feel:

- (a) awestruck (b) nostalgic  
(c) cheerful (d) confused

(B) A collocation is a group of words that often occur together.

The writer says that Jibhi valley remained clouded in anonymity.

Select the word from the options that correctly collocates with clouded in.

- (a) disgust (b) anger  
(c) doubt (d) terror

(C) Give two reasons from the passage to support the writer's claim that tourism has been his best teacher.

(D) The writer uses the metaphor 'to remain clouded in anonymity' in paragraph 1 to suggest that Jibhi valley was largely .....

(E) Select the option that clearly indicates the situation before and after 2008, in Jibhi Valley.

	Before 2008	After 2008
(a)	picturesque landscapes	construction sites and commerce

	Before 2008	After 2008
(b)	zero tourism in the valley	sceptical villagers

	Before 2008	After 2008
(c)	buildings and hotels	profitable ventures

	Before 2008	After 2008
(d)	scenic surroundings	zero tourism in the valley

(F) Infer the reason behind the writer keeping the originality of the house intact while renovating his traditional house. Write your answer in about 40 words.

(G) Why do you think the village residents were sceptical of the writer opening his first guesthouse in Jibhi?

(H) Read the five headlines (1) -(5), given below:

- (1) MY DAYS IN THE ARMY  
(2) REMINISCING ABOUT MY ARMY DAYS  
(3) HOW TO START A HOMESTAY

(4) JIBHI VALLEY: A TOURIST PARADISE  
(5) MY EXPERIMENT WITH STARTING A RESORT

Identify the option that displays the headline/s that DOES/ DO NOT correspond with occurrences in the passage.

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

Ans. (A) (b) *nostalgic*

**Explanation:** The author remembers his childhood at that place and feels like going back to home in the Jibhi Valley. Other options don't relate to that feeling. Hence, (b) is correct.

(B) (c) *doubt*

**Explanation:** Option (c) means almost the same as the word 'clouded'. Clouded and doubted both refer to something that is not clear. Disgust is hate, anger and terror also mean different. Hence, (c) is correct.

(C) Two reasons to support the writer's claim are:

- (1) Tourism brought people from different parts of the world to the writer's guesthouse.
- (2) It gave him exposure to people from different cultures, their attitudes and customs. This provided him countless opportunities to learn new things.

(D) unknown as a tourist spot

(E) (a)

Before 2008	After 2008
<i>picturesque landscapes</i>	<i>construction sites and commerce</i>

**Explanation:** The sentence '.....and with rapid tourism growth, the region changed rapidly. Villages turned into towns with many concrete buildings. Local businesses and tourists continued putting a burden on nature,' supports the answer, i.e., option (a). Other options don't bring out the reality as stated in the passage. Hence, (a) is correct.

(F) The writer wanted to keep the originality of the house intact because he wanted to retain the cultural heritage of the place. Tourists from around the world are interested in learning about the unique culture of the place they visit.

(G) The village residents were sceptical because Jibhi was not a popular tourist

destination. They were not sure it would be a successful business venture.

(H) (c) *Only (5)*

**Explanation:** The headline mentioned in (5) is relevant in the context of the passage because he started a resort in Jibhi valley when it was not popular among tourists. On the other hand, options (1) and (2) are irrelevant because the passage is not centered on his army days. (3) is also not relevant because the author does not explain or educate the process of starting a homestay. (4) is also irrelevant because the passage is not about how and why the Jibhi valley became popular among tourists. Hence, (c) is correct.

### Passage 5:

Read the passage given below:

1. Nothing better sums up the outdoors than the centuries-old human endeavour to scale mighty peaks. Mountaineering involves hiking, climbing, or just simply walking, on hilly or mountainous ground, with the help of technical equipment and support. In mountaineering, you'll come across different types of terrain - mainly snow, glaciers, ice or just naked rocks. The feats of Edmund Hilary and George Mallory, just two legendary mountaineers, have contributed to making this activity a popular one all around the world, one that has also been known to build a person's character. One has to be physically robust, very fit and display a decent level of athleticism and suppleness of body to climb mountains; training, conditioning and preparation are essential if you are looking to attempt an ascent on a particularly challenging peak. In addition, the mountaineer, often having to withstand extreme climatic conditions, has to display a good degree of mental fortitude to survive and succeed.

2. But in the end, all of this is worth your while - there is no better feeling than being out in the open. In high nature's playground, breathing in the pristine mountain air, as close to the sky as it's humanly possible to be.

3. Mountaineering is as old as the earth, as old as human life. When it became a passion of the outdoorsy and of like-minded, in the 19th century, many people would climb just for pleasure, for the sheer thrill of conquering peaks near and far. But over time, the sport has split into separate disciplines, each of them calling for varying degrees of skills and

preparation. Today, climbers have the comfort of having the most advanced equipment and gear at their disposal. In contrast, men in ancient times had to rely on their feet, their legs, their arms and their hands - and their wits - to climb mountains. These old climbing techniques are still very much relevant today (as well as being utterly reliable and safe) but the 21st-century mountaineer has the added advantage of depending on hi-tech safety equipment. Closer home, the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute has played a big part in the conquest of the Greater Himalayas. Many of the planet's mountaineering greats have tested their skills, and earned their name, in the Himalayan theatre of dreams, considered the ultimate arena for climbing enthusiasts.

4. Mountaineering demands a lot of your physical fitness, and attempts on the highest peaks can push your body to the limit. Before attempting any climb, make sure you are fit enough to endure everything that nature and the elements may throw at you. Remember that mountaineering may be a very exhilarating activity but it is far from being an easy sport! At high altitudes, it is important to give enough time for acclimatization. And make sure you get a clean bill of health from your doctor before embarking on an expedition.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

- (A) What makes mountaineering a challenging sport?
- Easy accessibility to advanced gear.
  - The reliance on physical fitness and mental strength.
  - Limited need for training and conditioning.
  - The absence of extreme climatic conditions.
- (B) Comment, in about 40 words, what is the overall message conveyed about mountaineering in the passage?
- (C) Who are two legendary mountaineers mentioned in the passage?
- George Mallory and Edmund Hillary
  - John Smith and Michael Johnson
  - David Brown and Sarah Thompson
  - Peter Jackson and Jane Austen

- (D) Before attempting a climb, it is important to ensure physical fitness and give enough time for ..... at high altitudes.
- (E) Which of the following is NOT a type of terrain encountered in mountaineering?
- Snow
  - Glaciers
  - Forests
  - Naked rocks
- (F) Explain, in about 40 words, how has mountaineering evolved over time?
- (G) What has contributed to the popularity of mountaineering?
- Access to advanced equipment.
  - Extreme climatic conditions.
  - The Himalayan Mountaineering Institute.
  - The feats of legendary mountaineers.
- (H) What is the central theme of the passage? [Mod. Delhi Gov. QB 2022]

Ans. (A) (b) The reliance on physical fitness and mental strength.

**Explanation:** Mountaineering demands a lot of your physical fitness, and attempts on the highest peaks can push your body to the limit. The mountaineer, often having to withstand extreme climatic conditions, has to display a good degree of mental fortitude to survive and succeed. Hence, (b) is correct.

- (B) Mountaineering is an exhilarating activity that requires physical fitness, mental fortitude, and preparation. It is a challenging sport that provides a unique connection to nature and the outdoors, but it is far from being easy.
- (C) (a) George Mallory and Edmund Hillary
- Explanation:** The feats of Edmund Hillary and George Mallory, just two legendary mountaineers, have contributed to making this activity a popular one all around the world, one that has also been known to build a person's character. Hence, (a) is correct.
- (D) Before attempting a climb, it is important to ensure physical fitness and give enough time for acclimatization at high altitudes.
- (E) (c) Forests
- Explanation:** In mountaineering, you'll come across different types of terrain - mainly snow, glaciers, ice or just naked rocks. Hence, (c) is correct.
- (F) It has split into separate disciplines with varying degrees of skills and preparation, and modern climbers have access to advanced equipment and gear.

(G) (d) *The feats of legendary mountaineers*

**Explanation:** The feats of Edmund Hilary and George Mallory, just two legendary mountaineers, have contributed to making this activity a popular one all around the world, one that has also been known to build a person's character. Hence, (d) is correct

(H) The central theme of the passage is the challenging and rewarding nature of mountaineering, highlighting its physical demands, mental fortitude, historical significance, and the allure of exploring nature's grandeur.

#### Passage 6:

Read the passage given below:

5. I saw 'Jaws', the popular shark movie, the summer it came out, in 1975 and became paranoid about sharks. Though I kept swimming after Jaws, it was always with the vague fear that a shark's teeth could tug on my leg at any moment. Never mind that there had been only two shark bites since 1900 on the Connecticut coast, where I lived.

So, when I got this assignment for the National Geographic magazine, I decided to accept and do what I'd never wanted to do: swim with the sharks. I had to go to a place in the Bahamas known as Tiger Beach and dive with Tiger sharks, the species responsible for more

10. recorded attacks on humans than any shark except the Great White. It was to be my first dive after getting certified—which meant it would be my first dive anywhere other than a swimming pool or a quarry—and without a diver's cage. Most people who got wind of this plan thought I was either very brave or very stupid.

15. But I just wanted to puncture an illusion. The people who know sharks intimately tend to be least afraid of them, and no one gets closer to sharks than divers. The divers who run operations at Tiger Beach speak lovingly of Tiger sharks the way people talk about their children or their pets. In their eyes, these sharks aren't man-eaters any more than dogs are.

20. The business of puncturing illusions is never just black and white. My fellow divers had hundreds of dives under their belt and on the two-hour boat ride to the site in the morning of our first dive, they kept saying things like, "Seriously, I really can't believe this is your first dive." All this was okay with me until I reached the bottom and immediately had to fend off.

25. the first tiger shark, I had ever laid eyes on. However, when I watched the other divers feeding them fish and steering them gently, it

became easy to see the sharks in a very benign light.

*I think it would be unfair not to mention that though tiger sharks are apex predators, they act as a crucial balancing force*

30. in ocean ecosystems, constraining the numbers of animals like sea turtles and limit their behaviour by preventing them from overgrazing the sea grass beds. Furthermore, tiger sharks love warm water, they eat almost anything, have a huge litter and are the hardiest shark species. If the planet and its oceans continue to warm, some species will be winners and others will be losers, and tiger sharks are likely to be winners

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

(A) Comment on the impact the movie 'Jaws' had on the writer.

- (a) He was keen to study about sharks
- (b) He decided to swim with sharks in the Bahamas
- (c) He was paranoid to go swimming
- (d) He decided to stop swimming in the ocean

(B) 'Most people who got wind of this plan thought I was either very brave or very stupid.' What does the phrase 'get wind of' mean in this context?

- (a) To smell something fishy
- (b) Heard about it
- (c) Praise or exaggerate
- (d) Analyse something

(C) People thought the writer was 'either brave or very stupid'. Why did some people think that he was 'very stupid'?

(D) Select a suitable phrase from lines 15-25 to complete the following sentence appropriately.

I agree the team will find this experience tough, but competing will be easier next time after they get this tournament .....

(E) Why does the writer say that the business of puncturing illusions is never black or white?

- (a) Things could go wrong during his dive
- (b) His dive was uncomplicated
- (c) There was no need for puncturing illusions
- (d) He was prepared for his dive with sharks

(F) What does the use of the phrase 'benign light' suggest in the context of

the writer's viewpoint about the tiger sharks? Answer in about 40 words.

(G) Apex predators serve to keep prey numbers in check. How can we say that tiger sharks are apex predators? Answers in 40 words.

(H) Read the five headlines (1)-(5), given below:

(1) THE TRUTH BEHIND 'JAWS'

(2) TIGER SHARKS DEMYSTIFIED

(3) THE STORY OF A SHARK JUNKIE

(4) HERE'S ONE MAN WHO LIVED OUT HIS BIGGEST FEAR

(5) WHO LET THE SHARKS OUT OF THE TANK?

Identify the option that displays the headline/s that DOES/ DO NOT correspond with occurrences in the passage.

- |              |                      |
|--------------|----------------------|
| (a) Only (1) | (b) (1), (2) and (3) |
| (c) Only (5) | (d) (1), (3) and (5) |

Ans. (A) (c) He was paranoid to go swimming.

**Explanation:** After watching the movie 'Jaws', the writer became paranoid of swimming in the sea. He always had a vague fear that a shark's teeth would tug at his leg. Hence, (c) is correct.

(B) (b) Heard about it.

**Explanation:** 'To get wind of' means to get to know or become aware in this context. The writer is talking about people who got to know of his plan to swim with sharks. Hence, (b) is correct.

(C) People thought that the writer was 'very stupid' as it was his first dive after getting certified and swimming with sharks was very dangerous. Moreover, he had to dive without a diver's cage in a part of the ocean that was filled with tiger sharks.

(D) I agree the team will find this experience tough, but competing will be easier next time after they get this tournament under their belt (line 21). To have something 'under their belt' means to achieve something or have credit to an achievement. Hence, this is the right answer.

(E) (a) Things could go wrong during his dive

**Explanation:** The writer says this because he had never dived with sharks before, unlike the other divers. There were risks associated with his mission and things could go wrong. Hence, (a) is correct.

(F) The phrase 'Benign light' means to view something as benevolent, gentle and friendly. The writer witnessed other divers feeding tiger sharks with fish and gently leading them. He was awestruck because they seemed totally harmless at that time.

(G) Tiger sharks restrict the number of sea turtles (by feeding on them), and act as a balancing force in the ecosystem. If the numbers weren't constrained, it would result in the depletion of sea-grass which supports other marine life forms.

(H) (d) (1), (3) and (5).

**Explanation:** The headlines (2) and (4) are relevant in the context of the passage because the author went out to swim with sharks to bust myths about them. He was also very scared of them. On the other hand, (1) is irrelevant because the passage is not about Jaws. (3) is also not relevant because the author is not a shark junkie. (5) is also an irrelevant phrase. Hence, option (d) is correct.

### Passage 7:

Read the passage given below:

1. These days, it is not unusual to see people listening to music or using their electronic gadgets while crossing busy roads or travelling on public transport, regardless of the risks involved. I have often wondered why they take such risks: is it because they want to exude a sense of independence, or is it that they want to tell the world to stop bothering them? Or is it that they just want to show how cool they are?

2. Whether it is a worker or an executive, earphones have become an inseparable part of our lives, sometimes even leading to tragic situations. The other day, an electrician came to our house to fix something. We told him in detail what needed to be done. But after he left, I found that the man had done almost nothing. It later turned out that he could not hear our directions clearly because he had his earphones on.

3. Hundreds of such earphone addicts commute by Delhi Metro every day. While one should not begrudge anyone their moments of privacy or their love for music, the fact is 'iPod oblivion' can sometimes be very dangerous. Recently, I was travelling with my wife on the Delhi Metro. Since the train was approaching the terminus, there weren't too many passengers. In our compartment, other than us, there were only two women sitting on

the other side of the aisle. And then suddenly, I spotted a duffel bag. The bomb scare lasted for several minutes. Then suddenly, a youth emerged from nowhere and picked up the bag. When we tried to stop him, he looked at us, surprised. Then he took off his earpieces, lifted the bag, and told us that the bag belonged to him and that he was going to get off at the next station.

4. We were stunned but recovered in time to ask him where he had been all this time. His answer: he was in the compartment, leaning against the door, totally immersed in the music. He had no clue about what was going on around him. When he got off, earplugs in his hand, we could hear the strains of the song.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

- (A) What incident occurred with the electrician who came to the author's house?
- He did not complete the assigned task.
  - He wore earphones while working.
  - He misunderstood the directions given to him.
  - He caused a tragicomic situation.
- (B) Explain in about 40 words, how did the youth in the compartment react to the situation?
- (C) What was the reason for the youth's unawareness of the bomb scare?
- He was distracted by the music playing in his earphones.
  - He was engrossed in a conversation with his friends.
  - He was deliberately ignoring the situation.
  - He was sleeping during the incident.
- (D) ..... describes the state of being oblivious to one's surroundings due to using earphones.
- (E) Why do some people take risks by using electronic gadgets while crossing busy roads or travelling on public transport?
- To exude a sense of independence
  - To tell the world to stop bothering them
  - To show how cool they are
  - All of the above

(F) What is the writer's tone in describing people's behaviour with electronic gadgets and the incident on the Delhi Metro?

(G) What term is used to describe the dangerous state of being oblivious to one's surroundings due to using earphones?

- iPod Independence
- Electronic Immersion
- Earphone addiction
- iPod oblivion

(H) What do you understand by the word 'aisle' mentioned in paragraph 3?

Ans. (A) (c) He misunderstood the directions given to him.

**Explanation:** The electrician, who had his earphones on, could not hear the directions clearly and ended up doing almost nothing. Hence, (c) is correct.

(B) The youth, who was immersed in music, picked up the bag and later revealed that it belonged to him and he was getting off at the next station. He had been unaware of the bomb scare due to his distraction with the music.

(C) (a) He was distracted by the music playing in his earphones.

**Explanation:** A youth emerged from nowhere and picked up the bag. When everyone tried to stop him, he looked at them with surprise. He was unaware of the bomb scare because he was wearing earphones. Hence, (a) is correct.

(D) 'iPod oblivion' is the term used to describe the state of being oblivious to one's surroundings due to using earphones.

(E) (d) All of the above

**Explanation:** The author says that it is not unusual to see people listening to music or using their electronic gadgets while crossing busy roads or travelling on public transport, regardless of the risks involved. He often wonders why they take such risks: is it because they want to exude a sense of independence, or maybe they want to tell the world to stop bothering them. Hence, (d) is correct.

(F) The writer's tone can be described as a combination of concern and astonishment.

(G) (d) iPod oblivion

**Explanation:** iPod oblivion can be dangerous because while one should

respect people's privacy and love for music, being completely engrossed in personal devices can sometimes pose risks and dangers. Hence, (d) is correct.

- (H) 'Aisle' means a passage between rows of seats in a building such as a church or theatre, an aircraft, or train.

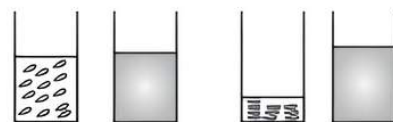
### Passage 8:

Read the passage given below:

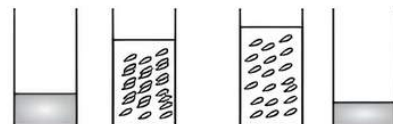
1. "Who doesn't know how to cook rice? Cooking rice hardly takes time." said my father. So, I challenged myself. I switched from news to YouTube and typed, "How to cook rice?" I took one and a half cups of rice. Since I didn't have access to a rice cooker, I put the rice in a big pot. Firstly, the rice has to be washed to get rid of dust and starch. I thought I won't be able to drain the rice and that it will fall out of the pot. I observed the chef as I swirled the rice around and used my dexterous hands to drain it, not once, not twice, but three times. I looked down at the sink and saw less than 50 grains that made their way out of the pot. Suffice to say, I was up to the mark.
2. The video stated that the key to perfect rice is equal amounts of rice and water. I have heard that professionals don't need to measure everything; they just know what the right amount is. But as this was my first time in the kitchen, I decided to experiment by not measuring the water needed for boiling the rice. I wanted the rice to be firm when bitten, just like pasta. I don't enjoy the texture of mushy rice. It has to have that chutzpah; it has to resist my biting power just for a bit before disintegrating.
3. After what seemed like 10 minutes, all the water disappeared. I went in to give it a good stir. To my surprise, some of the rice got stuck to the pot. I tried to scrape it off but to no avail. At the same time, there was a burning smell coming from it. I quickly turned the stove off. "What have you done to the kitchen?" shouted Mother, while coming towards the kitchen. I managed to ward her off.
4. Finally, when the time came to taste my creation, I was surprised! It wasn't bad at all. The rice had the desired consistency. Sure, a little more salt would've been better, but I just added that while eating. The experience was fairly rewarding and memorable. It taught me a new sense of respect for those who cook food on a regular basis at home or engage in gourmet creations professionally.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

- (A) Father's question to the narrator, about knowing how to cook rice, was intended to:
- (a) criticize the narrator's lack of abilities.
  - (b) make the process sound simple.
  - (c) encourage the narrator to take up cooking.
  - (d) showcase his own expertise in cooking rice.
- (B) "I switched from news to YouTube ..."— Pick the option in which the meaning of 'switch(ed)' is NOT the same as it is in the passage.
- (a) He switched on the radio to listen to the news while having dinner.
  - (b) Forget these diet supplements and switch to yoga, if you want a true sense of well-being.
  - (c) Mom switched to reading fiction recently because she was bored with cook-books.
  - (d) The company will switch the trucks to other routes to bring down city pollution.
- (C) 'Who doesn't know how to cook rice? Cooking rice hardly takes time.' Infer the attitude that the author's father had towards cooking rice.
- (D) Fill in the blank based on your understanding of the passage:  
The phrase 'ward her off' used in paragraph 3 refers to the writer ..... from the kitchen.
- (E) Which option represents the correct ratio of water to rice for cooking 'perfect rice'?



(1) (2)



(3) (4)

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

- (F) Explain, in about 40 words, how the passage has been written in a humorous manner.
- (G) In about 40 words, comment on the writer's tone when he says 'Suffice to say, I was up to it'.

(H) Read the five headlines (1) -(5), given below:

- (1) TRICE COOKING FOR BEGINNERS
- (2) COOKING RICE FOR THE FIRST TIME
- (3) SETTING THE KITCHEN ON FIRE WITH MY COOKING SKILLS
- (4) WHO SAID COOKING RICE WAS EASY?
- (5) COOK RICE LIKE YOU MEAN IT

Identify the option that displays the headline/s that DOES/ DO NOT correspond with occurrences in the passage.

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

Ans. (A) (b) make the process sound simple.

**Explanation:** Father's question challenged the narrator so his remark cannot be considered as criticism. Therefore (a) cannot be the answer. His question did not encourage the narrator to take up the cooking nor did he want to showcase his culinary skills (as given in (c) & (d) options). His remark made the process sound so simple that the narrator took up to learning to cook rice. Hence, (b) is the correct answer.

(B) (a) He switched on the radio to listen to the news while having dinner.

**Explanation:** In the passage, 'switched' is used to mean a shift in interest or choice. Options (b) (c) and (d) all show the same meaning. Hence, (a) is the answer as here "switched" means to turn on.

(C) The writer's father believed that cooking rice was a simple task that did not require much time or expertise. On the other hand, according to him it was a simple activity that someone could do even if they did not have a basic idea of cooking. It shows that he had a dismissive attitude towards cooking rice

(D) Sending his mother away

(E) (a) Image (1)

**Explanation:** (a) The narrator tells us that there should be equal amount's of rice and water. This is shown in image 1. Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

(F) The passage is about cooking rice which the writer mentions is a very simple task which anyone can do. But when he makes it, some of the rice gets burnt. He is also not able to wash the rice properly because he spills many grains in the process. Such instances make the passage humorous.

(G) The writer is being ironic about his skills when it comes to washing rice. A skilled

cook would make sure none of the grains would get wasted. The writer says 'hardly' 50 grains were lost which is a significant number.

(H) (d) (3), (4) and (5)

**Explanation:** The headlines (1) and (2) are relevant in the context of the passage because the author was cooking rice for the first time and he was a beginner. On the other hand, (3) is irrelevant because the author does not mention fire anywhere (4) is also not relevant because the author believes at the end that it is fairly easy to cook rice. (5) is also an irrelevant phrase. Hence, (d) is correct.

### Passage 9:

Read the passage given below:

1. The term "poor-quality medicines" is something of a catch-all. It includes "sub-standards", medicines that have had inadequate quality control or that have degraded from improper storage or the passage of time. And it includes falsified medicines – fakes – that claim to be what they are not. These may not be made by the manufacturer whose name is on the package and they may not contain the stated ingredients in the stated quantities.

2. Poor-quality medicines might not work. They usually have none or only part of the active ingredient they are supposed to contain. This would mean that the illnesses of those people who consume them would be left to take their course. Consuming them can even kill you because the contaminants in the medicines can end up causing severe infections.

3. Poor-quality medicines can be life-threatening even if you don't take them. Antimicrobial drugs (including antibiotics and antivirals) that have too little active ingredient are generally accepted to help disease-causing bugs evolve so that they develop resistance to treatment even with good-quality antimicrobials. And then these bugs spread. The factors that speed up the development of antimicrobial resistance — high rates of infections, the overuse and misuse of antimicrobials, poor sanitation, poor-quality medicines — are more common in low- and middle-income countries, which means that so is resistance. But microbes travel easily across the world in foodstuffs being exported and in the bodies of humans. And often, resistant microbes can transfer genetic material to each other to become even more dangerous to humans.

4. The result: infections that were simple to cure are back with a vengeance. Conditions like tuberculosis and HIV are getting harder to treat. In the future, a routine surgery could become risky and cancer treatment more challenging. There is a real danger of returning to a time where any one of us could pick up an infection and find that medicines are unable to produce the intended results.

5. In 2010, Indians consumed the most antibiotics per person in the world. Medicines, including antimicrobials, are easily available over the counter despite rules that forbid this. A recent study found that a large number of antibiotics were on sale without being approved either in India or in the country of the manufacturer. On an international level, further complicating the picture is the fact that different countries have different standards of quality.

6. Ensuring medicine quality is a global challenge. A pill might be manufactured from ingredients sourced from multiple countries, shipped via several ports, packaged and repackaged in various countries and ultimately sold via an internet pharmacy. The number of points at which fakes or substandards could enter the chain is staggering, so international coordination and regulation is essential.

7. SrinathPerurGlossary: active ingredient - a chemical component in a medicine responsible for its intended effects antivirals - drugs that treat infections caused by viruses microbes - microorganisms, especially the ones causing diseases (480 words)

**Source (edited):** 'Fake drugs: the global industry putting your life at risk' - <https://mosaicscience.com/story/fake-drugs-global-antibiotics-amr-counterfeit-meds>.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option.

- (A) The term 'poor quality medicines' is considered to be a 'catch-all' because it .....
- (a) helps consumers identify medicines that are of bad quality and reject them
  - (b) highlights that authentic medicines contain ingredients that are of high quality
  - (c) indicates that the issue is related to quality and helps authorities to stay vigilant
  - (d) includes medicines that are both fake and fail to meet appropriate quality standards

(B) Can microbes that are not directly exposed to poor quality medicines pose a threat to humans? Answer in about 40 words.

(C) In paragraph 6, the writer points out that antimicrobials are easily available over the counter in India despite rules that forbid this. Based on your understanding of this issue, how can you purchase medicines responsibly?

(D) Select the option that conveys the meaning of 'staggering' used in paragraph 7.

- (a) shocking      (b) damaging
- (c) detectable    (d) unplanned

(E) Which of these statements is NOT true about poor-quality antimicrobials?

- (a) They misrepresent the amount of active ingredients that they contain.
- (b) The effects caused by them can be reversed with appropriate medication.
- (c) They can pose a serious threat even to people who do not consume them.
- (d) The germs exposed to them can adapt themselves to become a stronger variant.

(F) Will stopping the manufacturing of poor-quality medicines fully resolve the issue of antimicrobial resistance in low- and middle-income countries? Answer in about 40 words.

(G) Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference from the passage: Effective quality control and regulation of medicines at their point of production alone cannot guarantee the eradication of poor quality medicines because .....

(H) Which of these is the primary purpose of paragraph 5?

- (a) to give insight into the process of gene transmission in microbes
- (b) to list the infections that can become difficult to treat in the future
- (c) to reveal the effects that infections can produce in human bodies
- (d) to emphasize the serious consequences of antimicrobial resistance

**Ans. (A)** (d) includes medicines that are both fake and fail to meet appropriate quality standards.

**Explanation:** A 'catch-all' phrase is one that is used to refer to products of a general category. 'Poor quality medicines' is a general term that refers to various categories of sub-standard medicines. Hence, (d) is correct.

(B) Yes, microbes that have developed antimicrobial resistance through direct exposure to poor quality medicines can transfer genetic material to other microbes that haven't had such an exposure. This leads to the microbes that are not directly exposed to poor quality medicines developing antimicrobial resistance, thereby posing threat to humans.

(C) We can be responsible consumers by choosing to buy antimicrobials only using a doctor's prescription.

(D) (a) *shocking*

**Explanation:** The word 'staggering' is used as an adjective to mean something that has the effect of being surprising or shocking to a great degree. Hence, option (a) is correct.

(E) (b) *The effects caused by them can be reversed with appropriate medication.*

**Explanation:** The truth about poor-quality antimicrobials is that they cause harmful effects that may not be reversed with medication. Hence, (b) is correct.

(F) No, there are multiple factors apart from poor-quality medicines that affect low- and middle-income countries. Some of these factors are high rates of infections, the overuse and misuse of antimicrobials and poor sanitation. Only by finding a solution to these problems too can the issue of antimicrobial resistance be fully resolved.

(G) There are various steps between the production and distribution of medicines that might involve transportation across various countries.

(H) (d) *to emphasize the serious consequences of antimicrobial resistance*

**Explanation:** In paragraph 5, the author explains that antimicrobial resistance can lead to serious harm in the long run, and increases risk of surgeries and other treatments. Hence, (d) is correct.

### Passage 10:

Read the passage given below:

*There is a time when everyone has to face grief. When someone dear to oneself dies, one is left in a state in which grief and shock overcome the ordinary life. One is left in a situation when one feels there is nothing one can do. Grief and mourning are always associated with death.*

*It also happens with other kinds of losses. It could be the loss of one's job, the loss of one's house or the loss of a close friend.*

*5. The best people able to cope with these are those who come from cultures that have strict, formal and intensive mourning rituals. In India, we have diverse rituals which nowadays are being discarded. But these help in surmounting the crisis. The near and dear ones come to share the grief and apply balm with their words of solace. In a modern society, one is expected to act as if nothing has happened, but research has shown that mourning is an essential part*

*10. of coming to terms with loss. There comes a time when one has to give up one's grief and rejoin the main stream of life. Mourning in itself passes through these phases. Firstly, it is in the nature of shock and disbelief. A feeling of numbness overtakes. The brain is not in a position to accept. It so happens that one expects the arrival of the lost one, thinking that nothing will change and he/she will be with the lost one. In the second phase, one realises the truth that the loss has actually happened,*

*15. and it was not a dream. It is then that one feels the pain. Then one recollects the old moments and the memory of guilt creeps in. Here, the affected person displays odd behaviour and has difficulty in activities like eating and sleeping. One may remain in this stage for weeks, months and sometimes years. In the next phase, one experiences relief from pain and negative feelings. This leads to*

*20. positivity. Then one feels one must make alternative arrangements or replacements. Here, one is ready to cope with the situation. One knows one cannot recover what one has lost, but is conscious of the future, accepts the loss and is ready for the alternative.*

*On passing through all the stages of grief, it seems that time has passed like a river under the bridge. This shows that mourning has been successful. One cannot forget the loss but one*  
*25. comes to terms with reality.*

**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.**

(A) What is the central point that the writer makes about 'grief' in paragraph 1?

- (a) Grief is always associated to death
- (b) Grief and shocks tends to overcome daily life
- (c) Grief does not spare anyone
- (d) Grief can also be a result of job loss or the loss of a close friend

- (B) What is the writer's contention about the practice of mourning rituals in India?
- India has diverse mourning rituals
  - Mourning rituals in India are strict, formal and diverse
  - Mourning rituals are being discarded
  - Near and dear ones come to share in a person's grief
- (C) The writer says that the best people to cope with loss are the ones who come from a strict mourning culture. Infer the reasoning in about 40 words.
- (D) Complete the following sentence based on your reading of the passage:
- The writer uses the phrase 'like a river under the bridge' to underline the fact that time .....
- (E) What are the 'alternative arrangements' that the writer refers to in lines 20-25?
- Making alternative arrangements for funeral
  - Explore different types of mourning rituals
  - Understand the meaning of death
  - Make changes in life to cope with the loss
- (F) What does the use of the phrase 'feeling of numbness' suggest in the context of the writer's viewpoint of grief? Answer in about 40 words.
- (G) Grief and mourning are always associated with death. What are the other kinds of losses other than the ones given in the passage?
- (H) Read the five headlines (1) -(5), given below:
- DIFFERENT STAGES OF GRIEF
  - LEAVING THE LOSS OF LOVED ONES BEHIND
  - GRIEVING IS A CRUCIAL STAGE OF MATURATION
  - DEALING WITH GRIEF
  - MOURNING: AN ASPECT OF GRIEF
- Identify the option that displays the headline/s that DOES/ DO NOT correspond with occurrences in the passage.
- (1) and (2)
  - (1), (2) and (3)
  - (2) and (3)
  - (3), (4) and (5)

**Ans.** (A) (c) Grief does not spare anyone

**Explanation:** The writer makes the point that grief is universal, and everyone has to overcome grief and pain at some point in their lives. Hence, option (c) is the right answer.

(B) (c) Mourning rituals are being discarded

**Explanation:** 'Contention' refers to someone's argument or cause of worry regarding something. Here, the writer is unhappy with the way mourning rituals are being discarded in India. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(C) As per the writer, the best people to cope with loss are the ones belonging to a strict mourning culture because mourning makes it easy for the brain to accept that the loss has actually happened. It helps a person to overcome his pain by reliving it through lamenting.

(D) The writer uses the phrase 'like a river under the bridge' to underline the fact that time has moved on quickly.

(E) (d) Make changes in life to cope with the loss

**Explanation:** The writer is referring to the changes a person needs to make in his or her lifestyle to cope with the loss of a friend or loved one. He is not referring to funeral arrangements, mourning rituals or understanding the meaning of death. Hence, (d) is correct.

(F) The writer uses the phrase 'feeling of numbness' to express that when a person experiences a loss of his loved one, his body, mind and soul is not ready to accept it. His emotions get so disturbed that he doesn't even feel alive for a period of time.

(G) The other kinds of losses that a person may face in his life are divorces, loss of a relationship with a close one, family feud, best friend tiffs, failure in exams, poor performance in a competition, losing after several trials, etc.

(H) (c) (2) and (3)

**Explanation:** The headlines (1) and (4) are relevant in the context of the passage because it talks about the importance of grieving and also the process to follow. On the other hand, (3) is irrelevant because the passage doesn't take about the process of attaining maturation. (2) is also an irrelevant phrase because it does not agree with the seriousness of the passage. Hence, (c) is correct.

## CASE-BASED FACTUAL PASSAGE Questions

[ 8 marks ]

### Passage 1:

Read the passage given below:

1. Air pollution is a major threat to human health. The United National Environment Programme has estimated that, globally, 1.1 billion people breathe in unhealthy air. The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that urban air pollution is responsible for approximately 800,000 deaths and 4.6 million people lose their lives every year around the globe.

2. Traffic and transportation problems, inadequate drainage system, lack of open spaces, carbon emission, and the accumulation of waste aggravate the problem. Air pollution is associated with increased risk of acute respiratory infections (ARI), the principal cause of infant and child mortality in developing countries.

3. Urban air quality in most mega cities has been found to be critical and Kolkata is no exception to this. An analysis of ambient air quality in Kolkata was done by applying the Exceedance Factor (EF) method, where the presence of listed pollutants' (RPM, SPM, NO<sub>2</sub> and SO<sub>2</sub>) annual average concentration are classified into four different categories; namely critical, high, moderate, and low pollution. Out of a total of 17 ambient air quality monitoring stations operating in Kolkata, five fall under the critical category, and the remaining 12 locations fall under the high category of NO<sub>2</sub> concentration; while for RPM, four record critical, and 13 come under the high pollution category. The causes of high concentration of pollutants in the form of NO<sub>2</sub> and RPM have been identified in earlier studies as vehicular emission (51.4%), followed by industrial sources (24.5%) and dust particles (21.1%).

4. Later, a health assessment was undertaken with a structured questionnaire at some nearby dispensaries which fall under areas with different ambient air pollution levels. Three dispensaries have been surveyed with 100 participants. It shows that respondents with respiratory diseases (85.1%) have outnumbered waterborne diseases (14.9%) and include acute respiratory infections (ARI) (60%), chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases (COPD) (7.8%),

upper track respiratory infection (UTRI) (1.2%), Influenza (12.7%), and acid-fast bacillus (AFB) (3.4%)

5. To live a healthy life and have better well-being. Practising pollution averting activities in one's day-to-day activities is needed. These pollution averting practices can only be possible when awareness among the masses is generated that the air they breathe outdoors is not found to be safe.

Pollution in India

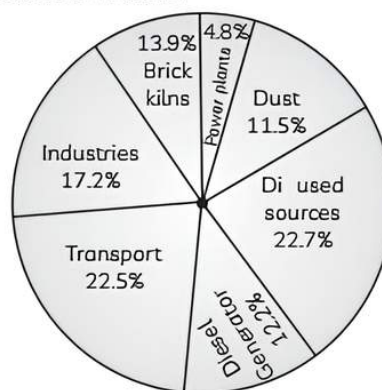


Fig. 1

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

- (A) Infer the reason why air pollution is becoming a problem that is getting difficult to control. Write your answer in about 40 words.
- (B) Select the option that displays the correct 'cause and effect' relationship.

	Cause	Effect
(a)	Traffic and transportation problem	4.6 million deaths
(b)	Lack of open spaces	Mega cities
(c)	Air pollution	Respiratory diseases
(d)	Air quality monitoring stations	Emission of NO <sub>2</sub>

- (C) How is air pollution connected to child mortality rates in developing countries?
- (D) Identify the disease that is not an effect of air pollution from the following three cases:

- (a) Rahul - I have been suffering from bouts of influenza more than usual.
- (b) Deep - My children have been getting respiratory infections, and it developed into pneumonia last week.
- (c) Suman - I got contracted with COVID-19 last year and had to isolate myself for 2 weeks at home.
- (d) Harris - My lungs get congested during festival time due to bursting of firecrackers.
- (E) Select the option that lists the author's recommendation to the people.
- (I) He wants people to be aware that air pollution is a major threat.
- (II) He urges people not to live in mega cities.
- (III) He advises people to follow pollution averting activities seriously.
- (IV) He wants people to reduce vehicular emissions.

Options :

- (a) (I) and (II)                      (b) (II) and (III)
- (c) (I) and (III)                    (d) (III) and (IV)

- (F) Fill in the blanks using appropriate words:

We know that Kolkata has poor air quality because the monitoring stations there fall under the ..... and ..... categories.

- (G) State whether the given claim is TRUE or FALSE.

The title, "A Brief Analysis of Air Quality in India", is appropriate for this passage.

**Ans.** (A) Air pollution is becoming a problem that is getting difficult to control by governments and other civil authorities around the world. The population increase in cities, along with traffic and transportation problems, inadequate drainage systems, lack of open spaces, carbon emission and accumulation of waste are some of the main reasons for this.

(B)	(c)	Air pollution	Respiratory diseases
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**Explanation:** As per the passage, due to air pollution the Acute Respiratory Infections (ARI) has increased. This shows that the air pollution is the cause and the respiratory infection is the effect. Hence, (c) is the right answer.

- (C) Air pollution is associated with increased risk of acute respiratory illness (ARI), the principal cause of infant and child mortality rates in developing countries.
- (D) (c) Suman - I got contracted with COVID-19 last year and had to isolate myself for 2 weeks at home.

**Explanation:** Air pollution has been known to cause influenza and other respiratory illnesses. But, COVID-19 is not caused by air pollution. It is caused by a strain of novel coronavirus. Hence, option (c) is the right answer.

- (E) (c) (I) and (III)

**Explanation:** It is clearly given in the passage that the author wants people to be aware about the air pollution threat and follow pollution-averting activities. Hence, (c) is the right answer.

- (F) critical, high

- (G) Since the passage discusses the air quality measured in different cities in India, the title given in the question is appropriate.

## Passage 2:

Read the passage given below:

1. India's labour market is the second largest in the world, after China, with a working age population of about 520 million people. In 10 years, it is expected to be the world's largest as China's population aged 15 to 64 drops from 20.5 to 18.3 per cent.

2. While this positive demographic growth should be advantageous for business, only a small portion of India's working age population is actually engaged in the formal workforce. The primary reason being that barely one in four women are part of the country's workforce. Today, industry estimates show that women in India only make up five to six per cent of directorships at most listed companies; this after amendments to the Companies Act mandated at least one woman on company boards.

3. These figures underline the highly distorted nature of India's labour market where women hold 45 per cent of university degrees but are either denied employment opportunities or experience much slower career growth trajectories due to gender-based discrimination. India has the lowest female labour force participation rate in its neighbourhood. At about 27 per cent, it falls well below Sri Lanka, Bangladesh, and Nepal. While female employment is higher in rural India, it is mostly as underpaid and temporary labour, though even here the rate of participation is declining.

4. The overall rate of female labour force participation declined as the Indian economy opened up, urbanised, and diversified with the growth of new industries, unlike most other regions in the world. In fact, rapid growth experienced by the US and China in the past century illustrate how improving the gender balance in the workforce contributes to a nation's economic growth. Female labour force participation is 56 per cent in the US and 64 per cent in China.

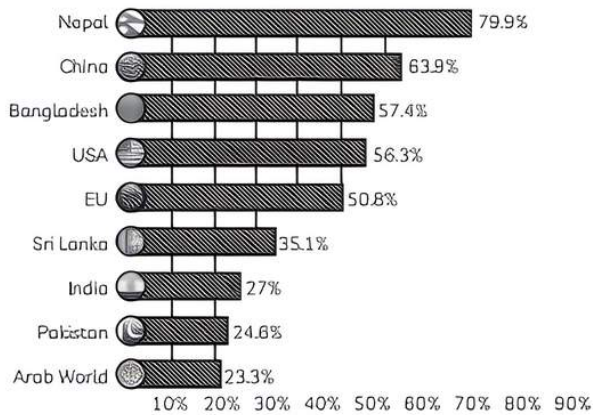


Fig. 1: Female Workforce Participation Rate in South Asia

5. The above correlation is also strengthened by a 2017 IMF study, which states that increasing the female labour force participation will grow India's GDP by an estimated 27 per cent. Contrast this with the projections made by the government's big idea reforms 'Make in India' and 'Digital India', which aim to boost India's growth by 16 per cent and 5 per cent respectively.

6. Yet, GDP goals aside, the gender imbalance in India's workforce stunts future prospects for inclusive growth in the country. It deprives women and girls from role models in the workplace, reduces their motivation to study further, and perpetuates unhealthy socio-cultural attitudes. Leaving out one half of the population from its workforce will also prolong India's status as a developing country.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions by choosing the correct option:

- (A) What could be the reason for India having the lowest female labour force participation rate in the neighbourhood? Infer and write your answer in 40 words.
- (B) Which of the following statements is NOT substantiated by information in paragraph 4?
- (a) Rapid growth experienced by the US and China in the past century illustrate how improving the gender balance contributes to a nation's economic growth.

- (b) The female labour force participation declined in the Indian economy.
- (c) Female labour force participation is 56 per cent in the US and 64 per cent in China.
- (d) Leaving out one half of the population from its workforce will also prolong India's status as a developing country.

(C) What reason does the writer posit for slower career growth trajectories for women?

(D) Identify which of the following options is NOT a problem associated with 'gender imbalance' mentioned in paragraph 6:

- (a) Supriya - All of my superiors are males. I wonder if I will ever get promoted because I am a woman.
- (b) Rinku - What is the use of me applying for this job if women are seen as inferior to men in the workplace?
- (c) Tina - All of my colleagues are women. I wish we had some men as well in our office.
- (d) Sakshi - I rarely come across female CEOs in the news.

(E) Select the option that displays the correct cause-effect relationship:

	Cause	Effect
(a)	Gender imbalance in India's workforce	Perpetuates unhealthy socio-cultural attitudes.
(b)	Reduces future prospects for inclusive growth.	Gender imbalance in India's workforce.
(c)	Decline in the Indian female workforce.	Urbanisation and industrialisation.
(d)	Economic growth is directly proportional to gender balance.	Urbanisation and industrialisation.

(F) Fill in the blank based on your understanding of the passage:

The writer credits the rapid growth experienced by the US and China in the past half century to .....

(G) State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE.

The title, "Gender and the Job Market", is appropriate for this passage.

**Ans.** (A) The reason for this could be the traditional mindset of people in India where women are restricted to household duties. Indian families prefer to keep women employed in the role of a housewife or homemaker even if they are educated or qualified for a job.

(B) (b) *The female labour force participation declined in the Indian economy.*

**Explanation:** There is no information about the decline in female labour force participation in the Indian economy. Hence, (b) is correct.

(C) The writer suggests that gender discrimination is a major reason for slower career growth trajectories of women.

(D) (c) *Tina - All of my colleagues are women. I wish we had some men as well in our office.*

**Explanation:** Options (a) and (b) are concerned with the points mentioned in the last paragraph about women not having role models at the workplace and not finding motivation to study further respectively. But option (c) does not relate to the problem of gender imbalance talked about in the passage. Hence, option (c) is correct.

(E) (a)

Cause	Effect
Gender imbalance in India's workforce	Perpetuates unhealthy socio-cultural attitudes.

**Explanation:** Gender imbalance in India's workforce is the cause that perpetuates unhealthy socio-cultural attitudes. Hence, (a) is correct.

(F) improving the gender balance in the workplace.

(G) The title is appropriate for the passage because it talks about the relationship between gender and career growth and opportunities.

### Passage 3:

**Read the passage given below:**

1. In the contemporary world, where technology has become an integral part of our lives, previously complex tasks have become much easier and more seamless. This is especially true in the case of education. Technology has transformed learning and

improved educational offerings in a major way. India, which has a high adult illiteracy rate of 30%, has been struggling to disseminate education, especially in remote areas with poor connectivity. However, the availability of inexpensive smart phones, computers, and the internet is making education cheaper and more easily accessible. As a result, people in Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities are experiencing high-quality learning.

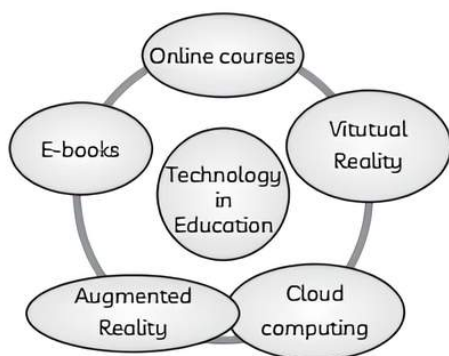
2. With cloud computing and e-learning, we can now learn on the go. This has made home learning and distance learning much more effective and has given rise to the concept of online courses. Online courses range from basic to professional degree courses, which anyone, from students to working professionals, can enroll in.

3. With the rise of digital media, the concept of books is no longer restricted to bundles of paper bound in covers. The advent of e-books has changed the scenario, and there is almost no limit to how many books one can own and access on the go. They are cheaper, interactive, eco-friendly, and easy to store.

4. Technological applications have facilitated a shift in the mode of instruction from one way to two way and multi way learning. Tech-based learning modules are making room for active student participation. More teachers are engaging in webinars, live online classrooms, etc. This is also giving rise to peer-to-peer learning in the context of schools as well as in preparation for competitive exams.

5. Numerous artificial intelligence (AI) applications are facilitating the customization of education through simple tools. This makes it possible for teachers to personalise learning for each and every student. They are customizing lessons to fit every individual's pace and learning style.

6. Technology is widening the scope of creativity in learning and boosting student engagement. Newer applications of augmented reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) are revolutionising how knowledge is shared and absorbed. With the gamification of difficult concepts, students are now experiencing the fun element of learning. As technology continues to unfold its offerings in the sector, it is enabling a movement in both basic and technical literacy in the country.



Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

(A) What was not possible when the technological advancements were not as they are in their current form?

- (a) E-learning and online courses
- (b) Use of AR and VR in education
- (c) Webinars
- (d) All of these

(B) Fill in the blanks.

In the contemporary world, technology has made education ..... and more accessible.

(C) The word *pace*, used in paragraph 5, is similar in its meaning to:

- (a) speed
- (b) potential
- (c) curiosity
- (d) habit

(D) Answer, in about 40 words, how has technology improved access to education in remote areas with poor connectivity in India?

(E) What has helped in bringing educational opportunities to the remote areas of our country?

- (a) Economical smart phones
- (b) Cheap internet
- (c) Good connectivity
- (d) All of these

(F) State whether the given statement is True or False.

The rise of digital media has eliminated the concept of physical books.

(G) How has cloud computing and e-learning improved home learning and distance learning? [Mod. Delhi Gov. QB 2022]

Ans. (A) (d) all of these

**Explanation:** When technological advancements were not as they are in their current form, e-learning and online

courses, the use of AR and VR in education, and webinars were not possible or not as accessible as they are now. Hence, (d) is correct.

(B) In the contemporary world, technology has made education easier and more accessible.

(C) (a) speed

**Explanation:** The word "pace" in the context of paragraph 5 refers to the speed or rate at which individuals learn. It implies the rate at which lessons or content are customized to fit each individual's learning speed. Hence, (a) is correct.

(D) The availability of economical smartphones, computers, and the internet has contributed to making education more accessible in remote areas with poor connectivity.

(E) (d) All of these.

**Explanation:** The passage states that the availability of economical smartphones, computers, and the internet has made education cheaper and more easily accessible, particularly in remote areas with poor connectivity. Therefore, all of the options listed (economical smartphones, cheap internet, and good connectivity) have contributed to bringing educational opportunities to remote areas. Hence, (d) is correct.

(F) The passage states that with the rise of digital media, the concept of books is no longer restricted to paper-bound covers, indicating the presence of e-books. Therefore, physical books still exist alongside e-books, making the statement false.

(G) Cloud computing and e-learning has improved home learning and distance learning as they have made learning on the go more effective and given rise to the concept of online courses.

#### Passage 4:

Read the passage given below:

*Cricket is a passion for people around the globe. It is played everywhere from test match arenas to village greens, tropical beaches, and dusty backlots. Cricket is the world's second most popular spectator sport after soccer.*

5. The origin of cricket can be traced back to the Dark Ages. All research concedes that the game is derived from a very old, popular, and uncomplicated pastime by which one player served up an object, be it a small piece of wood or a ball, and another hit it with a suitably fashioned club. The game of cricket

was first recorded in 16th-century England, and it was played in grammar schools, farming communities, and everywhere in between. But things really took off when 18th-century nobles realized it was a great sport.

10. The oldest surviving set of cricket laws dates to 1744, which was printed on a handkerchief. Naturally, it's now in the MCC Museum at Lord's in London. The oldest permanent fixture is the annual Eton Vs Harrow match, played since 1805. A young Lord Byron turned out for Harrow in the first match, though history doesn't record how poetic — or "mad, bad, and dangerous" — his bowling was.

15. The first international match was held in 1877 when Australia beat England in Melbourne. The match was dubbed a 'Test', since the gruelling nature of playing over five days was deemed the ultimate test for any side. However, it was Australia's first win on the English soil — in 1882 at The Oval in London — that led to matches between the two nations being christened as the 'Ashes'. Following the defeat, newspapers published an obituary mourning "the death of English cricket," adding that "the body will be cremated and the ashes taken to Australia."

20. A One Day International (ODI) is a form of limited overs cricket, played between two teams with international status, in which each team faces a fixed number of overs. Usually, the Cricket World Cup is played in this format. The international one-day game is a late twentieth-century development. The first ODI was played on 5 January 1971 between Australia and England at the Melbourne Cricket Ground.

25. Table 1 represents the list of Cricket world cup winning countries as well as the runners-up for every Cricket World Cup played until 2015.

Year	Winner	Runner-Up
2015	Australia	New Zealand
2011	India	Sri Lanka
2007	Australia	Sri Lanka
2003	Australia	India
1999	Australia	Pakistan
1996	Sri Lanka	Australia
1992	Pakistan	England
1987	Australia	England
1983	India	West Indies
1979	West Indies	England

Year	Winner	Runner-Up
1975	West Indies	Australia

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

- (A) What does the writer mean by calling the test match as 'gruelling'? Infer in about 40 words.
- (B) The 'obituary column' in a newspaper deals with news related to:  
 (a) Deaths (b) Sports  
 (c) Matrimonials (d) Regional views
- (C) How can we say that cricket is one of the most beloved sports in the world, according to the passage?
- (D) Identify which of the following options relate to the concept of cricket in the 20th century:  
 (a) Nobles realised it was a great sport and began promoting it.  
 (b) The concept of T20 cricket arose as the shortest format of the game.  
 (c) One Day Internationals (ODIs) became popular and the Cricket World Cup was played in this format  
 (d) The Ashes began between India and Australia.
- (E) In lines 15-20, the word 'christened' refers to giving a ..... to the Ashes.  
 (a) Blessing (b) Name  
 (c) Tribute (d) Salute
- (F) The word ..... from lines 15-20 indicates the process of giving a Christian name to a baby during baptism.
- (G) State TRUE or FALSE.  
 The title, "Cricket Down the Ages", is appropriate for this passage.

Ans. (A) The writer wants to justify the name of a 'test' match as the schedule for it is of about five days long, which is really a test for both the sides to perform for so long. 'Gruelling' refers to an activity that is very tiring or demanding.

(B) (a) Deaths

**Explanation:** An obituary is a small piece of news related to a person's death which is published in a newspaper. The column in which such news appears is called the obituary column. Hence, (a) is correct.

(C) Cricket is indeed one of the most beloved sports in the world as it is the world's second most popular spectator sport after soccer, according to the passage.

(D) (c) One Day Internationals (ODIs) became popular and the Cricket World Cup was played in this format.

**Explanation:** The passage states that One Day Internationals (ODIs) are a 20th century development. Hence, option (c) is the right answer.

(E) (b) Name

**Explanation:** 'Christening' refers to the act of giving a name to a person or object. In this case, it refers to giving Ashes its name. Hence, option (b) is the right answer.

(F) Christened.

(G) The given title is true because the passage gives us a brief history of the evolution of cricket as a popular sport.

### Passage 5:

Read the passage given below:

1. About 75 million people above 60, in India, suffer from some chronic disease, shows the first part (2017-18) of the world's largest study on the aged - the Longitudinal Aging Study in India (LASI) - released by the Health Ministry. While 27% of the elderly have multi-morbidities, around 40% have issues related to mental health, said the report that aims to provide a base for national and state level programmes and policies for the elderly population.

2. In 2011 census, the 60+ accounted for 8.6% of India's population, accounting for 103 million elderly people. Growing at around 3% annually, the number of elderly age population will rise to 319 million in 2050.

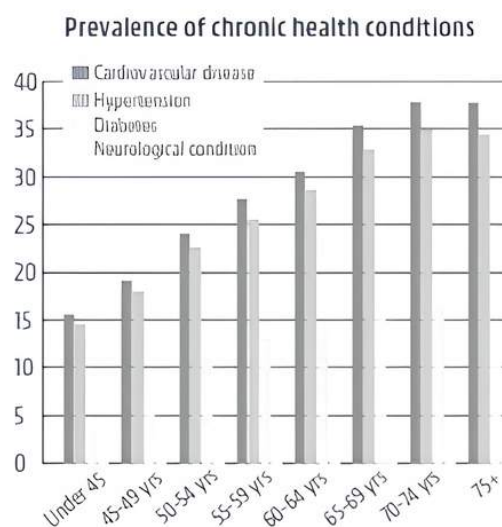
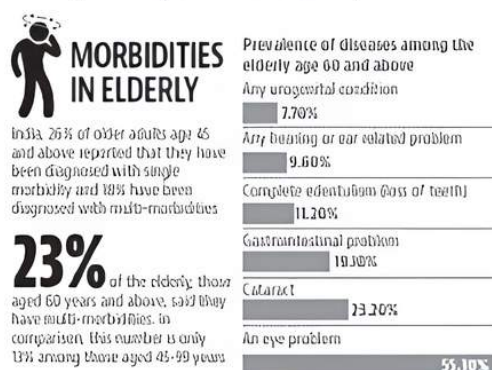
3. The LASI, Wave 1, covered a baseline sample of 72,250 individuals aged 45 and above and their spouses. This included 31,464 people aged 60 and above 6,749 aged 75 and above from all states and union territories, excluding Sikkim.

4. The survey used bio-markers based on direct health examinations to estimate the prevalence of chronic health conditions, including hypertension, visual impairment, overweight or obesity or under nutrition and chronic respiratory diseases. Around three

quarters of those 60 and above who were diagnosed with chronic conditions have been treated for hypertension (77%), chronic heart disease (74%), diabetes (83%), chronic lung disease (72%) and cancer (75%). More than half the elderly have been treated for stroke (58%) and bone or joint diseases (56%) whereas the treatment rate for neurological and psychiatric disease is 41%.

5. The treatment rate for all chronic health conditions is higher among the elderly in urban areas. The overall hospitalization rate was 7% for adults aged 45 and above. In the 12 months prior to the survey, the hospitalization rate increased from 6% among adults in the 45-49 age group to 8% among those 60 and above and 9% among 70 and above.

6. The survey also showed that about one fifth of those 60 and above, are receiving pension and an additional 3% are expected to receive it. A large proportion (78%) are neither receiving nor expected to receive pension.





## HIGH BLOOD PRESSURE

**37%**

of elderly in India have high blood pressure

Among the elderly age 60 and above, the prevalence of high blood pressure is higher in urban (40%) than in rural areas (35%), and among women (38%) than among men (34%)



## INJURIES FROM FALL

**25%**

of elderly have been injured in the past 2 yrs

Older people have the highest risk of death or suffering a serious injury arising from a fall, and these risks further increase with age, the report showed



## SLEEP PROBLEMS

**15%**

of elderly have sleep issues. In comparison, this is 11% for those in 45-59 years

The study asked respondents to rate the quality of sleep in the month prior to the interview. Sleep problems are defined as the difficulty in falling or staying asleep or sleep that is non-restorative and which leads to significant daytime impairment

**ABOUT THE STUDY:** The Longitudinal Aging Study in India (LASI) studied 72,250 people of age 45 and above. This sample included 31,464 elderly persons aged 60 and above

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

- (A) What statement is NOT true according to the 2011 Census?
- 60+ aged accounted for 8.6% of India's total population.
  - The number of such people would rise to 319 million in 2050
  - The growth rate of elderly population is around 3%
  - The elderly population will surpass the youth population by 2050
- (B) Based on the information provided, what is the purpose of the Longitudinal Aging Study in India (LASI)?

- (C) The word 'prevalence' is most similar in its meaning to:

- commonness
- occurrence
- spread
- extreme

- (D) Fill in the blanks.

The Longitudinal Aging Study in India (LASI) aims to provide a base for ..... and ..... for the elderly population.

- (E) From the graph, what are the two most prevalent diseases among the 60+?

- Cataract and other eye problems
- Hearing and other ear problems
- Gastro and intestinal problems
- Loss of teeth and bone problems

- (F) State whether the following is TRUE or FALSE.

About 80% of the elderly population in India receives a pension.

- (G) Answer, in about 40 words, did the hospitalization rate increase with age in the 12 months prior to the LASI survey?

[Mod. Delhi Gov. QB 2022]

**Ans.** (A) (d) The elderly population will surpass the youth population by 2050.

**Explanation:** The statement that is not true according to the 2011 Census is that the elderly population will surpass the youth population by 2050. The passage does not provide information regarding the comparison between the elderly population and the youth population in the future. Hence, (d) is correct.

- (B) The purpose of the Longitudinal Aging Study in India (LASI) is to provide a base for national and state-level programs and policies for the elderly population.

- (C) (b) occurrence

**Explanation:** The word "prevalence" is most similar in meaning to "occurrence." It means that that something is very common or happens often. Hence, (b) is correct.

- (D) The Longitudinal Aging Study in India (LASI) aims to provide a base for national and state level programmes/policies for the elderly population.

- (E) (a) Cataract and other eye problems

**Explanation:** From the graph, the two most prevalent diseases among the 60+ is Cataract and other eye problems. Hence, (a) is correct.

- (F) The given statement is False. The survey also showed that about one fifth of those

60 and above, is receiving pension and an additional 3% is expected to receive it. A large proportion (78%) is neither receiving nor expected to receive pension.

- (G) Yes, it increased from 6% among adults in the 45-49 age groups to 8% among those 60 and above and 9% among 70 and above.

### Passage 6:

Read the passage given below:

1. Over the last five years, more companies have been actively looking for intern profiles, according to a 2018-19 survey by an online internship and training platform. This survey reveals that India had 80% more internship applications - with 2.2 million applications received in 2018 compared to 1.27 million in the year before. The trend was partly due to more industries looking to have fresh minds and ideas on existing projects for better productivity. What was originally seen as a western concept, getting an internship before plunging into the job market, is fast gaining momentum at Indian workplaces.

2. According to the survey data, India's National Capital Region has been the top provider of internships, with a total of 35% internship opportunities, followed by Mumbai and Bengaluru at 20% and 15%, respectively. This includes opportunities in startups, MNCs and even government entities. The survey also revealed popular fields to find internships in (Fig 1). There has been growing awareness among the students about the intern profiles sought by hiring companies that often look for people with real-time experience in management than B-school masters.

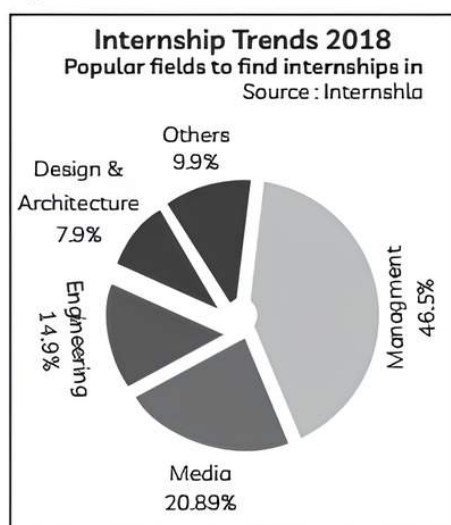


Fig.1

3. The stipend has been an important factor influencing the choice of internships. The survey data reveals that the average stipend offered to interns was recorded as ₹ 7000 while the maximum stipend went up to ₹ 85,000. According to statistics, a greater number of people considered virtual internships than in-office internships. Virtual internships got three times more applications than in-office, since a large chunk of students were the ones already enrolled in various courses, or preferred working from home.

4. Internship portals have sprung up in the last three to four years and many of them already report healthy traffic per month. Reports suggest that on an average, an internship portal company has around 200,000-plus students and some 8,000 companies registered on it. It gets around two lakh visits online every month. The Managing Director of a leading executive search firm says that though these web platforms are working as an effective bridge between the industry and students, most established companies are still reluctant to take too many interns on board for obvious reasons. (355 words)

Source:

(1) <https://www.businessinsider.in/internships-in-india-on-the-rise-with-startups-leading-the-way/articleshow/67655265.cms>

(2) <https://www.businesstoday.in/magazine/features/story/online-portals-helping-college-students-paid-internships-46215-2014-06-03>

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

- (A) Why do you think hiring companies prefer candidates with real time experience over B-school masters? Answer in about 40 words.
- (B) Select the central idea of the paragraph likely to precede paragraph 1.
- Process of registering for internships
  - Knowing more about internships
  - Dos and Don'ts for an internship interview
  - Startups and internships
- (C) What is referred to as a 'western concept' in paragraph 1?
- (D) Identify which of the following options can be classified under the 'obvious reasons' established companies are reluctant to take too many interns:

- (a) Internships lead to an increase in short-term expenditure for the company.
- (b) Interns do not bring a significant value to the table.
- (c) Internships are usually for a short-term period and require immense training to be given to interns
- (d) Internships do not add long term value to the company.
- (E) Select the option that displays the correct cause-effect relationship.

	Cause	Effect
(a)	Several students had academic courses to complete	Students applied for online internship

(b)	A large chunk of students preferred in-office internships	Applications were three times more than for virtual internships
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(c)	A greater number of students wanted to work from home	Several students had courses to complete
-----	---	--

(d)	Students applied for online internship	An equal number of students applied for work-from-home
-----	--	--

- (F) Around 70 percent of total internship opportunities are found in the metro cities such as .....
- (G) State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE.

The title, "The Problem with Internships", is appropriate for this passage.

**Ans. (A)** Hiring companies prefer candidates with real time experience over B-school masters because experience plays a bigger role in facing day-to-day challenges in a business or corporate setup than a B-school degree. The knowledge provided by a degree is theoretical whereas experience gives practical know-how.

- (B) (b) Knowing more about internships

**Explanation:** Option (b) is the right answer as para 1 starts with an introduction to the status of internship in India and the reason behind the growing trend. Other options are likely to reflect the ideas in succeeding paragraphs, so they are not the correct ones to choose. Hence, (b) is correct.

- (C) The writer refers to the practice of getting an internship before plunging into the job market as a western concept.
- (D) (c) Internships are usually for a short-term period and require immense training to be given to interns.

**Explanation:** A significant reason many companies do not hire many interns is because they are hired for a short term basis and require training and guidance to bring valuable input to the table. Hence, (c) is correct.

- (E)

	Cause	Effect
(a)	Several students had academic courses to complete	Students applied for online internship

**Explanation:** Cause and effect is the relationship between two things when one thing makes something else happen, as in the case of option (a). Because students are already enrolled in other courses so they prefer online internship. So, it is the correct answer. Other options don't depend on each other so they are the wrong options. Hence, (a) is correct.

- (F) Around 70 percent of total internship opportunities are found in the metro cities like National Capital Region, Mumbai and Bengaluru. Internships have become popular in recent times in India because they bridge the gap between the learning acquired by students in college and university, and the skills required in the job market. Students can take internships to understand and acquire the skills required for a particular job role.

- (G) The passage does not talk about the problems with internships. Rather, it gives us a brief overview of the market for internships in India. Hence, the title given in the question is inappropriate.

**Passage 7:**

**Read the passage given below:**

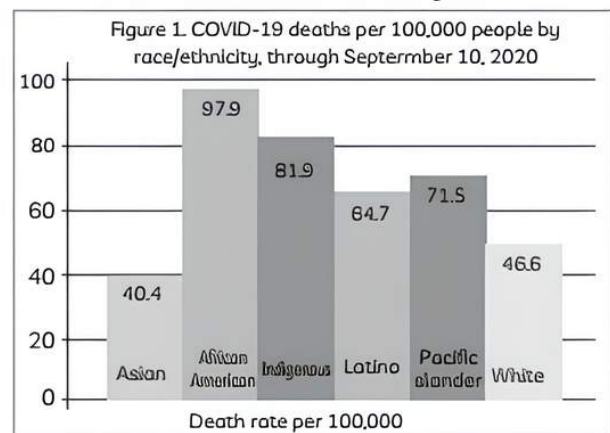
1. We have all been affected by the current COVID-19 pandemic. However, the impact of the pandemic and its consequences are felt differently depending on our status as individuals and as members of society. While some try to adapt to working online, homeschooling their children, and ordering food via Insta cart, others have no choice but to be exposed to the virus while keeping society functioning. Our different social identities and the social groups we belong to determine our inclusion within society and, by extension, our vulnerability to epidemics. COVID-19 is killing people on a large scale.

2. As of October 10, 2020, more than 7.7 million people across every state in the United States and its four territories had tested positive for COVID-19. According to the New York Times database, at least 213,876 people with the virus have died in the United States. However, these alarming numbers give us only half of the picture; a closer look at data by different social identities (such as class, gender, age, race, and medical history) shows that minorities have been disproportionately affected by the pandemic. These minorities in the United States are not having their right to health fulfilled.

3. According to the World Health Organization's report, Health Equity through action on the Social Determinants of Health, and "poor and unequal living conditions are the consequences of deeper structural conditions that together fashion the way societies are organized—poor social policies and programs, unfair economic arrangements, and bad politics." This toxic combination of factors as they play out during this time of crisis, and as early news on the effect of the COVID-19 pandemic pointed out, is disproportionately affecting African American communities in the United States. I recognize that the pandemic has had and is having devastating effects on other minorities as well, but space does not permit this essay to explore the impact on other minority groups. As noted by Samuel Dickman: economic inequality in the US

has been increasing for decades and is now among the highest in developed countries. As economic inequality in the US has deepened, so too has inequality in health.

4. Both overall and government health spending are higher in the US than in other countries, yet inadequate insurance coverage, high cost sharing by patients, and geographical barriers restrict access to care for many. Similarly, American Public Media reported on the COVID-19 mortality rate by race/ethnicity through July 21, 2020, including Washington, DC, and 45 states (see figure 1). These data, while showing an alarming death rate for all races, demonstrate how minorities are hit harder and how, among minority groups, the African American population in many states bears the brunt of the pandemic's health impact. Approximately 97.9 out of every 100,000 African Americans have died from COVID-19, a mortality rate that is a third higher than that for Latinos (64.7 per 100,000), and more than double that for whites (46.6 per 100,000) and Asians (40.4 per 100,000). The overrepresentation of African Americans among confirmed COVID-19 cases and the number of deaths underscores the fact that the coronavirus pandemic, far from being an equaliser, is amplifying or even worsening existing social inequalities tied to race, class, and access to the health care system.



**Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:**

- (A) Who among the minorities were disproportionately affected during pandemic?
- (a) Asian Americans
  - (b) Native Americans
  - (c) Middle East Americans
  - (d) African Americans

(B) Fill in the blanks.

According to the New York Times database, as of October 10, 2020, at least \_\_\_\_\_ people with COVID-19 have died in the United States.

(C) According to Samuel Dickman:

- (a) economic inequality has decreased drastically
- (b) economic inequality became stable over the years
- (c) economic inequality has increased rapidly
- (d) none of the above

(D) Explain, in about 40 words, what is the tone of the author in the essay?

(E) American Public Media reported COVID-19 Mortality rate on the basis of:

- (a) Religion of the effected
- (b) Caste of the effected
- (c) Ethnicity of the victims
- (d) Age of the effected

(F) State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE.

The coronavirus pandemic has reduced social inequalities tied to race, class, and access to the health care system.

(G) Based on the information provided, how has the COVID-19 pandemic affected minority communities in the United States?

[Mod. Delhi Gov. Term-1 SQP 2021]

Ans. (A) (d) African Americans

**Explanation:** According to the information provided, African Americans have been disproportionately affected by the COVID-19 pandemic, experiencing higher mortality rates compared to other racial and ethnic groups in the United States. The mortality rate for African Americans is stated to be approximately 97.9 per 100,000, which is higher than the rates for Latinos, whites, and Asians. Hence, (d) is correct.

(B) According to the New York Times database, as of October 10, 2020, at least 213,876 people with COVID-19 have died in the United States

(C) (c) Economic inequality has increased rapidly.

**Explanation:** According to the information provided, Samuel Dickman notes that

economic inequality in the United States has been increasing for decades. Hence, (c) is correct.

(D) The tone of the author in the essay can be described as concerned, critical, and informative. The tone of the author is evident through the author's use of phrases such as "devastating effects," "toxic combination of factors," and "amplifying or even worsening existing social inequalities." These phrases reflect a sense of concern, criticism of existing structures, and the provision of informative analysis.

(E) (c) Ethnicity of the victims

**Explanation:** According to the information provided, American Public Media reported the COVID-19 mortality rate based on ethnicity of the victims. The data highlighted the disparities in COVID-19 mortality rates among different racial and ethnic groups, including African Americans, Latinos, whites, and Asians. Hence, (c) is correct.

(F) The statement is False. The essay highlights that the pandemic is amplifying or worsening existing social inequalities tied to race, class, and access to the health care system. The overrepresentation of African Americans among confirmed COVID-19 cases and deaths underscores the fact that the pandemic is exacerbating these social inequalities.

(G) The COVID-19 pandemic has disproportionately affected minority communities in the United States, particularly African American communities. They have experienced higher mortality rates compared to other racial groups, highlighting the amplification of existing social inequalities tied to race, class, and access to healthcare.

### Passage 8:

Read the passage given below:

*Changing food preferences have brought about rapid changes in the structure of the Indian diet. The rapid proliferation of multinational fast-food companies and the influence of Western culture have replaced traditional home-cooked meals with ready-to-eat,*

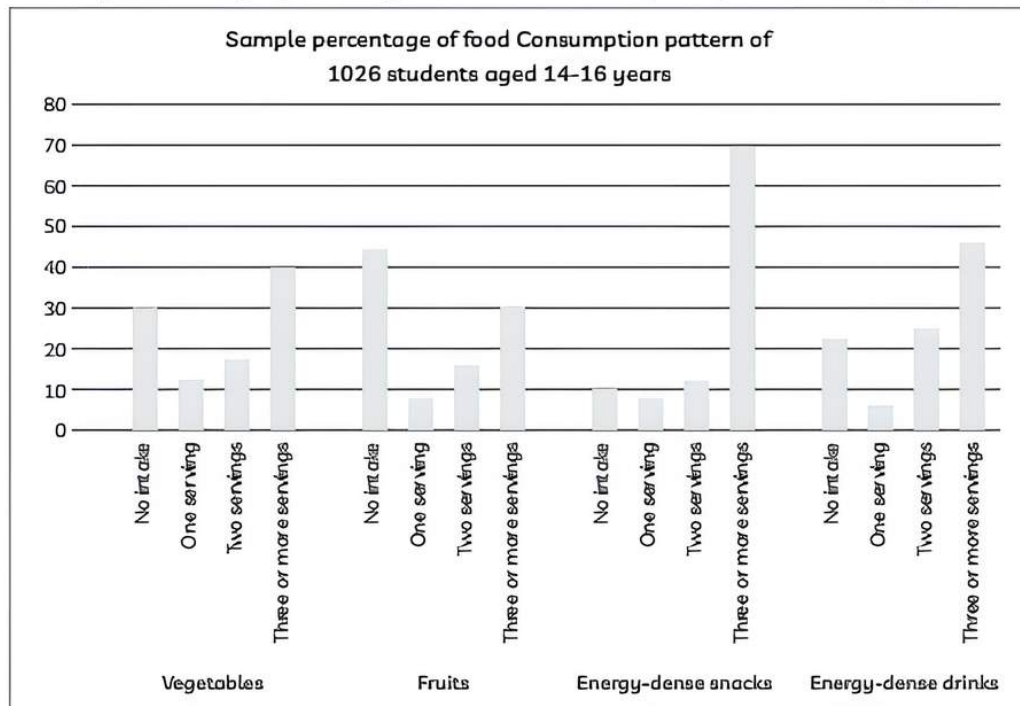
*5. processed foods, thus increasing the risk of chronic diseases in urban Indians. Therefore, nurturing healthy eating habits among Indians*

from an early age would help in reducing health risks. To date, little is known about the quality and quantity of foods and beverages consumed by urban Indian adolescents. This lack of evidence

10. is a significant barrier to the development of effective nutrition promotion and disease prevention measures.

Therefore, a self-administered, semi-quantitative, 59-item meal-based food frequency questionnaire (FFQ) was developed to assess the dietary intake of adolescents. A total of 1026 students (aged 14–16 years) attending private, English-speaking schools in Kolkata completed the survey.

**Fig. 1 : A Sample percentage of the food consumption pattern is displayed**



The survey results report poor food consumption patterns and highlights the need to design healthy eating initiatives. Interestingly, while there were no gender differences in the consumption of legumes and fried snacks, the survey found more females consumed cereals, vegetables and fruits than their male counterparts.

20. In conclusion, the report suggested that schools ought to incorporate food literacy concepts into their curriculum as they have the potential to increase the fruit and vegetable intake in teenagers. Additionally, healthy school canteen policies with improved availability, accessibility, variety and affordability of healthy food choices would support the consumption of nutritious food in students.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below.

(A) With reference to fig.1, write a conclusion in around 40 words about students consumption of energy-dense drinks.

(B) What role will nurturing healthy eating habits at an early age play in reducing health risks?

- (a) Eliminate risks from junk food
- (b) Help in promoting cooking as a life skill
- (c) Food companies will spend less on advertising
- (d) Less cases of food poisoning

(C) What does the researcher mean by 'changing food preferences'?

(D) Identify which of the following options reflect DOES NOT the findings of the questionnaire represented in Fig.1:?

- (a) Reshma - Most students in my class are addicted to energy-dense snacks.
- (b) Simran - Almost everyone in my class has three or more servings of vegetables and fruits.
- (c) Rick - Children are very fond of energy-dense drinks these days.
- (d) Gauri - Children are generally not fond of fruits and vegetables.

- (E) The concept of 'Food literacy' that is mentioned in paragraph 3 refers to:
- Reading about food
  - Studying cookery books
  - Understanding how food is grown
  - Practice of healthy eating
- (F) The word ..... from lines 9 - 18 indicate that the questionnaire was specifically designed to be completed by a respondent without the intervention of the researcher collecting the data.
- (G) State whether the given statement is TRUE or FALSE.

The title, "What is Healthy Eating?", is appropriate for this passage.

**Ans.** (A) As per the data given in fig. 1, close to 47% of students drink three or more servings of energy dense beverages while a mere 5% said 'no' to more than one serving of the beverage. We can say that energy dense beverages are popular among students.

- (B) (a) *Eliminate risks from junk food.*

**Explanation:** Encouraging healthy eating habits will play a role in reducing junk food consumption and the health risks associated with it. Hence, (a) is correct.

- (C) By 'changing food pre-fereences', the writer refers to urban population's transition from healthy home-cooked meals to ready-to-eat-processed foods.

- (D) (b) *Simran - Almost everyone in my class has three or more servings of vegetables and fruits.*

**Explanation:** Options (a) and (c) reflect the findings of the questionnaire because most students are fond of energy-dense drinks and snacks. On the other hand, option (b) does not relate to the findings because children usually do not have more than three servings of fruits and vegetables. Hence, (b) is correct.

- (E) (d) *Practice of healthy eating*

**Explanation:** The concept of food literacy refers to the practice of healthy eating. It means understanding what sort of food is required by the body and beneficial for it. Hence, (d) is correct.

- (F) Self-administered

- (G) The given title is True because the passage talks about healthy eating habits amidst changing food preferences.

## Passage 9:

Read the passage given below:

### The Way Human Body Defends

1. The defence mechanism of the human body is a gift of nature provided to human beings. The power of our body to fight against various disease-producing agents is known as the "defensive mechanism. This defensive mechanism depends upon various factors, which can be categorised mainly into two types: common factors and special factors.

2. Among the common factors, the most important is the health of human beings. We all know that if we are in good health, our body automatically remains protected against diseases. For good health, one should have a nutritious, balanced diet. A balanced diet is one that contains carbohydrates, fat, proteins, and vitamins in proportionate amounts.

3. The skin of our body protects us against many microorganisms that produce diseases, provided that it is intact. If there are cuts or abrasions on it, the microorganisms penetrate the body through those cuts and abrasions and can cause diseases. Therefore, a cut or an abrasion should never be left open. In the event that there is no bandage, etc., available, it may be covered by a clean cloth.

4. Some bacteria reside on and inside the human body. They are our friends and are useful for us. They do not cause any disease, and by their presence, they do not allow disease-causing organisms to settle in those places. For example, the microorganisms present in human saliva secrete a chemical that does not allow diphtheria causing bacteria to grow inside the oral cavity.

5. The human body secretes a variety of fluids that kill disease-causing microorganisms. For example, gastric juice (acidic in nature) secreted by our intestinal tract kills all organisms that enter our body through food.

6. There are a few automatic activities of our body known as "reflex phenomena," which protect the body against many infections. This reflex phenomenon includes sneezing, coughing, and vomiting.

7. Fever is one of the most important constituents of the defensive mechanisms of our body. The organ that regulates the temperature of our body is known as the

hypothalamus, and it is situated in the brain. When microorganisms enter the body and release toxic products that reach the brain through the blood, the hypothalamus starts increasing the body temperature, and the person gets a fever. This fever is very useful for the human body because, by increasing the temperature, the microorganisms that are the root cause of the problem get killed.

8. We are living in an environment that is full of bacteria. Many of these bacteria can produce serious diseases, but none of us suffer from them. It is due to a special power present in our body to fight these diseases. A part of this special power of our body is known as innate immunity. This was inherited by us. The other part of this special power is called acquired immunity. This we gain during our lifetime.

9. In a nutshell, we can say that since nature has provided us with defensive mechanisms to fight against so many diseases, let us maintain them and rather increase them by way of immunisation.

Based on your understanding of the passage, answer the questions given below:

(A) What is the defensive mechanism of the human body?

- (a) Immune system
- (b) Digestive system
- (c) Respiratory system
- (d) Nervous system

(B) Explain, in about 40 words, how does the body's defensive mechanism rely on both common and special factors to protect against diseases?

(C) What is the role of the skin in the defensive mechanism?

- (a) It filters out harmful substances from the body.
- (b) It produces disease-fighting cells.
- (c) It prevents microorganisms from entering the body.
- (d) It regulates body temperature

(D) State whether the following is TRUE or FALSE.

Gastric juice secreted by the intestinal tract kills disease-causing organisms.

(E) What is the role of fever in the defensive mechanism?

- (a) To increase the activity of the immune system
- (b) To reduce inflammation in the body

(c) To regulate body temperature

(d) To kill disease-causing microorganisms

(F) Fill in the blanks

The skin acts as a barrier and protects the body against .....

(G) Which fluid secreted by the human body has a killing effect on disease-causing microorganisms?

**Ans.** (A) (a) Immune system

**Explanation:** The defensive mechanism of the human body refers to the immune system, which is responsible for fighting against disease-producing agents. Hence, (a) is correct.

(B) The body's defensive mechanism depends on various factors, including both common and special factors. Common factors, such as maintaining good health through a balanced diet, play a crucial role in keeping the body protected. Special factors, such as innate and acquired immunity, further enhance the body's ability to fight diseases.

(C) (c) It prevents microorganisms from entering the body.

**Explanation:** The skin acts as a barrier and protects the body against microorganisms that can cause diseases. When the skin is intact, it prevents the entry of microorganisms. Hence, (c) is correct.

(D) The given statement is true. Gastric juice, which is acidic in nature, has the ability to kill organisms that enter the body through food.

(E) (d) To kill disease-causing microorganisms.

**Explanation:** Fever is an important part of the defensive mechanism. It is the body's response to infections, and the increase in body temperature helps in killing the microorganisms causing the infection. Hence, (d) is correct.

(F) The skin acts as a barrier and protects the body against microorganisms. The intact skin prevents microorganisms from entering the body and causing diseases.

(G) Gastric juice, which is acidic, helps in killing microorganisms that enter the body through ingested food.

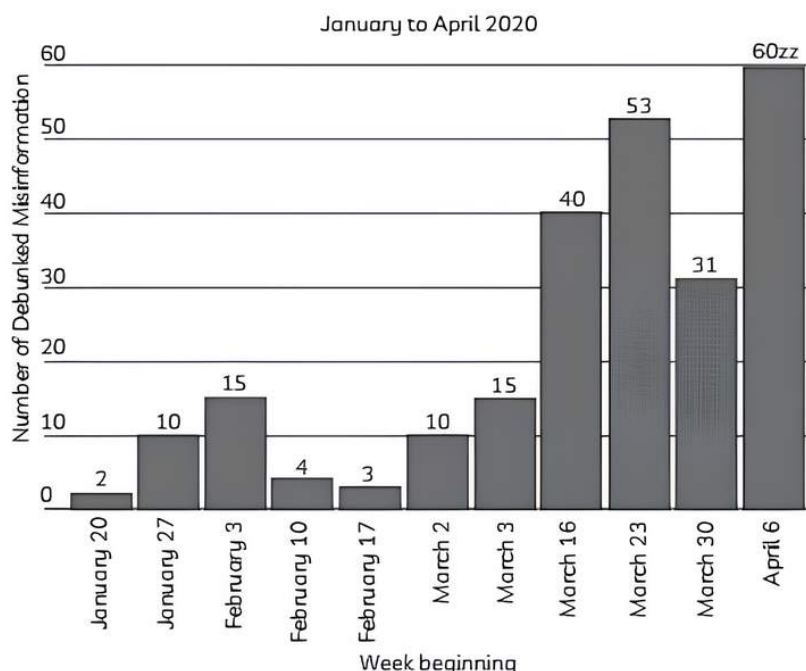
### Passage 10:

Read the passage given below:

1. A 2020 study on misinformation in India by the University of Michigan has noted a rise in the number of inaccurate stories being circulated.

2. The study used 243 unique instances of misinformation from an archive maintained by Tattle Civic Technology (a Delhi-based news project that aims to make accurate information more accessible to mobile-first users). The archive represents all the stories that have been debunked by different fact-checkers.

Fig 2: Increase in the Number of (Debunked) Misinformation



Sources: Study on Misinformation (Released on April 18, 2020)

3. The misinformation that was circulating on social-media apps was classified into several categories — culture, government, doctored statistics, etc. “There are many reasons; one is pure mischief, people who enjoy seeing falsehoods — they create, propagate,” said Joyojeet Pal, one of the authors of the study, while talking about why misinformation is spread. “Another reason is political; driven by those who want a certain agenda to triumph. And then, there is pure economics. Platforms often use misinformation to make money by click-baiting people. The more extreme and controversial a piece of news sounds, the more likely it is that someone will click on it.”

4. Different modes of media are used to relay different kinds of misinformation, shows the study. For example, misinformation in the ‘casualty’ category relies heavily on visuals, such as video clips, since the goal is to evoke a physical reaction, often fear or disgust. Misleading statistics use a lot of text to sound legitimate by offering specifics.

5. Several mainstream media houses, including newspapers and news channels, have put out widely circulated misinformation, showed the study. Even public figures, by not removing the debunked misinformation from their social media pages, have contributed to the propagation of false information.

6. The study could not cite clear reasons why mainstream media was sharing misinformation. It hinted that some may simply be out of poor editorial standards in a competitive media ecosystem. “One thing that remains clear, however, is that misinformation travels fast,” the authors wrote, “and that news sources may increase footfalls through deliberate misinformation or click-bait headlines.” — Prachi Salve

(A) Infer the reason for the following statement in about 40 words:

‘One thing that remains clear, however, is that misinformation travels fast.’

(B) Select the information that can be added before paragraph 1 in the passage.

- (a) The methods by which fake news is spread
  - (b) The different ways in which one can identify fake news
  - (c) a definition and a clear description of what fake news is
  - (d) a list of notable studies done by scholars at the University of Michigan
- (C) Complete the following conversation between Anil and Bilal based on your reading of the passage:
- Anil: Fake news is created by those who want to create disturbance in peaceful society for their own amusement.
- Bilal: Another reason for disinformation being spread on the internet is political. This is when .....
- (D) Identify which of the following options does not relate to 'misinformation' or 'fake news' as discussed in the passage:
- (a) Sneha - I have been consistently getting WhatsApp messages saying I have won Rs. 10 crores in a lottery.
  - (b) Manmohan - This email looks suspicious. It says I can earn Rs. 1 lakh every day if I work this part-time job.
  - (c) Shruti- I got a job offer from a reputed company after I applied through a reliable job seeking platform.
  - (d) Saksham - I keep getting job offers from strangers on WhatsApp.
- (E) Which of these sentences uses 'relay' in the same manner as it is used in paragraph 4 of the passage?
- (a) Peter used a relay of horses to pull the wagon up the hill.
  - (b) Malcolm and John set up a relay of buckets to fill the kid's pool quickly.
  - (c) Rhythm intended to relay everything she had learnt to her peers before she resigned.
  - (d) New television transmitters and relay stations have been set up in the neighbourhood.

- (F) What insight can be gained about the spread of disinformation from the bar graph?

(G) State TRUE or FALSE.

The title, "Misinformation on the Rise", is appropriate for this passage.

**Ans.** (A) The author states that misinformation travels much faster in comparison to information that is true or accurate. One reason for this could be because misinformation is mostly sensational in nature. Therefore, it creates a buzz and is picked up quickly by people. This is why it travels fast.

- (B) (c) a definition and a clear description of what fake news is

**Explanation:** The passage aims at making people know (c) what fake news is and the ways it is spread deliberately by sources. Hence, (c) is the right answer.

- (C) a certain group spreads disinformation to achieve a political goal

- (D) (c) Shruti- I got a job offer from a reputed company after I applied through a reliable job seeking platform.

**Explanation:** Options (a) and (b) are examples of fake news because the information is usually hard to believe and intended to cheat or swindle people. Option (c) is not an example of misinformation because it cites reliable sources. Hence, (c) is correct.

- (E) (c) Rhythm intended to relay everything she had learnt to her peers before she resigned.

**Explanation:** In the passage, the term 'relay' is used to refer to 'show' or 'exhibit' the misinformation. Here, (c) has the correct usage of the term as given in paragraph 4. Hence, (c) is the right answer.

- (F) It is clear from the bar graph that from February 7 to April 6, there is a tremendous increase in the number of misinformation.

- (G) The given title is appropriate for the passage because it deals with the contemporary problem of rising misinformation in the media.



# NOTE MAKING & SUMMARISATION Questions

[ 8 marks ]

## Discursive Passages

### Passage 1:

Read the passage given below:

1. How does television affect our lives? It can be very helpful to people who carefully choose the shows that they watch. Television can increase our knowledge of the outside world; there are high quality programmes that help us understand many fields of study, science, medicine, the arts and so on. Moreover, television benefits very old people who can't often leave the house, as well as patients in hospital. It also offers non-native speakers the advantage of daily informal language practice. They can increase their vocabulary and practice listening.

2. On the other hand, there are several serious disadvantages to television. Of course, it provides us with a pleasant way to relax and spend our free time, but in some countries, people watch television for an average of six hours or more a day. Many children stare at a television screen for more hours each day than they do at anything else, including studying and sleeping. It's clear that the television has a powerful influence on their lives and that its influence is often negative.

3. Recent studies show that after only thirty seconds of watching television, a person's brain 'relaxes' the same way that it does just before the person falls asleep. Another effect of television on the human brain is that it seems to cause poor concentration. Children who view a lot of television can often concentrate on a subject for only fifteen to twenty minutes. They can pay attention only for the amount of time between commercials.

4. Another disadvantage is that television often causes people to become dissatisfied with their own lives. Real life does not seem as exciting to these people as the lives of actors on the screen. Too many people think television is more real than reality and their own lives..... boring. Also many people get upset or depressed when they can't solve problems in real life as quickly as television actors seem to.

5. Before a child is fourteen years old, he or she views eleven thousand murders on the screen. He or she begins to believe that there is nothing strange about fights, killings and other kinds of violence. Many studies show that people become more violent after watching certain programmes. They may even do the things that they saw in a violent show.

[Delhi Gov. QB 2022]

- (A) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it.

- (B) Write a summary of the above passage in 80-100 words.

Ans. (A) Title: The Impact of Television

Notes:

#### 1. Benefits of T.V.

- 1.1. Inc. our know of o/s world
- 1.2. High quality programmes
  - 1.2.1. Fields - science, medicine, arts
- 1.3. Old people, patients - can't leave house
- 1.4. Non-native speakers - daily informal lang. prac.
- 1.5. Inc. vocabulary, listening
- 1.6. Way to Relax

#### 2. Disadvantages of T.V. on body

- 2.1. Long duration of viewing - affects eyes
- 2.2. Human brain
  - 2.2.1. Gets drained
  - 2.2.2. Poor concentration
- 2.3. Effects of violent shows on adults/behaviour

#### 3. Effects of T.V. on children

- 3.1. Lack of concentration in studies
- 3.2. Gets used to violence
- 3.3. Loses discretion / understanding

#### 4. Other effects

- 4.1. People become dissatisfied
- 4.2. Unable to diff. b/w reel and real life
- 4.3. Real life seems boring
- 4.4. Imitate actors
- 4.5. Get upset/depressed - unable to solve problems

#### Key to Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Words
Inc.	increases
o/s	outside
know	knowledge
lang.	language
prac.	practice
T.V.	television
diff.	differentiate
b/w	between

**(B) Summary:**

Television viewing is both a boon and a bane. It's an easily available source of entertainment for everyone, even old people and patients. It offers high quality educational programmes.

But it has a bad side too. It drains our brain of energy and causes poor concentration in students. Violent shows often lead to violent behaviours in real life among children and adults. People often get too attached with T.V. shows and actors that they are unable to differentiate between reel and real life. Thus, T.V. can be helpful to only those people who carefully choose the shows.

**Passage 2:**

**Read the passage given below:**

1. *Imagine a space where you can pour out your troubles, complaints, grievances, and anything that even remotely bothers you. That's Happy Inc. for you. "It's an online peer counselling service where teenagers between 13 and 18 years old can express themselves freely to a team of helpers who will listen, understand what they have to say, and support them without being judgmental," explains 17-year-old Kian Godhwani, a Bengaluru-based Class XII student who founded Happy Inc. along with his friend Nandini Bhattacharya.*

2. *Nandini explains why they started this initiative. "With exams, figuring out what they want to do with their lives, applying to colleges, working at internships, and so much more, all the while juggling huge personal and emotional changes in a society that does not understand or even try to understand what they're going through. In fact, we also saw many who are already shouldering the responsibilities of their family while struggling with their load."*

3. *Stereotyping these problems, attributing them to an age-related phase, and the stigma surrounding mental health leave the teens with no choice but to cope alone. Also, the process of seeking help is often complicated and distressing since mental health services are either very expensive or difficult to access. That's why Kian and Nandini created HappyInc. to provide a free, confidential, safe, anonymous, and accessible space.*

4. *"Our vision is to change the world one smile at a time. We are now working to develop our app, through which teenagers can not only seek help from our Helpers system but also spread hope and happiness through their stories and hobbies, making a positive impact even if it is a small one. We plan to make the app a hub of all things happy," elaborates Kian.*

[Delhi Gov. Term - 2 SQP 2022]

**(A) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it.**

**(B) Write a summary of the above passage in 80-100 words.**

**Ans. (A) Title: HappyInc. - Online Peer Counselling Service for Teens**

**Notes:**

**1. Introduction**

- 1.1. An online peer couns.svc.
- 1.2. Crtd by Kian Godhwani & Nandini Bhattacharya.
- 1.3. Teens btwn 13 and 18 years old.
- 1.4. A space to pour out troubles.
- 1.5. Offer non-judgmntl support and und.
- 1.6. Free, safe & anonymous

**2. Issues Faced by Teens**

- 2.1. Exams, career decisions
- 2.2. College app & prsnl changes.
- 2.3. Society fails to und. their struggles.
- 2.4. Manage fam. respsblts while dealing with prsnl struggles.

**3. Stereotyping and Stigma**

- 3.1. Prob. get stereotyped as "teen phases"
- 3.2. Believe they must cope alone.

**4. Complexity and Inaccessibility of MHS**

- 4.1. Comp. process of seeking help
- 4.2. Exp.MHS
- 4.3. Teens prevented from accessing support

**5. Vision of HappyInc.**

- 5.1. Bringing smile
- 5.2. Easy to seek help
- 5.3. Spread hope & happiness
- 5.4. Make a +(ve) impact
- 5.5. A hub of all things happy

**Key to Abbreviations**

Abbreviations	Words
Couns.	Counselling
Teens	Teenagers
Svc.	Service
Crtd	Created
&	And

Btwn	Between
Jugmntnl	Judgemental
Und.	Understand
App	Application
Prsnl	Personal
Fam.	Family
Respsblts	Responsibilities
Prob.	Problems
Comp.	Complicated
Exp.	Expensive
MHS	Mental health services
+(ve)	Positive

**(B) Summary:**

HappyInc. is an online peer counselling service founded by KianGodhwani and Nandini Bhattacharya. It provides a safe and non-judgmental space for teenagers aged 13 to 18 to express their troubles and receive support. They started this initiative to address the lack of understanding and stigma surrounding teenagers' challenges. Happy Inc. aims to combat the stereotype that dismisses their problems as normal phases. Additionally, they are developing an app to not only offer help but also allow teenagers to share their stories, hobbies, and spread hope. Their vision is to change the world one smile at a time by creating a hub of happiness.

**Passage 3:**

**Read the passage given below:**

1. Good story telling is a social skill that everyone benefits from - the teller and the listener. It is a great bonding experience that helps lift conversations from non-starters to unforgettable experiences; from the mundane to extraordinary. A good storyteller is popular and always welcome in any company. A good story told well projects the teller as a warm, likeable person. A recent study shows that women consider men who can tell stories more attractive as long-term partners; perhaps because this ability seems to suggest that a man is able to connect emotionally and is vulnerable.

2. So, how can you become a good storyteller? Stories in this context do not refer to fiction but to incidents and experiences from everyday life that we share with others. When there is a point or a context to the telling of that incident, it obviously becomes that much more interesting and valuable to the audience. For instance, if you share a story to prove a point you made, such as how technology is having an adverse impact on our memories, and give personal examples, this is something that affects everyone.

3. People who have a sharp sense of observation - not just for actual physical or the obvious aspects, but also for the nuances, quirks and body language that go beyond - always make better storytellers. A good delivery and tone of voice also help. Audiences should love their emotions to be aroused. Using your voice to express emotions and drama is sure to keep your audience mesmerized. You can use your voice to great dramatic effect to help build passion, tension and drama, or to arouse emotions.

4. Do not hog evenings or conversations with long-winded tales that go on and on. Learn to be brief and to the point. Be on the watch-out for signs that you are boring your audience. If so, either change technique or wind up your story to give another chance with theirs. And most important, do not repeat your stories so often that people get scared of meeting you. Keep enjoying new experiences, examining them, hone your observational and learning skills - and keep creating new stories. You will always be popular and cherished.  
[Delhi Gov. SQP 2022]

**(A) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it.**

**(B) Write a summary of the above passage in 80-100 words.**

**Ans. (A) Title: The Art of Storytelling**

**Notes:**

**1. Benefits of Storytelling**

- 1.1. A social skill
- 1.2. Lifts conv.
- 1.3. Creates memorable exp.
- 1.4. Well-liked storytellers
- 1.5. Storytellers welcome everywhere
- 1.6. Projects warmth & likability

**2. Attractiveness & Emotional Connection**

- 2.1. Male storytellers cons. as long-term partners
- 2.2. Emotional conn.&vulnerability

**3. How to be a good storyteller**

- 3.1. Share exp. from daily life
- 3.2. Stories with a point makes them int.
- 3.3. Personal ex. resonate with the audience
- 3.4. Sharp obs. skills

**4. Delivery & Emotional Arousal**

- 4.1. Good delivery & tone of voice
- 4.2. Arousing audience's emotions

- 4.3. Voice express emotions & drama
- 4.4. Voice modulation adds passion to the narrative

#### 5. Be Brief & Mindful of Audience

- 5.1. Avoid long-winded tales
- 5.2. Be concise & to the point.
- 5.3. Watch for signs of audience disinterest.
- 5.4. Avoid Rep.
- 5.5. Create fresh stories
- 5.6. Hone your learn'g skills

#### Key to Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Words
Conv.	Conversations
Exp.	Experiences
&	And
Cons.	Considered
Conn.	Connection
Int.	Interesting
Obs.	Observation
Rep.	Repetition
Learn'g	learning

#### (B) Summary:

Storytelling is a valuable social skill that benefits both the teller and the listener. It strengthens bonds and elevates conversations from ordinary to extraordinary. Good storytellers are popular and likable, projecting warmth. Research shows that women find men who can tell stories more attractive, as it suggests emotional connection and vulnerability. To become a good storyteller, focus on sharing incidents and experiences from everyday life, with a clear point or context. Sharpen your observation skills for nuances and body language. Use a compelling delivery and tone to evoke emotions. Be concise, avoid repetition, and keep creating new stories for enduring popularity.

#### Passage 4:

Read the passage given below:

1. The conditions of the slum areas in metropolitan cities have deteriorated to such an extent due to the high density of population that the people there hardly enjoy even the most basic amenities. The lanes are narrow, and the houses are nothing but single-

room tenements without the facilities of an open courtyard or an enclosure, thus depriving the people of natural gifts like sunshine and air.

2. In such areas, people use common latrines and water taps. Some of the slum areas do not even have single rooms; they are thick clusters of small, dilapidated mud huts, the roofs and ceilings of which are made of scraps of wood, gunny sacks, metal, or some sort of waste material. Sometimes, 10 to 12 people live, eat, and sleep in the same room. The streets are narrow, and the sewage water stagnates in open surface drains, which emit a bad smell. The children often play in places where the drains are used as open latrines. Living conditions in the main urban slums are worse than those in the poorest rural areas of the country. This can be attributed to the slum's exceptional, unhealthy environment.

3. Many of the most serious diseases in cities are 'environmental' because they are transmitted through air, water, soil, food, insect or animal vectors. The concentration of people in areas where the provision of water, sanitation, garbage collection, and health care is inadequate creates conditions where infectious and parasitic diseases thrive and spread. Around half the slum population is suffering from one or more of the diseases associated with inadequate provision of water and sanitation. Despite the exterior appearance of chaos, slum life is highly structured, with many economic, religious, caste, and political interests expressed in the daily activities. Living conditions are extremely difficult, and slum dwellers fear the constant threat of having their homes bulldozed in municipal slum clearance' efforts. Nonetheless, slum life is animated by a strong sense of *joie de vivre*. [Delhi Gov. QB 2022]

- (A) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it.
- (B) Write a summary of the above passage in 80-100 words.

Ans. (A) Title: Living Conditions In Metropolitan Slum Areas

Notes:

#### 1. Deplorable Living Conditions

- 1.1. High pop.density
- 1.2. Narrow lanes & single-room tenements
- 1.3. Inadeq.access to sunlight & fresh air
- 1.4. Common latrines& water taps
- 1.5. Lack of ind. rooms
- 1.6. Overcrowding of ppl

## 2. Unsanitary Environment

- 2.1. Stagnant sewage water in the streets
- 2.2. Foul smell
- 2.3. Drains serve as open latrines.
- 2.4. Hazardous for children

## 3. Environmental Diseases

- 3.1. High risk of diseases through air, water etc.
- 3.2. Lack of healthcare leads to disease trans.

## 4. Fear of Demolition

- 4.1. Fear of eviction & demolition of homes
- 4.2. Threat of losing shelters

## 5. Resilience and Joy

- 5.1. A strong sense of joy and vitality.
- 5.2. Res. maintain a spirited outlook on life.

### Key to Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Words
Pop.	Population
&	And
Inadeq.	Inadequate
Ind.	Individual
Ppl	People
Etc.	Et cetera
Trans.	Transmission
Res.	Residents

### (B) Summary:

Slum areas in metropolitan cities are characterized by overcrowding, lack of basic amenities, and unhealthy living conditions. The cramped houses offer no open spaces, depriving residents of sunlight and fresh air. Shared latrines and water taps are common, while some slums consist of dilapidated mud huts. Stagnant sewage water and inadequate sanitation contribute to the spread of diseases. Despite the challenging circumstances, slum life is marked by a vibrant spirit. However, residents constantly fear eviction due to municipal clearance efforts.

## Passage 5:

### Read the passage given below:

1. A good business letter is one that gets results. The best way to get results is to develop a letter that, in its appearance, style and content, conveys information efficiently. To perform this function, a business letter should be concise, clear and courteous.

2. The business letter must be concise: don't waste words. Little introduction or preliminary chat is necessary. Get to the point, make the point, and leave it. It is safe to assume that your letter is being read by a very busy person with all kinds of papers to deal with. Re-read and revise your message until the words and sentences you have used are precise. This takes time, but is a necessary part of a good business letter. A short business letter that makes its point quickly has much more impact on a reader than a long-winded, rambling exercise in creative writing. This does not mean that there is no place for style and even, on occasion, humour in the business letter. While it conveys a message in its contents, the letter also provides the reader with an impression of you, its author: the medium is part of the message.

3. The business letter must be clear. You should have a very firm idea of what you want to say, and you should let the reader know it. Use the structure of the letter—the paragraphs, topic sentences, introduction and conclusion—to guide the reader point by point from your thesis, through your reasoning, to your conclusion. Paragraph often, to break up the page and to lend an air of organisation to the letter. Use an accepted business-letter format. Re-read what you have written from the point of view of someone who is seeing it for the first time, and be sure that all explanations are adequate, all information is provided (including reference numbers, dates, and other identification). A clear message, clearly delivered, is the essence of business communication.

4. The business letter must be courteous. Sarcasm and insults are ineffective and can often work against you. If you are sure you are right, point that out as politely as possible, explain why you are right, and outline what the reader is expected to do about it. Another form of courtesy is taking care in your writing and typing of the business letter. Grammatical and spelling errors (even if you call them typing errors) tell a reader that you don't think enough of him or can lower the reader's opinion of your personality faster than anything you say, no matter how idiotic. There are excuses for ignorance; there are no excuses for sloppiness.

5. The business letter is your custom-made representative. It speaks for you and is a permanent record of your message. It can pay big dividends on the time you invest in giving it a concise message, a clear structure, and a courteous tone.

- (A) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it.
- (B) Write a summary of the above passage in 80-100 words.

**Ans. (A) Title: Writing a Business Letter**

**Notes:**

**1. Features of a Good Business Letter**

- 1.1. Conveys info. efficiently to get results
- 1.2. Concisemsg
- 1.3. Clear
- 1.4. Courteous tone

**2. How to write a Good Business Letter**

- 2.1. Making letter concise
  - 2.1.1. Intro shd be brief
  - 2.1.2. Make your pt. in precise words and sent's
  - 2.1.3. Short and more effective
  - 2.1.4. Style is imp.—may ocasly have hum'r

**3. How to Achieve Clarity**

- 3.1. Have a clear idea of what you wish to say
- 3.2. Structr the letter—intro & conclsn.
- 3.3. Use accepted format; para, topic, sent's
- 3.4. Check facts, expl'ns, refs.

**4. Being courteous**

- 4.1. Explain your pt. politely—avoid sarcasm/insults.
- 4.2. Write and type carefully
- 4.3. Gram. & spel'g errors to be avoided

**5. Importance of Business Letter**

- 5.1. Custom- made representative
- 5.2. Permanent recorded message.

**Key to Abbreviations**

Abbreviations	Words
Info.	Information
msg	Message
Intro	Introduction
Shd	Should
Pt.	Point
Sent's	Sentences
Ocasly	Occasionally

Hum'r	Humour
Structr	Structure
Conclsn	Conclusion
Para	Paragraph
Expl'ns	explanation
Refs.	References
Gram.	Grammatical
Spel'g	spelling

**(B) Summary:**

A good business letter is that lends you positive and quality results. To get such results, a business letter should be effective in appearance, style and content. Apart from this a letter should be concise, clear and courteous. The business letter should be to the point as the message can be clear to the reader with an impression of you. The structure of letter should have topic sentence, introduction, and paragraphs to conclusion. Reread the points you have written to avoid sarcasm and insults that can work against your motive. Furthermore grammar and spelling errors need to be avoided.

**Factual Passages**

**Passage 6:**

**Read the passage given below:**

1. In Delhi, where 80% of the people are pedestrians at some stage of their commute, the least attention is paid to pedestrian paths. Delhi's sidewalks are too narrow, very poorly maintained, and full of potholes, poles, junction boxes, and dangerous electrical installations, not to mention the garbage dumps that stink and stare at pedestrians. Ashram Chowk is a good case in point, where thousands of pedestrians change direction from the Mathura Road radial to the Ring Road. A flyover facilitates the automobiles. While the pedestrian is orphaned by the investment-hungry authorities, one corner of the Ashram Chowk has a ridiculous imitation wood sculpture with an apology of a fountain, and across the same Chowk you have the open-mouthed massive garbage dump right on the pedestrian path in full exhibition for the benefit of the public. These symbols of poor taste and abject apathy are then connected by narrow dangerous and often waterlogged footpaths for the helpless pedestrian to negotiate.

2. At night, street lighting in the central median lights up the carriageway for cars and leaves the pedestrian areas in darkness. Delhi's citizens leave and want to get to their destination as fast as they can. No one wants to linger on the road; no one takes leisure walks; no one looks a stranger in the eye. On

the pedestrian path, citizens encounter poor public management and the excuse called multiplicity of authorities. One agency makes the road, another digs it up to lay cables, a third one comes after months to clear up the mess, and the cycle of unaccountability goes on.

3. Meanwhile, crores are spent on repairing the carriageway for vehicles and on the construction of the flyovers without regard for the pedestrians below. The solution offered is to make an expensive underpass or an ugly footbridge, ostensibly for facilitating pedestrians, while in reality they only facilitate cars to move faster at the expense of pedestrians. Take Kashmiri Gate, ITO, Ashram Chowk, AIIMS, or DhaulaKuan; at all these important pedestrian crossover points, the story is the same. They have pulled the sidewalk away from the pedestrian's feet.

4. In modern cities across the world, the pedestrian is king. The floor of the city is designed and maintained as an inclusive environment, helping the physically challenged, the old, and the ordinary citizens to move joyfully across the city. Delhi aspires to be a world-class city. Hopefully, the authorities will look once again at the floor of Delhi. The pleasure of strolling on the road is deeply connected to our sense of citizenship and belonging. Pride in the city grows only on a well-designed floor of the city.

[Delhi Gov. QB 2022]

- (A) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it.
- (B) Write a summary of the above passage in 80-100 words.

Ans. (A) Title: Pedestrians in Delhi

Notes:

1. **Delhi : a major city for pedestrian**
  - 1.1. Poor maint. of sidewalks.
  - 1.2. Dangerous elect installation.
  - 1.3. Garbage dump
  - 1.4. Waterlogged footpaths.
2. **Life in Delhi for citizens**
  - 2.1. Fast life
  - 2.2. Poor public manag.
  - 2.3. Multiplicity of auth.
  - 2.4. Unaccountability
  - 2.5. Costly constructions but useless.
3. **Pedestrian in the modern city**
  - 3.1. Pedestrian; a king

- 3.2. Floor of the city to provide great help.
- 3.3. Facilities to the challenged old and the infirm child.

#### Key to Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Words
Maint	Maintenance
Elect	Electrical
Manag	Management
Auth	Authorities
Child	Children

#### (B) Summary:

Delhi, although is a major city for the pedestrians, provides least attention in the matter of facilities. The sidewalks are dangerous, narrow, poorly maintained, and are full of potholes, garbage dumps, dangerous electrical fittings and stinky urinals. Public management is poor.

Unaccountability can be seen on the part of authorities. Money is misused without providing care to the users. In the modern city, where pedestrian is the king, the floor of city should be maintained by keeping in mind the physically challenged, old children. For making Delhi world class, the authorities would once again look at the floor of Delhi.

#### Passage 7:

Read the passage given below:

1. There is a clear dichotomy between Jayashankar Prasad's daily life and the one that found expression in his literature. In his literary formulations, Prasad advocated an escape from personality ideals and categorically stated: "An artist's art, and not his person, is the touchstone to assess his work. It is only after losing his personality that he emerges in his art as an artist".

2. In Prasad's works—his poems, short stories, novels, dramas, etc.—what emerges is life as shaped in the writer's inner self by his emotions, fancies, dreams, reveries, etc. His writings are a record not of outer reality but of the artist's inner world. As such, for a proper appreciation and understanding of his works, more emphasis needs to be placed on the workings of his mind than the events of his day-to-day life.

3. Prasad was born into a renowned family in Varanasi. His grandfather, Shiv RatanSahu, was a dealer in high-quality perfumed tobacco (snuff). Besides being an astute businessman, he was endowed with a marked cultural taste. His home was the meeting place of the local poets, singers,

artists, scholars, and men of religion. Prasad's father, Devi Prasad Sahu, carried forward this high tradition of family. Prasad, therefore, had a chance to study the various phases of human nature in the light of the business traditions, artistic taste, and religious background of his family.

4. When the business had somewhat recovered, Prasad planned the publication of a literary journal. Prasad named it "Indu". The inaugural number appeared in July 1909. By this time, Prasad's notions of literature had crystallised into a credo. In the first issue of Indu, he proclaimed, "Literature has no fixed aim; it is not a slave to rules; it is a free and all-embracing genius, which gives birth to genuine literature that is subservient to none. Whatever in the world is true and beautiful is its subject matter. By dealing with the true and beautiful, it establishes the one and affects the full flowering of the others. Its force can be measured by the degree of pleasure it gives to the reader's mind and also by the criticism, which is free of all prejudice". The words sound like the manifesto of romanticism in literature.

(A) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it.

(B) Write a summary of the above passage in 80-100 words.

Ans. (A) Title: Life of Jayashankar Prasad

Notes:

1. His Expression in Literature
  - 1.1. An escape
  - 1.2. Lose your personality
  - 1.3. Record of writer's inner world
  - 1.4. More emphsz. on mind than body
2. Personal Life
  - 2.1. Renowned fam. of Varanasi
  - 2.2. Home- meeting place of the lcl poets, singers
  - 2.3. Grnd-father- an astute businessman
  - 2.4. Had a chance to study phases of human nature
3. Started the "Indu"
  - 3.1. In July 1909
  - 3.2. proclaimed
    - 3.2.1. lit. has no fixed aim
    - 3.2.2. is free and all-embracing genius
    - 3.2.3. gives birth to genuine lit.

## Key to Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Words
Lit.	Literature
Emphsz.	Emphasize
Fam.	Family
Lcl	Local
Grnd	Grand
Bus.	Business

## (B) Summary:

Jayashankar Prasad found expression in literature and created an escape only after losing his personality. His writings are a record of the writer's inner world with more emphasis on mind than body. He was from a renowned family of Varanasi where home-meetings of poets and singers would take place. His grandfather was an astute businessman and therefore Prasad had a chance to study phases of human nature. In July 1909, he started 'Indu', in which he proclaimed that literature has no fixed aim, is free and all-embracing genius and gives birth to genuine literature.

## Passage 8:

Read the passage given below:

1. Keeping cities clean is essential for keeping their residents healthy. Our health depends not just on personal hygiene and nutrition, but also critically on how clean we keep our cities and their surroundings. The spread of dengue and chikungunya is intimately linked to the deteriorating state of public health conditions in our cities.
2. The good news is that waste management to keep cities clean is now getting attention through the Swachh Bharat Mission. However, much of the attention begins and stops with the brooms and the dustbins, extending at most to the collection and transportation of the mixed waste to some distant or not so distant place, preferably out of sight.
3. The challenge of processing and treating the different streams of solid waste and the safe disposal of the residuals in scientific landfills has received much less attention in municipal solid waste management than is expected from a health point of view.
4. One of the problems is that instead of focusing on waste management for health, we have gotten sidetracked into "waste for energy". If only we were to begin by not mixing the biodegradable component of solid waste (close to 60 percent of the total) in our cities with the dry waste and instead use this stream of waste for composting and producing a gas called methane.

5. City compost from biodegradable waste provides an alternative to farmyard manure (like cow dung). It provides an opportunity to simultaneously clean up our cities and help improve agricultural productivity and the quality of the soil. Organic manure or compost plays a very important role as a supplement to chemical fertilisers' in enriching nutrient-deficient soils. City compost can be the new player in the field.

6. Benefits of compost on the farm are well known. The water-holding capacity of the soil, which uses compost, helps with drought-proofing, and the requirement of less water per crop is a welcome feature for a water-stressed future. By making the soil porous, compost also makes the roots stronger and more resistant to pests and decay. Farmers using compost, therefore, need fewer pesticides. There is also evidence to suggest that horticulture crops grown with compost have better flavour, size, colour, and shelf life.

- (A) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it.
- (B) Write a summary of the above passage in 80-100 words.

**Ans. (A) Title: Clean and Attractive Cities**

**Notes:**

1. **Reasons for Keeping Cities Clean**
  - 1.1. To keep the res. healthy
  - 1.2. Health depends on
    - 1.2.1. Prsnl cleanliness
    - 1.2.2. Cleanliness of city
2. **Reasons for Waste Management**
  - 2.1. Being promoted through SBM
  - 2.2. To sensitize imp. of waste sep.
3. **Challenges of Waste Management**
  - 3.1. Has received less attn.
  - 3.2. No focus on WM for health
  - 3.3. BD being mixed with solid waste
4. **Benefits of City Compost**
  - 4.1. Impr.agricultural productivity
  - 4.2. Impr. quality of the soil
  - 4.3. Chemical inputs avoided
5. **Enhanced Root Health and Pest Resistance**
  - 5.1. Porosity of soil impr. by compost
  - 5.2. Strnthng root systems
  - 5.3. Resistance to pests & decay
  - 5.4. Reduced pesticide req. for farmers

## Key to Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Words
Res.	residents
Prsnl	Personal
SBM	Swachh Bharat Mission
Imp.	importance
Sep.	Separation
Attn.	Attention
WM	Waste management
BD	Biodegradable
Impr.	Improved
Strnthng	Strengthening
&	And
Req.	requirement

## (B) Summary:

Keeping cities clean is vital for the health of their residents, as diseases like dengue and chikungunya thrive in unsanitary conditions. While waste management initiatives like the Swachh Bharat Mission have gained attention, they often focus on surface-level cleanliness rather than proper waste processing and disposal. Instead of prioritizing waste-to-energy conversion, separating biodegradable waste for composting and methane production could have significant benefits. City compost from biodegradable waste not only helps clean up cities but also enhances agricultural productivity, improves soil quality, conserves water, strengthens plant roots, reduces pesticide use, and enhances crop quality.

## Passage 9:

Read the passage given below:

1. Fasting, in some form or the other, is part of every religion. In Islam, it is called 'roza'. The Arabic equivalent of 'roza' is sawm. Sawm literally means abstinence, i.e. to refrain from doing something. The ninth month of the Hijri calendar, i.e. Ramzan, has been especially chosen for fasting. Fasting during the month of Ramzan is obligatory for every Muslim, except when he has a genuine reason not to do so.

2. In every human being there are two faculties to take into consideration: one is desire and the other is reason. In all matters, the individual has to decide whether to follow his desire or his reason. The great merit in fasting is that it trains us to refrain from following our desires and instead always to bow to reason. That is the spirit of sawm.

3. According to the Prophet of Islam, one who fasts should never stoop to using abusive language; if someone abuses him, he should simply say 'I am fasting'. Islamic fasting, as far as formal practice is concerned, is to abstain from food and drink. But the actual spirit of fasting is to refrain from indulging in negative thinking and the use of negative language.

4. Self-control, far from being a negative or passive action, has great value in human behavior. In life, there are more than 50 per cent of occasions when one should refrain from action and less than 50 per cent of occasions when one should take action. This is the formula for success for both individuals and society.

5. Self-control is integral to social ethics. If you live alone on an island, there is no need for any control, as the absence of others leaves you free to do whatever you want to do. However, when you are living in a society, you have to give leeway to others. This is what every person on the road does when he drives a car: he either keeps to the left (or to the right depending upon which country he is in) so that he gives way to other cars and can carry on his journey without accidents. This principle is applicable to the entire life of an individual. It entails giving others the chance to live their lives while living one's own life.

6. Self-control is a kind of mutual adjustment. When a person adopts the way of self-control, it is far-reaching in effect. In this way he promotes the culture of self-control in society and indicates to others through his actions that they should follow the path that he is following.

7. Thus, the way of self-control leads to a better society, while lack of self-control in individuals leads to the destruction of peace. As far as the individual is concerned, self-control serves as a means of personality development. This way of life, in turn, saves others from unnecessary problems.

(A) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it.

(B) Write a summary of the above passage in 80-100 words.

**Ans. (A) Title: Islamic Fasting**

**Notes:**

### 1. Importance of Fasting

- 1.1. Roza In Islam
- 1.2. Refrain from doing smth
- 1.3. Ramzan, ninth month of HijriCnd
- 1.4. Oblgtry for every Muslim

- 1.5. Train to refrain fromfolwg our desires
- 1.6. Worship – for God
- 1.7. Make individual pious & responsible

### 2. Teachings of Islam

- 2.1. Should not use abusive lang
- 2.2. Abstain from food and drink
- 2.3. Refrain from-(ve)thkg

### 3. Self-control: Need and Importance

- 3.1. Great value in human behaviour
- 3.2. Formula for success for indivls& society
- 3.3. Integral to social ethics
- 3.4. A kind of mutual adjsmt
- 3.5. Lack of it leads to destruction of peace
- 3.6. Means of personality devpt

### Key to Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Words
smth	something
clnd	calendar
oblgtry	obligatory
folwg	following
lang	language
-ve	negative
thkg	thinking
indvls	individuals
adjsmt	adjustment
devpt	development
&	and

### (B) Summary:

Fasting is known as 'roza' in Islam, which means to refrain from doing something. It is obligatory for every Muslim, wherein one should refrain from using abusive language, negative thinking, food and drink. The main benefit of fasting is that it teaches us to constantly defer to reason rather than our cravings. That is how sawmfeels. It is worship for God. Fasting basically teaches self-control, which is observed as a formula for success for individuals and society. Self-control is a kind of mutual adjustment and leads to personality development.

## Passage 10:

Read the passage given below:

1. The problem of unemployment is a serious problem in our country. If millions of people are without jobs, the effect is very bad. A man without employment is a burden to others. If he has to maintain a family, the situation is worse. Such unemployed people are reduced to poverty. It demoralizes them, and they are forced to do undesirable things. They may commit crimes. They may create trouble and spread discontent. In fact, they are a source of danger to society and the state.

2. The causes of unemployment are mainly the rapid growth of the population, the prevailing system, and the underdevelopment of industry and trade. The population of India is growing very rapidly. It is very difficult to get jobs for all who are in need of them. The British Government had introduced a system of education in this country for carrying out administration only. It is being continued in free India, too, with very slight changes. The system of education prepares most young men to be clerks. But neither the government nor private firms can absorb all the educated unemployed people in their offices for clerical work.

3. The acute problem of unemployment is a cause of unrest in the country. So the government is seriously considering the matter and trying to find a remedy. The remedy is to find work for the people. The government had earlier undertaken five-year plans for the material prosperity of the country. For carrying out these plans, many mills and factories had been set up both by the government and by industrialists. Many new offices had been started. Many educated young men were absorbed in offices as clerks and in mills and factories as skilled workers. Uneducated and unskilled men were being absorbed into mills and factories as labourers.

(A) On the basis of your reading of the above passage make notes on it using headings and sub-headings. Use recognisable abbreviations wherever necessary. Supply an appropriate title to it.

(B) Write a summary of the above passage in 80-100 words.

Ans. (A) Title: Unemployment and its effects

Notes:

### 1. Consequences of Unemployment

- 1.1. Poverty
- 1.2. Low morale

- 1.3. Inc. in crime rate
- 1.4. Create trouble and discontent
- 1.5. Source of danger

### 2. Causes of Unemployment

- 2.1. Rapid growth of ppltn
- 2.2. Prevailing system of edu
- 2.3. Under dev. of indty& trade

### 3. Government's Response and Remedy

- 3.1. Find work for ppl
- 3.2. Five-yr plans for country's pros.
- 3.3. Mills & factories set up
- 3.4. New offices started
- 3.5. Educated young men as clerks
- 3.6. Unskilled men in mills & fctrs

### Key to Abbreviations

Abbreviations	Words
Inc.	Increase
&	And
Ppltn	Population
Edu.	Education
Dev.	Development
Indty	Industry
Yr	Year
Fctrs	factories
Ppl	people
Pros.	prosperity

### (B) Summary:

Unemployment is a grave issue in our country, with far-reaching negative consequences. Joblessness burdens individuals, pushes them into poverty, demoralizes them, and may lead to criminal activities and social unrest. The causes of unemployment include population growth, an out-dated education system focused on clerical jobs, and underdeveloped industry and trade. Recognizing the seriousness of the problem, the government is actively seeking remedies by creating employment opportunities. Previous initiatives, such as five-year plans, established mills, factories, and offices, absorbing educated individuals as clerks or skilled workers, and providing opportunities for uneducated labourers.

