

PRACTICE EXERCISES

PASSAGE 1

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 3: *Read the passage given below and solve the questions based on it.*

Deborah Mayo is a philosopher of science who has attempted to capture the implications of the new experimentalism in a philosophically rigorous way. Mayo focuses on the detailed way in which claims are validated by experiment, and is concerned with identifying just what claims are borne out and how. A key idea underlying her treatment is that a claim can only be said to be supported by experiment if the various ways in which the claim could be at fault have been investigated and eliminated. A claim can only be said to be borne out by experiment, and a severe test of a claim, as usefully construed by Mayo, must be such that the claim would be unlikely to pass it, if it were false.

Her idea can be explained by some simple examples. Suppose Snell's law of refraction of light is tested by some very rough experiments in which very large margins of error are attributed to the measurements of angles of incidence and refraction, and suppose that the results are shown to be compatible with the law within those margins of error. Has the law been supported by experiments that have severely tested it? From Mayo's perspective the answer is 'no' because, owing to the roughness of the measurements, the law of refraction would be quite likely to pass this test even if it were false and some other law differing not too much from Snell's law true. An exercise I carried out in my school-teaching days serves to drive this point home. My students had conducted some not very careful experiments to test Snell's law. I then presented them with some alternative laws of refraction that had been suggested in antiquity and mediaeval times, prior to the discovery of Snell's law, and invited the students to test them with the measurements they had used to test Snell's law; because of the wide margins of error they had attributed to their measurements, all of these alternative laws pass the test. This clearly brings out the point

that the experiments in question did not constitute a severe test of Snell's law. The law would have passed the test even if it were false and one of the historical alternatives true.

Word Count = 371

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Which of the following conclusion can be drawn from the passage?
- Experimental data might support multiple theoretical explanations at the same time, hence, validity of theories needs to be tested further.
 - Precise measurement is a sufficient condition to ensure validity of conclusions resulting from an experiment.
 - Precise measurement is both a necessary and sufficient condition to ensure validity of conclusions resulting from an experiment.
 - Precise measurement along with experimenter's knowledge of the theory underpinning the experiment is sufficient to ensure the validity of conclusions drawn from experiments.
- Q.2** As per Mayo's perspective, which of the following best defines the phrase 'scientific explanation'?
- One which is most detailed in its explanation of natural phenomena.
 - One which has been thoroughly tested by scientific experts.
 - One which survives examinations better than other explanations.
 - One which refutes other explanations convincingly.
- Q.3** The author's use of Snell's law of refraction to illustrate Mayo's perspective can best said to be
- contrived.
 - premeditated.
 - superfluous.
 - illustrative.

PASSAGE 2

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: *Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.*

Though the last twenty-five years have seen China dazzle the world with its excellent economic performance it has shied away from playing the kind of active role in international affairs that would seem commensurate with its economic weight. This is because traditionally China's politics have been defined by the need for economic development above all else. In the past, China's authorities have tended to downplay the country's international clout, choosing to stress instead its developing country status and limited military capabilities. Such modest rhetoric was intended to allay the fears that China's rise was causing across its immediate neighbourhood. That Beijing is finally acknowledging its status as a major player in the international system is evidenced by the fact that the President has formally developed a theory of international relations; the concept of harmonious world. The concept, encompassing broad notions of multilateralism, prosperity for all through common development and tolerance for diversity has left world opinion perplexed. These are commendable objectives but the theory is short on specifics regarding the means to achieve them.

China's recent willingness to be a more active player internationally stems from complex factors. The country's economic strength—having acquired the largest foreign exchange reserves in the world—is undeniable and reports favour it to be the largest economy in the next quarter of a century. For sustained double digit economic growth China, thus, has no choice but to become more active internationally. Moreover as a major proportion of the oil and other natural resources that China needs to feed its growing economy are imported, Beijing has to aggressively woo the countries rich in energy resources, which also represent emerging markets for Chinese products. To ensure a stable security environment within the region and thus facilitate economic growth. China played an active role in facilitating negotiations with North Korea. Destabilization of a potential flashpoint like the Korean peninsula would lead to a flood of refugees crossing the border, interrupting careful plans of economic rejuvenation of China's North—East. China's growing influence has caused a shift in the geopolitical status quo and its influence is beginning to replace that of the United States and European powers in Africa. China's new diplomacy though has had its share of critics who have expressed their unease at China's military modernization programme and its willingness to deal with regimes widely condemned

as corrupt and oppressive. Despite this, when Africa was in need of aid and infrastructure or the US needed help in negotiating with Korea they turned to China. By taking a lead in a variety of international and regional forums, initiating bilateral and military exchanges and dispensing aid and technical assistance in parts of the world where traditional powers are cautions to tread China has signed that its days of sitting on the sidelines, content to let others shape world affairs are emphatically over.

Word Count = 494

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Why has China traditionally been a passive spectator in global affairs?
- (a) To safeguard its oil resources.
 - (b) To maintain security in its vicinity.
 - (c) To conceal its economic predicament.
 - (d) To focus on domestic economic growth.
- Q.2** Which of the following best describes China's current international status?
- (a) Cause of insecurity among developing nations.
 - (b) Largest economy in the world.
 - (c) Largest donor of aid to developing countries.
 - (d) Pioneer of implementing a 'harmonious world' philosophy.
- Q.3** What has been the fall out of China's increased participation in world affairs?
- (a) International scrutiny of its economic policies.
 - (b) Growth of corruption among its politicians.
 - (c) Its influence and prestige have grown substantially.
 - (d) Its growth rate has stabilized.
- Q.4** Which of the following is TRUE in the context of the passage?
- (a) China's current political standing internationally disproportionate to its financial strength.
 - (b) China is a reluctant participant in military dialogues.
 - (c) The harmonious world theory is the only utilitarian remedy to the current challenges facing the world.
 - (d) US has recognized and acknowledged China's growing international reputation.

PASSAGE 3

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 3: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

In 1980, the US Supreme Court overturned decades of legal precedents that said that naturally occurring phenomenon, such as bacteria, could not be patented because they were discoveries rather than inventions. Yet that year, the Court decided that a biologist named Chakrabarty could patent a hybridized bacterium because, 'his discovery was his handiwork, not that of nature'. A majority of the judges reiterated that, 'a new mineral discovered in the earth or a new plant discovered in the wild is not patentable'. Yet they believed that Chakrabarty had concocted something new using his own ingenuity. Even Chakrabarty was surprised. He had simply cultured different strains of bacteria in the belief that they would exchange genetic material in a laboratory soup. The then embryonic industry used the case to argue that patents should be issued on gene, proteins and other materials of commercial value.

By 1980s, the US Patent Office had embarked on a far-reaching change of policy to propel the US industry forward, routinely issuing patents on products of nature including genes, fragments of genes and human proteins. In 1987 for example, Genetics Institute Inc. was awarded a patent on erythropoietin, a protein of 165 amino acids that stimulates the production of red blood cells. It did not claim to have invented the protein: it had extracted small amounts of the naturally occurring substance from thousands of gallons of urine. Erythropoietin is now a multi-billion dollar-a-year treatment.

The industry's argument is that innovation prospers only when it is rewarded. Without rewards, innovation will not take place. The barriers to entry into biotechnology are relatively low. Biotechnology companies do not have to build costly factories of high street retail outlets or invest in brand reputations. The basic units of production are bacteria manipulated to deliver therapeutically and commercially valuable substances. Without the protection of a patent, an innovative biotechnology company will find its discoveries quickly copied by later entrant. If the ownership of rights to exploit a genetic discovery were left unclear, there would be less innovation in the economy as a whole and we would all be worse off. The biotechnology industry in USA is larger than anywhere else, in part because innovators there have been allowed to patent their 'inventions'. In 1998, there were almost 1500 patents claiming rights to exploit human gene sequences.

Yet the ownership regime for industries and products spawned by genetics is far from settled. A practical argument is about what should be owned—the gene or the treatment. The cystic fibrosis gene, for example, is patented, and anyone

who makes or uses a diagnostic kit that uses knowledge of the gene sequence has to pay royalty to the patent holder. Many would argue that this is too broad a patent, which may be excessively strong and slow down innovation. As we move into the knowledge economy, issues such as the breadth and scope of a patent, the standards of novelty, even the duration, will become more problematical. To put in another way, who should own what and for how long will become more of an issue in a knowledge driven economy. That is because incentives to exploit knowledge need to be set against the value of sharing it. Scientific enquiry proceeds as a result of collaboration, the sharing and testing of ideas. We are lucky that James Watson and his collaborator Francis Crick did not work for Genentech or Glaxo Wellcome because every genetic researcher would now be paying a royalty to use their discovery. Genetics, as most sciences, is built on bedrock of shared knowledge. The more basic the knowledge, the more inappropriate strong property rights and exclusive private ownership becomes. Privatisation of knowledge may make it less likely that know-how will be shared. PerkinElme will publish its research on the human genome, but only once in three months and the company will reserve at least 300 genes for its own patent programme. Publicly funded researchers share their results more openly and more frequently.

Word Count = 662

Time Taken =

- Q.1** The erythropoietin episode shows that
- (a) patenting is the only way to encourage exploitation of new ideas.
 - (b) patenting accelerates exploitation of new ideas.
 - (c) claims to patentability are often false.
 - (d) None of these.
- Q.2** After reading the passage, which of the following statements do you think captures best, the tenor of the piece?
- (a) The author is unequivocal about undesirability of a patenting system.
 - (b) The author explores the complexities in patenting.
 - (c) The author deliberately obfuscates issues.
 - (d) The passage is boring about.
- Q.3** Chakrabarty patent issue shows that
- (a) patent authorities are infallible.
 - (b) patent systems are *ad hoc*.
 - (c) patenting rationale is socially embedded and evolutionary.
 - (d) None of these.

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 5: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

Kodak decided that traditional film and prints would continue to dominate through the 1980s and that photo finishers, film retailers, and, of course, Kodak itself could expect to continue to occupy their long-held positions until 1990. Kodak was right and wrong. The quality of digital cameras greatly improved. Prices plunged because the cameras generally followed Moore's Law, the famous prediction by Intel co-founder Gordon Moore in the 1960s that the cost of a unit of computing power would fall by 50 per cent every eighteen to twenty-four months. Cameras began to be equipped with what the industry called removable media – those little cards that hold the pictures – so pictures were easier to print or to move to other devices, such as computers. Printers improved. Their costs dropped, too. The internet caught the popular imagination, and people began e-mailing each other pictures rather than print them. Kodak did little to ready itself for the onslaught of digital technology because it consistently tried to hold on to the profits from its old technology and underestimated the speed with which the new would take hold. Kodak decided it could use digital technology to enhance film, rather than replace it. Instead of preparing for the digital world, Kodak headed off in a direction that cost it dearly. In 1988, Kodak bought sterling drug for \$5.1 billion. Kodak had decided it was really a chemicals business, not a photography company. So, Kodak reasoned, it should move into adjacent chemical markets, such as drugs. Well, chemically treated photo paper really is not that similar to hormonal agents and cardiovascular drugs. The customers are different. The delivery channels are different. Kodak lost its shirt. It sold sterling in pieces in 1994 for about half the original purchase price. George M.C. Fisher was the new CEO of Kodak in 1993. Fisher's solution was to hold on to the film business as long as possible, while adding a technology veneer to it. For instance, he introduced the advantix preview camera, a hybrid of digital and film technology. User took pictures the way they always had, and the images were captured on film. Kodak spent more than \$500 million developing advantix, which flopped.

Fisher also tried to move Kodak's traditional retail photo-processing systems into digital world and in this regard installed tens of thousands of image magic kiosks. These kiosks came just as numerous companies introduced in-expensive, high-quality photo printers that people could use at home, which, in fact, is where customers preferred to view their images and fiddle with them. Fisher also tried to insert Kodak as an intermediary in the process of sharing images electronically. He formed partnerships that let customers receive electronic versions of their photos by e-mail and gave them access to kiosks

that let them manipulate and reproduce old photographs. You do not need Kodak to upload photos to your computer and e-mail them. Fisher also formed a partnership with AOL called, 'You have Got Pictures.' Customers would have their film developed and posted online, where friends and family could view them. Customers would pay AOL \$7 for this privilege, on top of the \$9 paid for photo-processing. However, sites like snapfish were allowing pictures to be posted online free. Fisher promised early on, that Kodak's digital-photography business would be profitable by 1997. It was not. In 1997 Philippe Kahn led the advent of cell phone camera. With the cell phone camera market growth, Kodak did not just lose out on more prints. The whole industry lost out on sales of digital cameras, because they became just a feature that was given away free on cell phones. Soon cameras became a free feature on many personal computers, too. What had been so profitable for Kodak for so long-capturing images and displaying them was going to become essentially free.

In 1999, Fisher resigned and Carp became to new CEO. In 2000, Carp's first year as CEO, profit was about flat, at \$1.41 billion. Carp, too, retired early, at age fifty-seven. Carp had pursued Fisher's basic strategy of 'enhancing' the film business to make it last as long as possible, while trying to figure out some way to get recurring revenue from the filmless, digital world. But the temporizing did not work any better for Carp than it had for Fisher. Kodak talked, for instance, about getting customers to digitize and upload to the internet more of the 300 million rolls of film that Kodak processed annually, as of 2000. Instead, customers increasingly skipped the film part. In 2002, sales of digital cameras in the United States passed those of traditional cameras-even though Kodak in the mid-1990s had projected that it would take twenty years for digital technology to eclipse film. The move to digital in the 2000s happened so fast that, in 2004, Kodak introduced a film camera that won a 'camera of the year' award, yet was discontinued by the time Kodak collected the award. Kodak staked out a position as one of the major sellers of digital cameras, but being 'one of' is a lot different from owning 70 per cent to 80 per cent of a market, as Kodak had with film, chemicals, and processing. In 2002 competition in the digital market was so intense that Kodak lost 75 per cent of its stockmarket value over the past decade, falling to a level about half of what it was when the reporter suggested to Carp that he might sell the company. As of 2005, Kodak employed less than a third of the number who worked for it twenty years earlier. To see what might have been, look at Kodak's principal competitors in the film and paper markets. Agfa temporized on digital technology, then sold its film and paper business to private-equity investors in 2004. The business went into bankruptcy proceedings

the following year, but that was not Agfa's problem. It had cashed out at a halfway reasonable price.

Word Count = 974

Time Taken =

- Q.1** As per the passage which of the following statements truly reflects the real theme of the passage?
- (a) Moore's law predicted that cost per unit of computing power would exhibit a standard deviation of 25% per annum.
 - (b) Popularity of removable media and internet lead to high demand for computers.
 - (c) Kodak managers were able to predict the flow of digital technology and their critical value drivers.
 - (d) Kodak did not have a vision to plough back the profits from old technology to research and development in new technology.
- Q.2** Which of the following statements is not true?
- i. Kodak bought sterling drug as a strategic choice for a chemical business as it was already in the business of chemically treated photo paper.
 - ii. The chemical business was in sync with the existing business of Kodak running across the customer segment, delivery channels and the regulatory environment.
 - iii. Kodak committed a mistake by selling sterling in pieces at a loss of 50%.
 - iv. Kodak's diversification attempt with purchase of sterling to strengthen its core business and shift to digital world was a shift from its strategic focus.
- (a) Only i and ii (b) Only ii and iii
(c) Only iii and iv (d) Only i, ii, iii
- Q.3** Kodak lost a big piece of its market share to its competitors because of the following best explained reason.
- i. When Carp became the CEO the digital technology eclipsed film technology business and further Carp had been with the company for

twenty-nine years and had no background in technology.

- ii. Carp in 2004 introduced a film camera that won camera of the year award, yet it was discontinued by the time Kodak collected the award.
 - iii. Kodak moved from traditional retail photo processing systems into digital world installing several thousands of image magic kiosks that failed to deliver real benefits to the customers.
 - iv. Phillipe Kahn led the advent of cell phone camera and Kodak lost out on the print business and ability to share images became a free feature with no additional charge.
- (a) i and ii (b) ii and iii
(c) i and iv (d) iii and iv
- Q.4** Arrange the given statements in the correct sequence as they appear in the passage.
- i. Kodak lost to its competitors a big pie of its market share.
 - ii. Kodak ventured into chemical business to strengthen its digital technology business.
 - iii. Kodak downsized its workforce drastically.
 - iv. Kodak tied up with business firms for photo-processing.
- (a) i, ii, iii, iv (b) iii, iv, ii, i
(c) ii, iv, i, iii (d) i, iii, ii, iv
- Q.5** Match the following:
- | | |
|-----------|---|
| 1. Intel | a. Preview cameras that helped users to immediately see the pictures taken. |
| 2. Fisher | b. Photo-processing, developing and posting online photos. |
| 3. AOL | c. Lead to insolvency of digital technology business. |
| 4. Agfa | d. Price of technology product reduces to half every year or two. |
- (a) 1-d, 2-a, 3-b, 4-c (b) 1-a, 2-d, 3-c, 4-b
(c) 1-c, 2-b, 3-a, 4-d (d) 1-d, 2-c, 3-a, 4-b

PASSAGE 5

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 6: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

Deliberative democracy demands a reflexive (or reflection driven) reordering of preferences in a non-coercive manner. The authenticity of democracy requires in addition that these reflective preferences, influence collective outcomes and action, and so long as the state is the main (though far from exclusive) locus of collective decisions; it requires discursive mechanisms for transmission of public opinion to the state. A deliberative or more properly a discursive democracy, in order that it can accommodate several competing versions of

democracies such as the liberal, the minimal, the difference, etc., must also accommodate rhetoric, narratives, and empathy along with reasoning. A rationality and a reasoning that does not accommodate values is meaningless. However, it is also argued that individual rationality cannot be realised if values are embedded in the decision procedures, in other words, realisation of values could be made possible only when individuals behave non-rationally. Further if values having been abandoned at the individual level are accorded a place only collectively, the same must lead to either, 'epistemological inconsistency or abandonment of autonomy of individual evaluations'. A talk or a rhetoric, otherwise, is strategic and is

employed with the intention of signalling certain information. Such a talk can be, therefore, deceptive and coercive. The illocutionary force and the normative trappings of a Foucauldian discourse while allowing identification with a community and differences with the others, do simultaneously pose through coercion a threat to an utterance as such. If democracy cannot ensure utterance as freedom and if the illocutionary forces in a discursive democracy disciplines the thought and the talk, then how such a democracy could indeed be called authentic!

Most human actions and discourses are actuated by a deeper or primordial ante-deliberation Desire (let us use a capital D). Speaking as such is out of such a Desire (one might use volition or passion). Engaging in a deliberation or else in an action is possible only since there has been such a Desire. Desire appears to both the reflection and also to an observer as a mental-state. A discourse can be set only when such mental states are in harmony, or share a common predisposition or attitude. In the absence of such shared mental-states, no discourse and no deliberation can begin. A running underlying and most often unstated theme that remains at the back of the idea of deliberative democracy is competition – a competition with the ‘other’ which introduces strategy. The alternative to competition, a mental-state which is out of a Desire to enjoy the ‘other’ in the light of a memory that this ‘one’ and the ‘other’ were but the same and would again become the same, do not appear in the known Anglo-American literature. Such a mental-state might generate and keep alive possibilities, of cooperation although is never a state of cooperation alone as such.

Word Count = 469

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Which of the following follows from the passage above?
- (a) A rhetoric laden talk can generate authentic democratic collective choice.
 - (b) Irrational persons alone can have values.
 - (c) Authenticity of democracy requires a strong reflection-action interaction.
 - (d) A paradigm of competition alone can sustain an authentic democracy.

- Q.2** Desire as ante-deliberation driving action refer to
- (a) irrationality of deliberation.
 - (b) uselessness of deliberation.
 - (c) desire to act without thinking.
 - (d) temporal inconsistency in a position that argues for deliberative action constituting democracy.
- Q.3** Which of the following is true from the passage?
- (a) Author argues that democracy is bound to fail.
 - (b) Author argues that Desire is primal.
 - (c) Author argues for an end to primal Desire so that an end to competition can come through.
 - (d) None of these
- Q.4** A Foucauldian discourse as used in the passage does NOT refer to
- (a) discourse based on power.
 - (b) community-based discourse.
 - (c) strategic discourse.
 - (d) None of these.
- Q.5** Which of the following words is closest to the word ‘primordial’ as used in the passage above?
- (a) Elemental
 - (b) Anarchist
 - (c) Animalistic
 - (d) Nihilistic
- Q.6** Which of the following captures the spirit of the position that the author hints at through the phrase ‘alternative to competition’?
- (a) All the pragmatic world is a stage – a play unfolding.
 - (b) Democracy is an unruly fight among citizens.
 - (c) Socialist planning does away with the chaos of competition.
 - (d) None of these

PASSAGE 6

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: *Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.*

The World Trade Organization (WTO) was formed in the early 1990s as a component of the Uruguay Round negotiation. However, it could have been negotiated as part of the Tokyo Round of the 1970s, since that negotiation was an attempt at a ‘constitutional reform’ of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Or it could have been put off to the future, as the US Government wanted. What factors led to the creation of the WTO in the early 1990s?

One factor was the pattern of multilateral bargaining that developed late in the Uruguay Round. Like all complex

international agreements, the WTO was a product of a series of trade-offs between principal actors and groups. For the United States, which did not want a new organization, the dispute settlement part of the WTO package achieved its longstanding goal of a more effective and more legal dispute settlement system. For the Europeans, who by the 1990s had come to view GATT dispute settlement less in political terms and more as a regime of legal obligations, the WTO package was acceptable as a means to discipline the resort to unilateral measures by the United States. Countries like Canada and other middle and smaller trading partners were attracted by the expansion of a rules-based system and by the symbolic value of a trade organization, both of which

inherently support the weak against the strong. The developing countries were attracted due to the provisions banning unilateral measures. Finally, and perhaps most important, many countries at the Uruguay Round came to put a higher priority on the export gains than on the import losses that the negotiation would produce, and they came to associate the WTO and a rules based system with those gains. This reasoning — replicated in many countries — was contained in US Ambassador Kantor's defence of the WTO, and it amounted to a recognition that international trade and its benefits cannot be enjoyed unless trading nations accept the discipline of a negotiated rules-based environment.

A second factor in the creation of the WTO was pressure from lawyers and the legal process. The dispute settlement system of the WTO was seen as a victory of legalists over pragmatists but the matter went deeper than that. The GATT, and the WTO, are contract organizations based on rules, and it is inevitable that an organization created to further rules will in turn be influenced by the legal process. Robert Hudec has written of the 'momentum of legal development', but what is this precisely? Legal development can be defined as promotion of the technical legal values of consistency, clarity (or, certainty) and effectiveness: these are values that those responsible for administering any legal system will seek to maximize. As it played out in the WTO, consistency meant integrating under one roof the whole lot of separate agreements signed under GATT auspices; clarity meant removing ambiguities about the powers of contracting parties to make certain decisions or to undertake waivers; and effectiveness meant eliminating exceptions arising out of grandfather-rights and resolving defects in dispute settlement procedures and institutional provisions. Concern for these values is inherent in any rules-based system of cooperation, since without these values, rules would be meaningless in the first place. Rules, therefore, create their own incentive for fulfilment. The momentum of legal development has occurred in other institutions besides the GATT, most notably in the European Union (EU). Over the past two decades the European Court of Justice (ECJ) has consistently rendered decisions that have expanded incrementally the EU's internal market, in which the doctrine of 'mutual recognition' handed down in the case *Cassis de Dijon* in 1979 was a key turning point. The court is now widely recognized as a major player in European integration, even though arguably such a strong role was not originally envisaged in the Treaty of Rome, which initiated the current European Union. One means the court used to expand integration was the 'teleological method of interpretation', whereby the actions of member states were evaluated against 'the accomplishment of the most elementary community goals set forth in the Preamble to the [Rome] Treaty'. The teleological method represents an effort to keep current policies consistent with stated goals, and it is analogous to the effort in GATT to keep contracting party trade practices consistent with stated rules. In both cases legal concerns and procedures are an independent force for further cooperation.

In large part, the WTO was an exercise in consolidation. In the context of a trade negotiation that created a

near-revolutionary expansion of international trade rules, the formation of the WTO was a deeply conservative act needed to ensure that the benefits of the new rules would not be lost. The WTO was all about institutional structure and dispute settlement: these are the concerns of conservatives and not revolutionaries, which is why lawyers and legalists took the lead on these issues. The WTO codified the GATT institutional practice that had developed by custom over three decades, and it incorporated a new dispute settlement system that was necessary to keep both old and new rules from becoming a sham. Both the international structure and the dispute settlement system were necessary to preserve and enhance the integrity of the multilateral trade regime that had been built incrementally from the 1940s to the 1990s.

No. of words = 882

Time Taken =

- Q1.** What could be the closest reason why the WTO was not formed in the 1970s?
 - (a) The US government did not like it.
 - (b) Important players did not find it in their best interest to do so.
 - (c) Lawyers did not work for the dispute settlement system.
 - (d) The Tokyo Round negotiation was an attempt at constitutional reform.
- Q2.** The most likely reason for the acceptance of the WTO package by nations was that
 - (a) it had the means to prevent the US from taking unilateral measures.
 - (b) they recognized the need for a rule-based environment to protect the benefits of increased trade.
 - (c) it settles disputes more legally and more effectively.
 - (d) its rule-based system leads to export gains.
- Q3.** According to the passage, WTO promoted the technical legal values partly through
 - (a) integrating under one roof the agreements signed under GATT.
 - (b) rules that create their own incentive for fulfilment.
 - (c) grandfather-rights exceptions and defects in dispute settlement procedures.
 - (d) ambiguities about the powers of contracting parties to make certain decisions.
- Q4.** In the method of interpretation of the European Court of Justice,
 - (a) current policies needed to be consistent with stated goals.
 - (b) contracting party trade practices needed to be consistent with stated rules.
 - (c) enunciation of the most elementary community goals needed to be emphasised.
 - (d) actions of member states needed to be evaluated against the stated community goals.

PASSAGE 7

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: *Read the passage given below and solve the questions based on it.*

Enunciated by Jung as an integral part of his psychology in 1916 immediately after his unsettling confrontation with the unconscious, the transcendent function was seen by Jung as uniting the opposites, transforming psyche, and central to the individuation process. It also undoubtedly reflects his personal experience in coming to terms with the unconscious. Jung portrayed the transcendent function as operating through symbol and fantasy and mediating between the opposites of consciousness and the unconscious to prompt the emergence of a new, third posture that transcends the two. In exploring the details of the transcendent function and its connection to other Jungian constructs, this work has unearthed significant changes, ambiguities, and inconsistencies in Jung’s writings. Further, it has identified two separate images of the transcendent function: (1) the narrow transcendent function, the function or process within Jung’s pantheon of psychic structures, generally seen as the uniting of the opposites of consciousness and the unconscious from which a new attitude emerges; and (2) the expansive transcendent function, the root metaphor for psyche or being psychological that subsumes Jung’s pantheon and that apprehends the most fundamental psychic activity of interacting with the unknown or other. This book has also posited that the expansive transcendent function, as the root metaphor for exchanges between conscious and the unconscious, is the wellspring from whence, flows other key Jungian structures such as the archetypes and the Self, and is the core of the individuation process. The expansive transcendent function has been explored further by surveying other schools of psychology, with both depth and non-depth orientations, and evaluating the transcendent function alongside structures or processes in those other schools which play similar mediatory and/or transitional roles.

Word Count = 278
Time Taken =

- Q.1** The above passage is most likely an excerpt from
(a) a research note.
(b) an entry on a psychopathology blog.
(c) a popular magazine article.
(d) a scholarly treatise.
- Q.2** It can be definitely inferred from the passage above that
(a) the expansive transcendent function would include elements of both the consciousness and the unconscious.
(b) archetypes emerge from the narrow transcendent function.
(c) the whole work, from which this excerpt is taken, primarily concerns itself with the inconsistencies in Jung’s writings.
(d) the transcendent is the core of the individuation process.
- Q.3** A comparison similar to the distinction between the two images of the transcendent function would be;
(a) Raucous:Hilarious
(b) Synchronicity:Ontology
(c) Recession:Withdrawal
(d) None of these
- Q.4** As per the passage, the key Jungian structure – other than the Self – that emerges from the expansive transcendent function may NOT be expressed as a(n):
(a) Stereotype
(b) Anomaly
(c) Idealized model
(d) Original pattern

PASSAGE 8

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: *Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.*

Can poor countries afford to be green? That is a question which politicians in the developing world have often asked pointedly. To them, it seems that the obsession of some rich type with preserving forests and saving cuddly animals like pandas or lemurs, while paying less attention to the human brings living nearby, is both cynical and hypocritical. There is of course plenty of evidence that greenery and growth are not polar opposite. After decades of expansion in China and

other fast-emerging economies, some of the negative side-effects and their impact on human welfare, above all the death toll caused by foul air and water, are horribly clear. Yet the relationship between growth and the state of environment is far from simple. Some experts feel that poor countries have been quiet right to challenge the sort of green orthodox which rejects the very idea of economic growth. Indeed, the single biggest variable in determining the countrie’s ranking is income per head. But that does not imply that economic growth automatically leads to an improvement in the environment. Growth does offer solutions to the sorts of

environmental woes (local air pollution, for example), that directly kill humans. This matters, because about a quarter of all deaths in the world have some link to environmental factors. Most of the victims are poor people who are already vulnerable because of bad living conditions, lack of access to medicine, and malnutrition. Among the killers especially of children, in which the environment plays the role, are diarrhoea, respiratory and infections and malaria. These diseases reinforce a vicious circle of poverty and hopelessness by depressing production. According to the World Bank the economic burden on society caused by bad environmental health amounts to between 2% and 5% of GDP. As poor countries get richer, they usually invest heavily in environmental improvements, such as cleaning up water supplies and improving sanitation, that boost human health. But the link between growth and environmentally benign outcomes is, much less clear when it comes to the sort of pollution that fouls up nature (such as acid rain, which poisons lakes and forests) as opposed to directly killing human beings. The key to addressing that sort of pollution is not just money but good governance. Hence, the poor Dominican Republic is much healthier than nearby Haiti, Costa Rica is far ahead of Nicaragua, in spite of broadly similar nature and resources, and wealthy Belgium is the sick man of Western Europe, with an environmental record worse than that of many developing countries.

Word Count = 420

Time Taken =

- Q.1** The passage DOES NOT talk about
- (a) the impact of environmental health no economic growth.
 - (b) factors determining good governance.

- (c) the impact of economic growth on environment health.
- (d) environmental factors affecting child mortality.

- Q.2** Which one of the following statements CANNOT be inferred from the passage?
- (a) Fast-emerging economies are responsible for polluting their environment.
 - (b) Bad environmental health affects a country's production.
 - (c) Environment can be protected only after economic prosperity has been achieved.
 - (d) The link between the state of the environment and human health is ambiguous.

- Q.3** The MOST APPROPRIATE title for the passage would be:
- (a) How Green is Their Growth?
 - (b) Green Orthodoxy
 - (c) Growth vs Greenery
 - (d) Global Warming

- Q.4** Which one of the following can be MOST APPROPRIATELY inferred from the passage?
- (a) Environmental health should be the single biggest variable in determining a country's ranking.
 - (b) Poor countries cannot afford to save forests or protect cuddly animals.
 - (c) Haiti, Nicaragua and Belgium are the most polluted countries in the world.
 - (d) Economic progress can help to ease environmental woes, as long as the governance is good.

PASSAGE 9

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage given below and solve the questions based on it.

The starting point for our discussion is the common view expressed in the saying ‘Necessity is the mother of invention.’ That is, inventions supposedly arise when a society has an unfulfilled need. Would be inventors, motivated by the prospect of money or fame, perceive the need and try to meet it. Some inventor finally comes up with a solution superior to an existing, unsatisfactory technology. Society adopts the solution if it is compatible with the society's values and other technologies. Some inventions do conform to this common sense view of necessity as inventions' mother. Eli Whitney's 1794 invention of a cotton gin to replace laborious hand cleaning of cotton, and James Watt's 1769 invention of steam engine to solve the problem of pumping out water out of British coal mines were some such instances. These familiar examples deceive us into assuming that other major inventions were also responses to perceived needs. In fact,

many or most inventions were developed by people driven by curiosity or by a love of tinkering, in the absence of any initial demand for the product they had in mind. Once a device had been invented, the inventor then had to find an application for it. Only after it had been in use for a considerable time did consumers come to feel that they needed it. Still other devices, invented to serve one purpose, eventually found most of their use for other, unanticipated purposes. Some inventions in search of an initial use included most of the major technological breakthroughs of modern times, including the airplane, the automobile, internal combustion engine, electric light bulb, the phonograph and transistor. Thus, invention is often the mother of necessity, rather than vice versa. For example, when Edison built his first phonograph in 1877, he published an article listing ten uses to which his invention might be put. Reproduction of music did not figure high on that list. Only after 20 years, did Edison reluctantly concede that the main use of his phonograph was to play and record music.

Again, when Nikolaus Otto built his first gas engine, in 1866, horses had been supplying people's land transportation needs for nearly 600 years, supplemented increasingly by steam-powered railroads, for several decades. There was no crisis in the availability of horses, no dissatisfaction with railroads. In 1896, Gottfried Daimler built the first truck. In 1905, motor vehicles were still expensive, unreliable toys for the rich. Public contentment with horses and railroads remained high until World War I, when the military concluded that it really did need trucks. Intensive postwar lobbying by truck manufacturers and armies finally convinced the public of its own needs and enabled trucks to begin to supplant horse drawn wagons in industrialized countries. Thus the common sense view of invention that served as our starting point reverses the role of invention and need, and probably overstates the importance of rare geniuses such as Watt and Edison. That 'Heroic Theory of Invention' is encouraged by patent law, because an applicant for a patent must prove the novelty of the invention submitted. Inventors thereby have a financial incentive to denigrate or ignore previous work. In truth, technology develops cumulatively, and through the inventions and improvements of many predecessors and successors; rather than in isolated heroic acts, and it finds most of its uses after it has been invented, rather than being invented to meet a foreseen need.

Word Count = 562

Time Taken =

Q.1 The MOST APPROPRIATE title for the passage would be:

- (a) Mother of Necessity
- (b) Inventors or Villains
- (c) The Heroic Theory of Invention
- (d) Inventions, not Necessities

Q.2 Which of the following statements is INCORRECT as per the given passage?

- (a) Patent laws facilitate unnecessary inventions.
- (b) Inventions give rise to needs in society.
- (c) Curiosity is the mother of invention.
- (d) The military helped to popularize the use of trucks.

Q.3 According to the passage:

- (a) Airplanes and automobiles were invented out of curiosity.
- (b) Curiosity and necessity are the main obstacles for invention.
- (c) The applications of an invention are often not apparent immediately.
- (d) Society helps to fulfill an inventor's need for money and fame.

Q.4 The last sentence of the passage implies that

- (a) the author does not believe in the concept of 'heroic inventions'.
- (b) an invention does not always have to be in response to some perceived need.
- (c) isolated heroic acts do not give rise to inventions.
- (d) initial inventors are never recognized.

PASSAGE 10

Start Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage given below and solve the questions based on it.

'Beliefs' soften the hardships, even can make them pleasant. In God, man can find very strong consolation and support. Without him, man has to depend upon himself. At testing moments, vanity, if any, evaporates and man cannot dare to defy the general beliefs; if he does, then we must conclude that he has got certain other strengths than mere vanity. This is exactly the situation now. Judgment is already too well-known. Within a week it is to be pronounced. What is the consolation with the exception of the idea that I am going to sacrifice my life for a cause? A God-believing Hindu might be expecting to be reborn as a king, a Muslim or a Christian might dream of the luxuries to be enjoyed in paradise and the reward he is to get for his sufferings and sacrifices. But what am I to expect? I know the moment the rope is fitted round my neck and rafters removed, form under my feet: that will be the final moment, that will be the last moment. I, or to be more precise, my soul, as interpreted in the metaphysical terminology, shall all be finished there. Nothing further.

End Time:

A short life of struggle with no such magnificent end shall in itself be the reward if I have the courage to take it in that light. That is all. With no selfish motive or desire to be awarded here or hereafter, quite disinterestedly have I devoted my life to the cause of independence, because I could not do otherwise. The day we find a great number of men and women with this psychology who cannot devote themselves to anything else than the service of mankind and emancipation of the suffering humanity that day shall inaugurate the era of liberty.

Not to become a king nor to gain any other rewards here, or in the next birth or after death in paradise, shall they be inspired to challenge the oppressors, exploiters, and tyrants, but to cast off the yoke of serfdom from the neck of humanity and to establish liberty and peace shall they tread this to their individual selves perilous and to their noble selves the only glorious imaginable path. Is the pride in their noble cause to be misinterpreted as vanity? Who dares to utter such an abominable epithet? To him, I say either he is a fool or a knave. Let us forgive him for he cannot realize the depth, the emotion, the sentiment and the noble feelings that surge

in that heart. His heart is dead as a mere lump of flesh, his eyes are weak, the evils of other interests having been cast over them. Self-reliance is always liable to be interpreted as vanity. It is sad and miserable but there is no help.

You go and oppose the prevailing faith, you go and criticize a hero, a great man, who is generally believed to be above criticism because he is thought to be infallible, the strength of your argument shall force the multitude to decry you as vainglorious. This is due to the mental stagnation: criticism and independent thinking are the two indispensable qualities of a revolutionary. Because Mahatmaji is great, therefore none should criticize him. Because he has risen above, therefore everything he says: may be in the field of politics or religion, economics or ethics is right. Whether you are convinced or not you must say, 'Yes. That's true'. This mentality does not lead towards progress. It is rather too obviously, reactionary.

Word Count = 583

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Which one of the following statements can be deduced from the above passage?
- (a) Individuals who neither believe in God nor in the infallibility of great men are arrogant.
 - (b) Belief is convenient as it even makes a hard reality at present more bearable because of a promise of a better future.
 - (c) Only some individuals are able to attain greatness and by following them uncritically the society can make significant progress.
 - (d) If you do not believe in God, then you can never hope to achieve anything great in life.

Q.2 Which of the following statements BEST captures the essence of the passage?

- (a) When we criticize a great man like Mahatmaji, we are motivated by arrogance and a desire to question anything good through meaningless arguments.
- (b) All human beings ought to desist from believing anything in order to be able to achieve something meaningful.
- (c) The author is trying to present his defence for not believing in the existence of God, even though it is probably more convenient to do so, than going against the generally accepted norms of the society.
- (d) It is wrong to believe in God for achieving kingship or for rewards in this world, or for paradise after death, and instead, one should believe in God without expecting anything in return.

Q.3 The word 'vainglorious' as used in the passage is EXACTLY OPPOSITE in meaning to:

- (a) Truthful
- (b) Proud
- (c) Dishonest
- (d) Humble

Q.4 Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE as per the passage?

- (a) Pride in a noble cause should not be interpreted as vanity.
- (b) Service to mankind is the ultimate path to freedom.
- (c) Criticizing heroes and great men can lead to progress.
- (d) The author is upset because he has nothing to expect in the afterlife.

PASSAGE 11

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 6: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

The World Trade Organisation (WTO) was created in the early 1990s as a component of the Uruguay Round Negotiation. However, it could have been negotiated as part of the Tokyo Round of the 1970s, since that negotiation was an attempt at a 'constitutional reform' of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Or it could have been put off to the future, as the US government wanted. What factors led to the creation of the WTO in the early 1990s?

One factor was the pattern of multilateral bargaining that developed late in the Uruguay Round. Like all complex international agreements, the WTO was a product of a series of trade-offs between principal actors and groups. For the United States, which did not want a new Organisation, the dispute settlement part of the WTO package achieved its longstanding goal of a more effective and more legal dispute settlement system. For the Europeans, who by the 1990s

had come to view GATT dispute settlement less in political terms and more as a regime of legal obligations, the WTO package was acceptable as a means to discipline the resort to unilateral measures by the United States. Countries like Canada and other middle and smaller trading partners were attracted by the expansion of a rule-based system and by the symbolic value of a trade Organisation, both of which inherently support the weak against the strong. The developing countries were attracted due to the provisions banning unilateral measures. Finally, and perhaps most important, many countries at the Uruguay Round came to put a higher priority on the export gains than on the import losses that the negotiation would produce, and they came to associate the WTO and a rule-based system with those gains. This reasoning—replicated in many countries—was contained in US Ambassador Kantor's defence of the WTO, and it amounted to a recognition that international trade and its benefits cannot be enjoyed unless trading nations accept the discipline of a negotiated rule-based environment.

A second factor in the creation of the WTO was pressure from lawyers and the legal process. The dispute settlement system of the WTO was seen as a victory of legalists over pragmatists but the matter went deeper than that. The GATT, and the WTO, are contract organizations based on rules, and it is inevitable that an organization created to further rules will in turn be influenced by the legal process. Robert Hudec has written of the ‘momentum of legal development’, but what is this precisely? Legal development can be defined as promotion of the The World Trade Organization (WTO) was created in the early 1990s as a component of the Uruguay Round negotiation. However, it could have been negotiated as part of the Tokyo Round of the 1970s, since that negotiation was an attempt at a ‘constitutional reform’ of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Or it could have been put off to the future, as the US government wanted. What factors led to the creation of the WTO in the early 1990s?

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will seek to maximise. As it played out in the WTO, consistency meant integrating under one roof the whole lot of separate agreements signed under GATT auspices; clarity meant removing ambiguities about the powers of contracting parties to make certain decisions or to undertake waivers; and effectiveness meant eliminating exceptions arising out of grandfather-rights and resolving defects in dispute settlement procedures and institutional provisions. Concern for these values is inherent in any rules-based system of cooperation, since without these values rules would be meaningless in the first place. Rules, therefore, create their own incentive for fulfillment.

The momentum of legal development has occurred in other institutions besides the GATT, most notably in the European Union (EU). Over the past two decades, the European Court of Justice (ECJ) has consistently rendered decisions that have expanded incrementally the EU’s internal market, in which the doctrine of ‘mutual recognition’, handed down in the case *Cassis de Dijon* in 1979 was a key turning point. The Court is now widely recognised as a major player in European integration, even though arguably such a strong role was not originally envisaged in the Treaty of Rome, which initiated the current European Union. One means the Court used to expand integration was the ‘teleological method of interpretation’, whereby the actions of member states were evaluated against, ‘the accomplishment of the most elementary community goals set forth in the Preamble to the [Rome] treaty’. The teleological method represents an effort to keep current policies consistent with stated goals, and it is analogous to the effort in GATT to keep contracting party trade practices consistent with stated rules. In both cases, legal concerns and procedures are an independent force for further cooperation.

In large part, the WTO was an exercise in consolidation. In the context of a trade negotiation that created a near-revolutionary expansion of international trade rules, the formation of the WTO was a deeply conservative act needed to ensure that the benefits of the new rules would not be lost. The WTO was all about institutional structure and dispute settlement: these are the concerns of conservatives and not revolutionaries, which is why lawyers and legalists took the lead on these issues. The WTO codified the GATT institutional practice that had developed by custom over three decades, and it incorporated a new dispute settlement system that was necessary to keep both old and new rules from becoming a sham. Both the international structure and the dispute settlement system were necessary to preserve and enhance the integrity of the multilateral trade regime that had been built incrementally from the 1940s to the 1990s.

Word Count = 1211

Time Taken =

- Q.1** What could be the closest reason why the WTO was not formed in the 1970s?
- The US government did not like it.
 - Important players did not find it in their best interest to do so.

- (c) Lawyers did not work for the dispute settlement system.
- (d) The Tokyo Round Negotiation was an attempt at constitutional reform.
- Q.2** The most likely reason for the acceptance of the WTO package by nations was that
- (a) it had the means to prevent the US from taking unilateral measures.
- (b) they recognized the need for a rule-based environment to protect the benefits of increased trade.
- (c) it settles disputes more legally and more effectively.
- (d) its rule-based system leads to export gains.
- Q.3** According to the passage, WTO promoted the technical legal values partly through
- (a) integrating under one roof the agreements signed under GATT.
- (b) rules that create their own incentive for fulfillment.
- (c) grandfather-rights exceptions and defects in dispute settlement procedures.
- (d) ambiguities about the powers of contracting parties to make certain decisions.
- Q.4** In the method of interpretation of the European Court of Justice,
- (a) current policies needed to be consistent with stated goals.

- (b) contracting party trade practices needed to be consistent with stated rules.
- (c) enunciation of the most elementary community goals needed to be emphasized.
- (d) actions of member states needed to be evaluated against the stated community goals.

- Q.5** In the statement ‘...it amounted to a recognition that international trade and its benefits cannot be enjoyed unless trading nations accept the discipline of a negotiated rules-based environment.’, ‘it’ refers to:
- (a) Ambassador Kantor’s defence of the WTO.
- (b) The higher priority on export gains placed by many countries at the Uruguay Round.
- (c) The export gains many countries came to associate with a rule-based system.
- (d) The provision of a rule-based system by the WTO.

- Q.6** The importance of Cassis de Dijon is that it
- (a) gave a new impetus to the momentum of legal development at the European Court of Justice.
- (b) resulted in a decision that expanded incrementally the EU’s internal market.
- (c) strengthened the role of the Court more than envisaged in the Treaty of Rome.
- (d) led to a doctrine that was a key turning point in European integration.

PASSAGE 12

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

It is being projected a boon for the agriculture sector. In reality, it will be the beginning of the end for the Indian farmers. It has happened in the west. Ever since big retail, dominated by multi-brand retailers, has entered the market, farmers have disappeared and poverty has increased. Today, not more than seven lakh farmers remain on the farms in the west. According to a report, every minute one farmer quits agriculture. Farmers’ incomes have come down by more than 40 per cent. These days, low supermarket prices are being cited as the reason for the **exodus** of dairy farmers too. It is therefore futile to expect the supermarkets rescuing farmers in India.

Despite the destruction of farming globally, administrators in India are gung-ho about allowing foreign direct investment in multi-brand retailing. ‘The agriculture sector needs well-functioning markets to **drive** growth, employment, and economic prosperity in rural areas,’ says a discussion paper.

Since 2006, India has allowed a partial opening of the retail sector. Have these retail units benefited Indian farm-

ers and the consumers? The answer is no. The argument for setting up of big retail chains is that the supermarket chains will squeeze out the middlemen; thereby, provide higher prices to farmers and provide large investments for the development of post-harvest infrastructure at the same time. All these claims are untrue, and big retail has not helped farmers anywhere in the world.

If the supermarkets were so efficient, why is the west providing a massive subsidy for agriculture? After all, the world’s biggest retail giants are based in the west and it should have helped their farmers become economically viable. But that did not happen. Till 1950, a farmer who would receive about 70 per cent of what was spent on food, receives no more than 3-4 per cent today. And that is why the farmers there are being supported in the form of direct income support by the government.

A report by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), a group comprising the richest thirty countries in the world, states explicitly that farm subsidies rose by 22 per cent in 2008. In 2009, industrialized countries provided a subsidy of ₹1,260 billion. And it is primarily for this reason that farm incomes are lucrative.

Take the Netherlands: the average farm family income is 275 per cent of the average household income. This is because of farm subsidies, not supermarkets. India is therefore importing a failed model from the west; especially when India is incapable of providing such heavy subsidies to its farmers.

Regarding employment, big retail does not squeeze out middlemen from the food chain. Supermarkets claim that they remove middlemen and therefore, are able to provide a higher price to farmers. In reality, what happens is the opposite. Supermarkets are themselves the big middlemen. They replace the small fish by replacing the plethora of small middlemen. The muneem clad in a dhoti-kurta is replaced by a smartly dressed up middleman. So, while the farmer **pauperizes**, the profit of supermarkets multiply.

Based on biased studies by consultancy firms and some institutes, it is believed that supermarkets will create employment and therefore, help in ameliorating poverty. This is a flawed assumption. Lessons need to be drawn from a 2004 study done at Pennsylvania State University. The authors measured the impact of a retail boom on poverty in various adjoining states. The comprehensive study clearly **brings out** that those American states that had more retail stores in 1987, had higher poverty rates by 1999 than the states where fewer stores were set up.

At stake is the livelihood security of 120 lakh small shopkeepers, four crore hawkers, and at least, twenty crore (of the sixty crore) small farmers. What's needed is more public sector investment in setting up a chain of mandis across the country. Providing 'an assured market and reasonable procurement price is what Indian farmers need'. This has to be supplemented by a network of food grain banks at panchayat level that assure local production and distribution.

Word Count = 674

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Why does the author disagree with the idea that big retail stores can salvage farmers condition in India?
- (a) The farmers in India still prefer to sell their produce to local middlemen and *mandis* than to the big retail stores.
 - (b) There have been examples throughout the world that the big retail chains further deteriorate the condition of the farmers.
 - (c) Big retail chains buy the farmers produce at a much lower cost as compared to the present middlemen.

- (d) The government subsidies to the farmers selling their produce directly to big retail stores is far lesser than the ones who sell their produce to the government itself.

Q.2 Which of the following is true in context of the passage?

- (a) Noticing the state of farmers in the west owing to the advent of retail giants, Indian administrators are not too keen to allow multi-grain retailing in India.
- (b) Supermarket chains have provided large investments for the development of post harvest infrastructure.
- (c) Supermarkets have indeed helped in making farming a lucrative business.
- (d) The retail chains have failed to benefit the farmers thus forcing the government to come to their rescue.

Q.3 Which of the following have been the arguments for setting up big retail stores in India?

- A. The retail chains would sell the farmers produce at a comparatively higher price than the smaller shops so as to improve the farmer's profit.
 - B. The retail chains would drive the middlemen out of the system, thus improving farmer's profit margin.
 - C. Big retail chains in the west have been taking strides of growth and have been benefiting the farmers.
 - D. The big retail chains would provide an organized market which would bring about growth in the rural areas.
- (a) Only A and C (b) Only C and D
(c) Only A, C and D (d) Only B and D

Q.4 Which of the following would be the most appropriate title for the given passage?

- (a) Multi brand retailing – making farming more lucrative.
- (b) Supermarkets – towards employment and growth in rural areas.
- (c) Supermarket – a super risk for farmers.
- (d) Allowing Supermarkets in India – why are administrators unwilling?

PASSAGE 13

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 5: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

The modern world requires us to repose trust in many anonymous institutions. We strap ourselves in a flying tin can with 200 other people not because we know the pilot but because we believe that airline travel is safe. Our trust in these institutions depends on two factors: skill and ethics. We expect that the people who run these institutions know what they are doing. That they build and operate machines that work as they are supposed to and that they are looking out for our welfare even though we are strangers.

When one of these factors is weak or absent, trust breaks down and we either pay a high price in safety as in the Bhopal tragedy, or a large welfare premium such as the elaborate security measures at airports. Trust-deficient environments work in the favour of the rich and powerful, who can command **premium** treatment and afford welfare premiums. Poor people can command neither of these; which is why air travel is safer than train travel, which in turn is safer than train travel, which in turn is safer than walking by the road side.

Every modern society depends on the trust in the skills and ethics of a variety of institutions such as schools and colleges, hospital, and markets. If we stopped believing in the **expertise** of our teachers, doctors, and engineers, we will stop being a modern society.

As the Institution amongst institutions, it is the duty of the state to ensure that all other institutions meet their ethical **obligations**. The Indian state has failed in its regulatory role schools to turn out good graduates, we turn out well-trained engineers and we cannot guarantee that our engineers will turn out to be good products.

Last year, I was invited to speak at an undergraduate research conference. Most of the participants in that conference were students at the best engineering colleges in the State. One student who was driving me back and forth **recounted** a story about the previous year's final exam. One of his papers had a question from a leading text book to which the textbook's answer was wrong. The student was in a dilemma: should he write the (wrong) answer as given in the textbook or should he write the right answer using his own analytical skills. He decided to do the latter and received a zero on that question. Clearly, as the student had suspected, the examiners were looking at the textbook answer while correcting the examination papers instead of verifying its correctness.

The behaviour of these examiners is a breakdown of the institutional morals, with consequences for the skills acquired by students. I say institutional morals, for the failure of these examiners is not a personal failure. At the same conference I met a whole range of college teachers, all of whom were drafted as examiners at some time or the other. Without exception, they were dedicated individuals who cared about

the education and welfare of their students. However, when put in the institutional role of evaluating an anonymous individual, they fail in fulfilling their responsibilities. When some of our best colleges are run in this fashion, is it any wonder that we turn out **unskilled** engineers and scientists? As we are led to expect, there is a vast increase in education at all levels and the regulatory regime is as weak as it is currently, isn't it likely that the trust deficit is only going to increase?

We are all aware of the consequences of ignoring corruption at all levels of society. While institutional failures in governance are obvious, I think the real problem lies deeper, in the failure of every day institutions that are quite apart from institutions that impinge on our lives only on rare occasions. It is true that our lives are made more **miserable** by government officials demanding bribes for all sorts of things, but what about the everyday lying and cheating and breaking of rules with people who are strangers?

Let me give you an example that many of us have experienced. I prefer buying my fruits and vegetables from roadside vendors rather than chain stores. To the vendor, I am probably an ideal customer, since I do not bargain and I do not take hours choosing the best pieces, instead, letting the vendor do the selecting. The market near my house is quite busy: as a result, most vendors are selling their wares to strangers. It takes a while before a particular vendor realizes that I am a **repeat** customer, in such a situation trust is crucial. I have a simple rule: if a vendor **palms off** a bad piece whose defects are obvious, I never go back to that person again, it is amazing how often that happens.

In my opinion, the failure of institutional ethics is as much about these little abuses of trust as anything else. Everyday thievery is like roadside trash: if you let it accumulate the whole neighbourhood stinks.

Word Count = 833

Time Taken =

- Q.1** What is the meaning of the phrase **palms off** as used in the passage?
- (a) Steals from
 - (b) Hides away from
 - (c) Buys quickly
 - (d) Passes on by deception
- Q.2** Why according to the author do people repose trust in institutions they do not know?
- (a) The marketing strategies adopted by these institutions make them trustworthy in the eyes of the public.
 - (b) Many other people before them have done the same thing thus they feel safe.
 - (c) People learn from the experiences of their richer counterparts who have availed of the services of these institutions.

(d) They believe that these institutions have the requisite knowledge and will act only in favour of the general public.

Q.3 Which of the following is possibly the most appropriate title for the passage?

- (a) Modifications in Institutional Ethics.
- (b) Little Deceptions Add to Larger Trust-Deficit.
- (c) India-A Country Without Ethics.
- (d) Failure of the Government.

Q.4 What according to the author happens when there is a breakdown of trust?

- A. Less affluent people have to compromise on quality.
- B. Our well-being is compromised.
- C. We pay a higher prices for services.

- (a) Only A
- (c) Only B and C

- (b) Only A and C
- (d) All A, B and C

Q.5 Why according to the author, do institutional failures in governance not matter on a larger-scale?

- (a) The general public does not care about the failures of these institutions as they do not feature in their lives at all.
- (b) Such institutional failures are almost non-existent and do not occur often to matter to the public.
- (c) These intrude in our lives only under exceptional circumstances whereas the everyday lies contribute to much more.
- (d) These are a part of every country's problems and are taken with a pinch of salt by the public.

PASSAGE 14

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 3: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

A pioneering new book, **Gender and Green Governance**, explores a central question: if women had adequate representation in forestry institutions, would it make a difference to them, their communities, and forests as a national resource? Interview with the author.

Why has access to forests been such a conflict-ridden issue?

This is not surprising. Forests constitute not just community and national wealth, but global wealth. But for millions, forests are also critical for livelihoods and their daily lives.

Your first book, Cold Hearts and Barren Slopes (1986), was about forests. Is there an evolution of argument here?

Yes indeed: in cold Hearts and Barren Slopes. I had argued that social forestry, with its top down implementation and focus on commercial species, was neither social nor forestry, and would protect neither forests nor village livelihoods. The answer I argued, lay in allowing forests communities to manage local forests. Finally in 1990. India launched the joint forest management programme and Nepal also started community forestry. So I decided to see for myself how community forestry was actually doing.

Between 1995 and 1999, I travelled extensively across India and Nepal and found **paradox**: Forests were indeed becoming greener but women's problem of firewood shortages persisted and in many cases had become more **acute**. Also, despite their high stakes in forests, women continued to agree. I coined the term 'participatory exclusions' to describe this. How women's exclusion. I ask: what if women were present in forest governance? What difference would that make?

But has this question not been raised before?

Economists researching environmental collective action have paid little attention to gender. Scholars from other disciplines focusing on gender and governance have been concerned mainly with women's near absence from governance institutions. The presumption is that once women are present, all good things will follow. But can we assume this? Not Rural women's relationship with forests is complex.

On the one hand, their everyday dependence on forests for firewood fodders. etc, creates a strong stake in dependence can compel them to extract heavily from forests. As one landless woman told me: of course it hurts me to cut a **green** branch but what do I do if my children are hungry? Taking an agnostic position I decided to test varied propositions, **controlling** for other factors.

What did you find?

First, women's greater presence enhances their effective voice in decision-making. And there is a critical mass effect: if forests management groups have 25-33 per cent female members in their executive committees, it significantly increases the likelihood of women attending meetings, speaking up and holding office. However, the inclusion of landless women makes a particular difference. When present in sufficient numbers they are more likely to attend meetings and voice their concerns than landed women. So what matters is not just including more women, but more poor women.

Second, and unexpectedly, groups with more women typically make stricter forest use rules. Why is this case? Mainly because they receive poorer forests from the forest department. To regenerate these, they have to sacrifice their immediate needs. Women from households with some land have some fallback. But remarkably even in groups with more landless women, although extraction is higher, they

still balance self-interest with conservation goals, when placed in decision-making positions.

Third, groups with more women outperform other groups in improving forest conditions, despite getting poorer forests. Involving women substantially improves protection and conflict resolution. Helps the use of their knowledge of local biodiversity, and raises children's awareness about conservation.

Word Count = 581

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Which of the following is one of the reasons of forests being a conflict-ridden issue?
- (a) Some countries have larger forest cover.
 - (b) There is less awareness about global warming.
 - (c) High dependence of many on forests.
 - (d) Less representation of women.
- Q.2** In the second question, the interviewer asked – ‘Is there an evolution of argument here? Which of the following best describes that?’
- (a) From Barren to Greener slopes.

- (b) From local groups to local groups with more women.
- (c) A fine balance between conservation and commercial forestry.
- (d) Top-down approach to community forestry.

- Q.3** Why does author say, ‘Rural women’s relationship with forests is complex’?
- (a) Dependence forces them to extract and also have concern for conservation.
 - (b) If they protect forests, their livelihood is severely affected.
 - (c) Poor women have been excluded from forest management.
 - (d) They cannot be asked to restore forests which are critical for them.
- Q.4** Landless women, when in decision-making role:
- (a) Extract much more from forest.
 - (b) Improve their own financial status.
 - (c) Do not care for forest.
 - (d) Are able to meet conservation objectives as well as their own interest.

PASSAGE 15

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 3: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

In the annals of investing, Warren Buffett stands alone. Starting from scratch, simply by picking stocks and companies for investment, Buffett amassed one of the epochal fortunes of the twentieth century. Over a period of four decades more than enough to iron out the effects of fortuitous rolls of the dice, Buffett outperformed the stock market, by a stunning margin and without taking undue risks or suffering a single losing year. Buffett did this in markets bullish and bearish and through economies fat and lean, from the Eisenhower years to Bill Clinton, from the 1950s to the 1990s, from saddle shoes and Vietnam to junk bonds and the information age. Over the broad sweep of post war America, as the major stock averages advanced by 11 per cent or so a year, Buffett racked up a compounded annual gain of 29.2 per cent. The uniqueness of this achievement is more significant because it was the fruit of old-fashioned, long-term investing. Wall Street’s modern financiers got rich by exploiting their control of the public’s money: their essential trick was to take in and sell out the public at opportune moments. Buffett shunned this game, as well as the more venal excesses for which wall Street is deservedly famous. In effect, he rediscovered the art of pure capitalism, a cold-blooded sport, but a fair one. Buffett began his career, working out his study in Omaha in 1956. His grasp of simple verities gave rise to a drama that would recur throughout his life. Long before those pilgrimages to Omaha, long before Buffett had a record, he would stand in a corner at college parties,

baby-faced and bright-eyed, holding forth on the universe as a dozen or two of his older, drunken fraternity brothers crowded around. A few years later, when these friends had metamorphosed into young associates starting out on Wall Street, the ritual was the same. Buffett, the youngest of the group, would plop himself in a big, broad club chair and expound on finance while the others sat at his feet. On Wall Street, his homespun manner made him a cult figure. Where finance was so forbiddingly complex, Buffett could explain it like a general-store clerk discussing the weather. He never forgot that underneath each stock and bond, no matter how arcane, there lay a tangible, ordinary business. Beneath the jargon of Wall Street, he seemed to unearth a street from small-town America. In such a complex age, what was stunning about Buffett was his applicability. Most of what Buffett did was imitable by the average person (this is why the multitudes flocked to Omaha). It is curious irony that as more Americans acquired an interest in investing, Wall Street became more complex and more forbidding than ever. Buffett was born in the midst of depression. The depression cast a long shadow on Americans, but the post war prosperity eclipsed it. Unlike the modern portfolio manager, whose mindset is that of a trader, Buffett risked his capital on the long-term growth of a few select businesses. In this, he resembled the magnates of a previous age, such as J P Morgan Sr.

As Jack Newfield wrote of Robert Kennedy, Buffett was not a hero, only a hope; not a myth, only a man. Despite his broad wit, he was strangely stunted. When he went to Paris,

Feminists have viewed the patriarchal control of women's bodies as one of the prime issues facing the contemporary women's movement. They observe that the definition and control of women's reproductive freedom have always been the province of men. Patriarchal religion, as manifest in Islamic fundamentalism 'traditionalist Hindu practice, orthodox Judaism, and Roman Catholicism, has been an important historical contributory factor for this and continues to be an important presence in contemporary societies. In recent times, governments, usually controlled by men, have given women the right to contraceptive use and abortion access when their countries were perceived to have an overpopulation problem.' When these countries are perceived to be underpopulated, that right has been absent. Until the nineteenth century, a woman's rights to an abortion followed English common law; it could only be legally challenged if

there was a 'quickenings', when the first movements of the foetus could be felt. In 1800, drugs to induce abortions were widely advertised in local newspapers. By 1900, abortion was banned in every state except to save the life of the mother. The change was strongly influenced by the medical profession, which focussed its campaign ostensibly on health and safety issues for pregnant women and the sanctity of life. Its position was also a means of control of non-licensed medical practitioners such as midwives and women healers who practiced abortion.

The anti-abortion campaign was also influenced by political considerations. The large influx of eastern and southern European immigrants with their large families was seen as a threat to the population balance of the future United States. Middle and Upper class Protestants were advocates of abortion as a form of birth control. By supporting abortion prohibitions the hope was that these Americans would have more children and thus prevent the tide of immigrant babies from overwhelming the demographic characteristics of Protestant America.

The anti-abortion legislative position remained in effect in the United States through the first sixty-five years of the twentieth century. In the early 1960s, even when it was widely known that the drug thalidomide taken during pregnancy to alleviate anxiety was shown to contribute to the formation of deformed 'flipper-like' hands or legs of children, abortion was illegal in the United States. A second health tragedy was the severe outbreak of rubella during the same time period, which also resulted in major birth defects. These tragedies combined with a change of attitude towards a woman's right to privacy lead a number of states to pass abortion-permitting legislation.

On one side of the controversy are those who call themselves 'pro-life'. They view the foetus as a human life rather than as an unformed complex of cells; therefore, they hold to the belief that abortion is essentially murder of an unborn child. These groups cite both legal and religious reasons for their opposition to abortion. Pro-lifers point to the rise in legalized abortion figures and see this as morally intolerable. On the other side of the issue are those who call themselves 'pro-choice'. They believe that women, not legislators or judges, should have the right to decide whether and under what circumstances they will bear children. Pro-choicers are of the opinion that laws will not prevent women from having abortions and cite the horror stories of the past when many women died at the hands of 'backroom' abortionists and in desperate attempts to self-abort. They also observe that legalized abortion is especially important for rape victims and incest victims who became pregnant. They stress physical and mental health reasons why women should not have unwanted children.

To get a better understanding of the current abortion controversy, let us examine a very important work by Kristin Luker titled *Abortion and the Politics of Motherhood*. Luker argues that female pro-choice and pro-life activists hold different world views regarding gender, sex, and the meaning of parenthood. Moral positions on abortions are seen to be

tied intimately to views on sexual behaviour, the care of children, family life, technology, and the importance of the individual. Luker identifies 'pro-choice' women as educated, affluent, and liberal. Their contrasting counterparts, 'pro-life' women, support traditional concepts of women as wives and mothers. It would be instructive to sketch out the differences in the world views of these two sets of women. Luker examines California, with its liberalized abortion law, as a case history. Public documents and newspaper accounts over a twenty-year period were analyzed and over 200 interviews were held with both pro-life and pro-choice activists.

Luker found that pro-life and pro-choice activists have intrinsically different views with respect to gender. Pro-life women have a notion of public and private life. The proper place for men is in the public sphere of work; for women, it is the private sphere of the home. Men benefit through the nurturance of women; women benefit through the protection of men. Children are seen to be the ultimate beneficiaries of this arrangement by having the mother as a full-time loving parent and by having clear role models. Pro-choice advocates reject the view of separate spheres. They object to the notion of the home being the 'women's sphere'. Women's reproductive and family roles are seen as potential barriers to full equality. Motherhood is seen as a voluntary, not a mandatory or 'natural' role.

In summarizing her findings, Luker believes that women become activists in either of the two movements as the end result of lives that centre around different conceptualizations of motherhood. Their beliefs and values are rooted to the concrete circumstances of their lives, their education, income, occupations, and the different marital and family choices that they have made. They represent two different world views of women's roles in contemporary society and as such the abortion issues represents the battleground for the justification of their respective views.

Word Count = 1121

Time Taken =

- Q.1** According to your understanding of the author's arguments which countries are more likely to allow abortion?
- India and China
 - Australia and Mongolia
 - Cannot be inferred from the passage
 - Both (a) and (b)
- Q.2** Which amongst these was **not** a reason for banning of abortions by 1900?
- Medical professionals stressing the health and safety of women.
 - Influx of eastern and southern European immigrants.
 - Control of unlicensed medical practitioners.
 - A tradition of matriarchal control.
- Q.3** A pro-life woman would advocate abortion if
- the mother of an unborn child is suicidal.
 - bearing a child conflicts with a woman's career prospects.

- (c) the mother becomes pregnant accidentally.
(d) None of these.

- Q.4** Pro-choice women object to the notion of the home being the 'women's sphere' because they believe
(a) that the home is a 'joint sphere' shared between men and women.
(b) that reproduction is a matter of choice for women.
(c) that men and women are equal.
(d) Both (b) and (c)

- Q.5** Two health tragedies affecting U.S. society in the 1960s led to

- (a) a change in attitude to women's right to privacy.
(b) retaining the anti-abortion laws with some exceptions.
(c) scrapping of anti-abortion laws.
(d) strengthening of the pro-life lobby.

- Q.6** Historically, the pro-choice movement has got support from, among others:
(a) major patriarchal religions.
(b) countries with low population density.
(c) medical profession.
(d) None of these.

PASSAGE 17

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 6: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

Every conscious mental state has a qualitative character that we refer to as mood. We are always in a mood that is pleasurable or unpleasurable to some degree. It may be that bad moods relate to their being too positive reinforcement in a person's current life and too many punishments. In any case, moods are distinguished from emotions proper by not being tied to any specific object. But, this distinction is not watertight, in that emotions need not be directed at objects that are completely specific (we can be angry just at people generally) while there is always a sense of a mood having a general objective like the state of the world at large. Moods manifest themselves in positive or negative feelings that are tied to health, personality, or perceived quality of life. Moods can also relate to emotions proper, as in the aftermath of an emotional incident such as the failure to secure a loan. A mood on this basis is the mind's judgment on the recent past. For Goldie, emotion can bubble up and down within a mood, while an emotion can involve characteristics that are non-object specific. What is important for marketing is that moods colour outlook and bias judgements. Hence, the importance of consumer confidence surveys, as consumer confidence typically reflects national mood. There is mood-congruence when thoughts and actions fall inline with mood. As Goleman says, there is a 'constant stream of feeling' that runs 'in perfect to our steam of thought'. Mood congruence occurs because a positive mood evokes pleasant associations that lighten subsequent appraisals (thoughts) and actions, while a negative arouses pessimistic associations that influence future judgment and behaviour. When consumers are in a good mood, they are more optimistic about buying more confident in buying, and much more willing to tolerate things like waiting in line. On the other hand, being in a mood makes buying behaviour in the 'right mood' by the use of music and friendly staff or, say, opens bakeries in shopping malls that delight the passer-by with the smell of fresh bread.

Thayer views moods as a mixture of biological and psychological influences and, as such, a sort of clinical thermometer, reflecting all the internal and external events that influence us. For Thayer, the key components of mood are energy and tension in different combinations. A specific mixture of energy and tension, together with the thoughts they influence, produces moods.

He discusses four mood states:

- Calm-energy: he regards this as the optimal mood of feeling good.
- Calm-tiredness: he regards this as feeling a little tired without any stress, which can be pleasant.
- Tense-energy: involves a low level of anxiety suited to a fight-or-flight disposition.
- Tense-tiredness: is a mixture of fatigue and anxiety, which underlies the unpleasant feeling of depression. People generally can 'feel down' or 'feel good' as a result of happenings in the world around them. This represents the national mood. People feel elated when the national soccer team wins an international match or depressed when their team has lost. An elated mood of calm – energy is an optimistic mood, which is good for business. Consumers, as socially involved individuals, are deeply influenced by the prevailing social climate. Marketers recognize the phenomenon and talk about the national mood being, say for or against conspicuous consumption. Moods do change, though. Writing early in the nineteenth century, Toqueville describes an American elite embarrassed by the ostentation of material display; in the 'Gilded Age', sixty years later, many were only too eager to embrace a materialistic vulgarity. The problem lies in anticipating changes in national mood, since a change in mood affects everything from buying of equities to the buying of houses and washing machines. Thayer would argue that we should be interested in national events that are likely to produce a move toward a tense-tiredness state or toward

a calm-energy state, since these are the polar extremes and are more likely to influence behaviour. Artists sensitive to national moods express the long-term changes. An example is the long-term emotional journey from Charles Dickens's depiction of the death of little Nell to Oscar Wilde's cruel flippancy about it. 'One would have to have a heart of stone not to laugh at the death of little Nell', which reflects the mood change from high Victorian sentimentality to the acerbic cynicism of the end of the century, as shown in writers like Thomas Hardy and artists like Aubrey Beardsley. Whenever the mind is not fully absorbed, consciousness is no longer focused and ordered. Under such conditions the mind falls into dwelling on the unpleasant, with a negative mood developing. Csikszentmihalyi argues that humans need to keep consciousness fully active is what influences a good deal of consumer behaviour. Sometimes it does not matter what we are shopping for – the point is to shop for anything, regardless, as consuming is one way to respond to the void in consciousness when there is nothing else to do.

Word Count = 834

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Which one of the following statements best summarizes the above passage?
- The passage highlights how moods affect nations.
 - The passage highlights the importance of moods and emotions in marketing.
 - The passage draws distinction between moods and emotions.
 - Some writers influenced national moods through their writings.
- Q.2** Which of the following is the closest to 'conspicuous consumption' in the passage?
- Audible consumption.
 - Consumption driven by moods and emotions.
 - Socially responsible consumption.
 - Consumption of material items for impressing others.

- Q.3** What is 'moods congruence'?
- When moods and emotions are synchronized.
 - When moods are synchronous with thoughts and actions.
 - When emotions are synchronous with actions and thoughts.
 - When moods are synchronous with thoughts but not with action.
- Q.4** Implication and Proposition are defined as follows: *Implication*: a statement which follows from the given text. *Proposition*: a statement which forms a part of the given text. Consider the two statements below and decide whether they are implications or propositions.
- The marketers should understand and make use of moods and emotions in designing and selling products and services.
 - Consuming is nothing but way of filling the void in consciousness.
- Both statements are implications.
 - First is implication, second is proposition.
 - Both are propositions.
 - First is proposition, second is implication.
- Q.5** Which statements from the ones given below are correct?
- In general, emotions are object specific.
 - In general, moods are not object specific.
 - Moods and emotions are same.
 - As per Thayer, moods are a mix of biological and psychological influences.
- 1, 2, 3
 - 2, 3, 4
 - 2, 4, 3
 - 1, 2, 4
- Q.6** The statement 'Moods provide energy for human actions' is _____.
- always right
 - always wrong
 - sometimes right
 - not derived from the passage

PASSAGE 18

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

Reducing atmospheric CO₂ by a deliberate carbon dioxide removal (CDR) strategy is one option being considered for combating global warming caused by the current high levels of atmospheric CO₂. Before implementation can occur, it is important to have a reference goal for a planned reduction of the global CO₂ concentration against which any specific strategy can be assessed. Scientists agree that a modest

aim would be to seek to reduce the CO₂ concentration by 50 ppm, which is the equivalent of removing 400 gigatons (Gt) of CO₂ or an average of 4 Gt CO₂/year over 100 years. At this substantial level of reduction, it is still expected that dangerous levels of atmospheric CO₂ would persist.

Even in the limiting case in which all emissions of CO₂ cease, it is not straightforward to estimate how much CO₂ must be removed from the atmosphere to lower its content by 4 Gt CO₂ annually. During any period of zero emissions but no CDR implementation, the atmospheric CO₂ concentration

will fall. Ocean currents continually bring deep ocean water to the surface that was last at the surface hundreds of years before, when the atmospheric CO₂ concentration was at its preindustrial value. As equilibrium is established at the ocean surface between CO₂ in the air and dissolved in the ocean, such ocean water scavenges CO₂ from the atmosphere. So, with a time scale of hundreds of years, some atmospheric reduction is done naturally (at the expense of growing acidity in the ocean).

The same requirement for equilibrium at the ocean surface governs the reverse effect that would happen if the concentration of the atmosphere were lowered someday by deliberate removal of CO₂.

There would be an immediate compensating transfer of CO₂ from the ocean to the atmosphere, as a result of which it would be necessary to remove more than one unit of CO₂ from the atmosphere to reduce the atmospheric CO₂ content by one unit. Forest responses add complications, as do deep ocean currents. Today, the combined effect of ocean and land CO₂ ‘sinks’ results, for a time-scale measured in decades, in roughly half of the CO₂ remaining in the atmosphere that was emitted to the atmosphere by the burning of fossil fuel, but the future magnitudes of these sinks are uncertain.

Word Count = 366

Time Taken =

Q.1 The author uses the content in the parentheses at end of the second paragraph to:

- (a) provide additional information about how the natural process of atmospheric CO₂ reduction occurs.
- (b) emphasize the importance of a negative effect that would result from a natural process.
- (c) highlight one result from the many natural processes related to CO₂ removal.
- (d) present a negative effect that is not directly related to the primary purpose of the paragraph.
- (e) show the unexpected consequences that can occur from a seemingly positive natural phenomenon.

Q.2 All of the following are discussed in the passage EXCEPT:

- (a) details on how CO₂ will be removed from the atmosphere by a CDR strategy.
- (b) difficulties in measuring the effects of a CDR strategy on CO₂ reduction.
- (c) increases in atmospheric CO₂ levels resulting from natural processes.
- (d) decreases in atmospheric CO₂ result resulting from natural processes.
- (e) the risk of high atmospheric levels of CO₂ in the atmosphere.

Q.3 Which of the following is listed as a natural phenomenon that would require a CDR strategy to remove CO₂ by an amount greater than its desired CO₂ reduction target?

- (a) the presence of land CO₂ sinks.
- (b) the presence of ocean CO₂ sinks.
- (c) equilibrium at the ocean surface.
- (d) deep ocean water moving to the surface.
- (e) scavenging of CO₂ by the ocean surface.

Q.4 The author discusses ocean and land CO₂ ‘sinks’ in order to:

- (a) explain how much of the CO₂ emitted by the burning of fossil fuels remains in the atmosphere.
- (b) highlight how uncertain the future is regarding the magnitude of CO₂ emissions from fossil fuels.
- (c) highlight the challenges in determining natural effects on CO₂ levels when implementing a CDR strategy.
- (d) clarify why it would be necessary to remove more than one unit of CO₂ from the atmosphere to reduce the atmospheric CO₂ content by one unit.
- (e) emphasize that there are many natural means by which CO₂ is removed from the atmosphere.

PASSAGE 19

Start Time:

End Time:

While there is no fixed model for lowering costs and increasing efficiency in different businesses, automation is one choice that has proved successful in the United States. In industries well suited for automation—ranging from retail and banking to semiconductor and auto manufacturing—the gains in efficiency from switching from traditional to automated manufacturing and automated processes have been remarkable. Consider the situation today for a bank dispersing cash: forty years ago it actually cost the bank to distribute money all day to customers; today, those same banks reap millions in ATM fees from machines that cost

very little to operate. Likewise, consider the time and cost to produce one Ford automobile before the implementation of robotic assembly lines compared to the time and cost today.

Automation has not only lowered operation costs through decreased labour expenses, but also increased efficiency in almost every aspect of production. At companies like Amazon, the handling time for packaging and shipping products has been reduced by over 40 per cent. At GE Medical, which manufactures products that require high levels of precision, errors in manufacturing that were common in the days of

mostly human production are now virtually non-existent. In industries that require work in dangerous environments, the time to complete a particular job has decreased by up to 60 per cent, since time-consuming (and expensive) safety processes can be avoided. While most of this improved efficiency has come about because of gains from the actual robotic machinery, the employees themselves have accounted for some of this improvement. In tasks that require particularly difficult or monotonous work, robots free up workers to focus on higher level oversight jobs for which they get greater satisfaction. This leads to a more productive and efficient workforce, adding to the gains from the automation itself.

Because of examples like these, some business analysts have suggested that widespread automation across all industries would provide a needed acceleration to the struggling productivity numbers in the United States. Yet they miss the important wisdom of John Kenneth Galbraith: **‘it is a wise economist who recognizes the scope of his own generalizations.’** While automation is the right solution for many businesses, there remains a necessity for human insight and flexible decision making in many types of manufacturing businesses for which automation has been recommended. Automation is often the correct choice, but it might actually yield a further decline in productivity numbers if not implemented selectively and appropriately.

Word Count = 399

Time Taken =

- Q.1** The quote highlighted in the third paragraph is most likely used to:
- (a) counter an opinion that the author believes is incorrect.
 - (b) support the author’s belief in automation for increasing efficiency.
 - (c) point out how poorly the author’s opponents have supported their position.
 - (d) point out an inconsistency in a highly debatable viewpoint.
 - (e) challenge the principle introduced in the third paragraph.

- Q.2** Which of the following best describes the role of the second paragraph in the passage above?
- (a) To provide additional examples to support the main idea presented in the first paragraph.
 - (b) To present specific evidence to support the opinion outlined in the third paragraph.
 - (c) To give several examples that contradict the position presented in the third paragraph.
 - (d) To shift the direction of the passage by presenting evidence to support an alternative position.
 - (e) To exemplify the main position of the author with several cases.
- Q.3** Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about automation in manufacturing and other processes?
- (a) It is an essential element for success in majority of businesses.
 - (b) It fits in its most general form to John Kenneth Galbraith’s views for improving efficiency.
 - (c) It was first used in banking and automotive industries.
 - (d) It has been more successful than other methods for lowering costs and improving efficiency.
 - (e) It is taking place more slowly than some business analysts believe is necessary.
- Q.4** Which of the following can be inferred from the passage about errors in manufacturing?
- (a) They are an unavoidable problem in traditional manufacturing systems.
 - (b) They are the most important problem to fix through automation.
 - (c) They are an essential element for success when switching to automation from traditional manufacturing.
 - (d) They are a phenomenon found more often in traditional manufacturing than in automated manufacturing.
 - (e) They are an obstacle to increased efficiency and lower costs in traditional production.

PASSAGE 20

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 7: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

India is renowned for its diversity. Dissimilitude abounds in every sphere – from the physical elements of its land and people to the intangible workings of its beliefs and practices. Indeed, given this variety, India itself appears to be not a single entity but an amalgamation, a ‘constructs’ arising from the conjoining of innumerable, discrete parts. Modern scholarship has, quite properly, tended to explore these elements in isolation. (In part, this trend represents

the conscious reversal of the stance taken by an earlier generation of scholars whose work reified India into a monolithic entity – a critical element in the much maligned ‘Orientalist’ enterprise). Nonetheless, the representation of India as a singular ‘Whole’ is not an entirely capricious enterprise; for India is an identifiable entity, united by – if not born out of – certain deep and pervasive structures. Thus, for example, the Hindu tradition has long maintained a body of mythology that weaves the disparate temples, gods, even geographic landscapes that exist throughout the subcontinent into a unified, albeit syncretic, whole. In

the realm of thought, there is no more pervasive, unifying structure than *karma*. It is the 'doctrine' or 'law' that ties actions to results and creates a determinant link between an individual's status in this life and his or her fate in future lives. Following what is considered to be its appearances in the Upanishads, the doctrine reaches into nearly every corner of Hindu thought. Indeed, its dominance is such in the Hindu world view that *karma* encompasses, at the same time, life-affirming and life-negating functions; for just as it defines the world in terms of the 'positive' function of delineating a doctrine of rewards and punishments, so too it defines the world through its 'negative' representation of action as an all but inescapable trap, an unremitting cycle of death and rebirth. Despite – or perhaps because of – *karma*'s ubiquity, the doctrine is not easily defined. Wendy Doniger O'Flaherty reports of a scholarly conference devoted to the study of *karma* that although the participants admitted to a general sense of the doctrine's parameters, considerable time was in a, 'lively but ultimately vain attempt to define ... karma and rebirth'. The base meaning of the term '*karma*' (or, more precisely, in its Sanskrit stem form, *karman* a neuter substantive) is 'action'. As a doctrine, *karma* encompasses a number of quasi-independent concepts: rebirth (*punarjanam*), consequence (*phala*, literally 'fruit,' a term that suggests the 'ripening' of actions into consequences), and the valuation or 'ethicization' of acts, qualifying them as either 'good' (*punya* or *sukarman*) or 'bad' (*papam* or *duskarman*). In a general way, however, for at least the past two thousand years, the following (from the well known text, the *Bhagavata Parana*) has held true as representing the principal elements of the *karma* doctrine: 'The same person enjoys the fruit of the same sinful or a meritorious act in the next world in the same manner and to the same extent according to the manner and extent, to which that (sinful or meritorious) act has been done by him in this world.' Nevertheless, depending on the doctrine's context, which itself ranges from its appearance in a vast number of literary sources to its usage on the popular level, not all these elements may be present (though in a general way, they may be implicit).

Word Count = 553

Time Taken =

- Q.1** The orientalist perspective, according to the author:
- Viewed India as a country of diversity.
 - Viewed India as if it was a single and unitary entity devoid of diversity.
 - Viewed India both as single and diverse entity.
 - Viewed India as land of *karma*.

- Q.2** 'Reify' in the passage means:
- To make real out of abstract
 - Reversal of stance
 - Unitary whole
 - Diversity
- Q.3** 'Ethicization' in the passage means:
- Process of making something ethical
 - Converting unethical persons into ethical
 - Judging and evaluation
 - Teaching ethics
- Q.4** Consider the following statements:
- Meaning of karma is contextual.
 - Meaning of karma is not unanimous.
 - Meaning of karma includes many other quasi-independent concepts.
 - Karma also means actions and their rewards.
- Which of the statements are true?
- 1, 2, 3
 - 2, 3, 4
 - 1, 3, 4
 - All the four are true
- Q.5** The base meaning of karma is
- reward and punishment.
 - only those actions which yield a 'phala'.
 - any action.
 - ripening of actions into consequences.
- Q.6** As per the author, which of the following statements is wrong?
- India is a diverse country.
 - Doctrine of karma runs across divergent Hindu thoughts.
 - Doctrine of karma has a rich scholarly discourse.
 - Scholars could not resolve the meaning of karma.
- Q.7** Which of the following, if true, would be required for the concept of karma – as defined in Bhagavata Purana – to be made equally valid across different space-time combinations?
- Karma is judged based on the observers' perception, and hence, the observer is a necessary condition for its validity.
 - Karma is an orientalist concept limited to oriental countries.
 - Each epoch will have its own understanding of karma and therefore there cannot be uniform validity of the concept of karma.
 - The information of the past actions and the righteousness of each action would be embodied in the individual.

PASSAGE 21

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

The University Grants Commission's (UGC), directive to college and university lecturers to spend a minimum of 22 hours a week in direct teaching is the product of budgetary cutbacks rather than pedagogic wisdom. It may seem odd, at first blush, that teachers should protest about teaching a mere 22 hours. However, if one considers the amount of time academics require to prepare lectures of good quality as well as the time they need to spend doing research, it is clear that most conscientious teachers work more than 40 hours a week. In university systems around the world, lecturers rarely spend more than 12 to 15 hours in direct teaching activities a week. The average college lecturer in India does not have any office space. If computers are available, internet connectivity is unlikely. Libraries are poorly stocked. Now, the UGC says universities must implement a complete **freeze** on all permanent recruitment, abolish all posts which have been vacant for more than a year, and cut staff strength by 10 per cent. And it is in order to ensure that these cutbacks do not affect the quantum of teaching that existing lecturers are being asked to work longer. Obviously, the quality of teaching and academic work in general will decline. While it is true that some college teachers do not take their classes regularly, the UGC and the Institutions concerned must find a proper way to hold them accountable. An absentee teacher will continue to play truant even if the number of hours he is required to teach goes up.

All of us are well aware of the unsound state that the Indian higher education system is in today. Thanks to years of **sustained** financial neglect, most Indian universities and colleges do no research worth the name. Even as the number of students entering colleges has increased dramatically, public investment in higher education has actually declined in relative terms. Between 1985 and 1997, when public expenditure on higher education as a percentage of outlays on all levels of education grew by more than 60 per cent in Malaysia and 20 per cent in Thailand, India showed a decline of more than 10 per cent. Throughout the world, the number of teachers in higher education per million populations grew by more than 10 per cent. In the same period

in India, it fell by one per cent. Instead of transferring the burden of government apathy on to the backs of the teachers, the UGC should insist that the needs of the country's university system are adequately catered for.

Word Count = 424

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Which of the following is the reason for the sorry state of affairs of the Indian Universities as mentioned in the passage?
- (a) The poor quality of teachers.
 - (b) Involvement of teachers in extra-curricular activities.
 - (c) Politics within and outside the departments.
 - (d) Not getting enough financial assistance.
- Q.2** Which of the following statements/is/are **TRUE** in the context of the passage?
- A. Most colleges do not carry out research worth the name.
 - B. UGC wants lecturers to spend minimum 22 hours a week in direct teaching.
 - C. Indian higher education system is in unsound state.
- (a) Only A and C
 - (b) All A, B and C
 - (c) Only C
 - (d) Only B
- Q.3** Besides direct teaching, University teachers spend considerable time in/on
- (a) administrative activities such as admissions.
 - (b) supervising examinations and correction of answer papers.
 - (c) carrying out research in the area of their interest.
 - (d) maintaining research equipment and libraries.
- Q.4** What is the UGC directive to the universities?
- (a) Improve the quality of teaching.
 - (b) Spend time on research activities.
 - (c) Do not appoint any permanent teacher.
 - (d) Provide computer and internet facilities.

PASSAGE 22

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

At one time, it would have been impossible to imagine the integration of different religious thoughts, ideas and ideals. That is because of the closed society, the lack of any communication or interdependence on other nations. People were happy and content amongst themselves; they did not need any more. The physical distance and cultural barriers prevented any exchange of thought and beliefs. But such is not the case today. Today, the world has become a much smaller place, thanks to the adventures and miracles of science. Foreign nations have become our next door neighbours. Mingling of population is bringing about an interchange of thought. We are slowly realizing that the world is a single cooperative group. Other religions have become forces with which we have to **reckon** and we are seeking for ways and means by which we can live together in peace and harmony. We cannot have religious unity and peace so long as we assert that we are in possession of the light and all others are groping in the darkness. That very assertion is a challenge to a fight. The political ideal of the world is not so much a single empire with a homogeneous, civilization and single communal will a brotherhood of free nations differing **profoundly** in life and mind, habits and institutions, existing side by side in peace and order, harmony and cooperation and each contributing to the world its own unique and specific best, which is irreducible to the terms of the others.

The cosmopolitanism of the eighteenth century and the nationalism of the nineteenth are combined in our ideal of a world commonwealth, which allows every branch of the human family to find freedom, security and self-realisation in the larger life of making. I see no hope for the religious future of the world, if this ideal is not extended to the religious sphere also. When two or three different systems claim that they contain the revelation of the very core and center of truth and the acceptance of it is the exclusive pathway to heaven, conflicts are inevitable. In such conflicts one religion will not allow others to steal a march over it and no one can gain ascendancy until the world is reduced to dust and ashes. To obliterate every other religion than one's is a sort of Bolshevism in religion which we must try to prevent. We can do so only if we accept something like the Indian solution, which seeks the unity of religion not in a common creed but in a common quest. Let us believe in a unity of spirit and not of organization, a unity which secures ample liberty not only for every individual but for every type of organized life which has proved itself effective.

For almost all historical forms of life and thought can claim the sanction of experience and so the authority of God. The world would be a much poorer thing if one creed absorbed the rest. God wills a rich harmony and not a colourless uniformity. The comprehensive and synthetic spirit of Indianism had made it a mighty forest with a thousand waving arms each fulfilling its function and all directed by the spirit of God. Each thing in its place and all associated in the divine concert making with their various voices and even dissonance, as Heraclites would say, the most exquisite harmony should be our ideal.

Word Count = 566

Time Taken =

- Q.1** According to the passage, religious unity and peace can be obtained if
- (a) we believe that the world is a single cooperative group.
 - (b) we do not assert that we alone are in possession of the real knowledge.
 - (c) we believe in a unity of spirit and not of organization.
 - (d) we believe that truth does matter and will prevail.
- Q.2** Which of the following according to the passage is the Indian solution?
- (a) Belief
 - (b) Organization
 - (c) Creed
 - (d) Search
- Q.3** According to the passage, the political ideal of the contemporary world is to
- (a) create a single empire with a homogeneous civilization.
 - (b) foster the unity of all the religions of the world.
 - (c) create a world commonwealth preserving religious diversity of all the nations.
 - (d) None of these.
- Q.4** According to the passage, the world would be a much poorer thing if
- (a) one religion swallows all other religions.
 - (b) one religion accepts the supremacy of other religions.
 - (c) religions adopt toleration as a principle of spiritual life.
 - (d) we do not achieve the ideal of brotherhood of free nations.

PASSAGE 23

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 5: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

The debt swap scheme is one among the various market-based debt restructuring measures available to provide debt relief without hampering the interest of the creditor. The basic notion of debt swap/conversion is relatively simple. The principle is that instead of continuing to make interest payments on outstanding loans contracted in past at a very high rate, the debtor is able to find some other means of setting the debt which is satisfactory to both the debtor and creditor. The debt swap can be of various types, the most prominent being the debt-equity swaps, or debt-to-debt swaps. Debt-equity swaps are exchange of bonds or bank loans for ownership right to equity. Such debt-equity swaps have formed part of private corporations restructuring process for some time.

The debt swap whether internal or external has an **array** of macroeconomic **effects**. It is to be noted that in any debt swap scheme, the debtor must surrender an asset in return for having a liability extinguished. For example, in case of debt-equity swap, debt is exchanged by a claim on capital stock owned by the debtor. In the case of external debt, if the government **retires** external debt by issuing domestic bonds, in a balanced budget there are no real effects beyond those created by the initial wealth effect: the economy will display a current account surplus, accompanied by an initial appreciation of parallel exchange rate and a high real interest rate. These effects are independent of the discounts received by the government.

The practice of debt-equity swap or debt-to-debt swap particularly in the context of external debt has given rise to active controversy. The debate covers wide-ranging issues such as welfare characteristics of such swaps, their potential for reducing net capital flows, and the degree to which swap can reduce the negative incentive effects of debt overhang. Attention has also been paid on the effect of debt swap on the secondary market prices of debt. In the case of external debt, Mexico and Brazil suspended the debt conversion programme, because they can be inflationary as they put **excessive** pressure on the free market for foreign exchange or because swapping of foreign debt with domestic debt can be expensive.

If the debt is swapped through money financing, it leads to an expansion of money supply. If the government can run **sustained** deficits, the fiscal side provides a key link through which swaps can create macroeconomic disequilibrium. In a deficit situation, if the supply of bond is increased to swap the debt, and if the discounts obtained by the government due to interest rate differential are not large enough to cover the deficit, government will have to issue fresh bonds, which in turn may push up the interest rate. Finally, if the government continues to run a fiscal deficit and to avoid inflationary

effects if it relies mostly on debt for bonds swapped and if this in turn leads to an accumulation of domestic debt, which the public expects will eventually be monetized, the domestic rate of inflation will immediately begin to rise.

In the case of the debt swap scheme between central and state governments in India, states can restructure their debt by pre-payment of high cost central debt with additional market borrowing at a lower rate of interest. Essentially, this should result in the reduction in the average cost of debt of the State Government. However, that would largely depend on the volume of savings in the interest cost in relation to the outstanding debt stock available for swapping. Despite the savings in interest cost due to debt swap, if a large gap is to be filled by additional borrowing, there is a possibility that swap-induced additional market borrowing may put pressure on the interest rate. Also, in an extreme case, continuous financing of swappable debt through bond financing may fuel inflation if the **holder** of the bond expects that debt will eventually be monetized. It is evident from this discussion that aggressive debt restructuring proposed to reap the benefit of low interest rate regime at times may itself become the cause of hardening of future interest rates.

Word Count = 684

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Which of the following measures had been adopted by private Corporations in restructuring process?
- (a) Exchange of bonds for ownership rights with share-holders.
 - (b) Providing debt relief to bond holders without raising the interest rate.
 - (c) Settling the debt in exchange of reserves.
 - (d) Borrowing from banks by mortgaging equity shares.
- Q.2** Which of the following is the recommendation of the author to stabilize the interest rates?
- (a) State Government should stop borrowing from Central Government.
 - (b) The debt restructuring should be done at bare minimum level.
 - (c) The foreign debts should be swapped immediately.
 - (d) The debt-equality swap should be banned.
- Q.3** Which factors complied Latin American countries to keep in abeyance the debt swap programme?
- (a) The welfare characteristics of the programme were unfavourable.
 - (b) The conversion with foreign debts was perceived to be expensive.
 - (c) Net capital flow started increasing.
 - (d) Positive incentive effects of debt started decreasing.

- Q.4** What will happen if government decides to issue fresh bonds in a deficit situation?
- (a) The microeconomic equilibrium will shift to negative side.
 - (b) The price of initial bonds will decrease.
 - (c) This step will mess up the economy completely.
 - (d) The interest rates will start increasing.

- Q.5** Which factors may raise the inflation rate on domestic side?
- A. If accumulated internal debts start getting monetized.
 - B. If interest rates start reducing for public borrowings.
 - C. If debt swap is done through his sue of bonds in a deficit situation.
- (a) Only A (b) Only B
(c) Only A and B (d) Either A and C

PASSAGE 24

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

For more than three years, Anna Feng did not tell her husband that she had sunk nearly half of their savings into the Shanghai stock market. While he thought all their money was safely sitting in a bank, the value of the stocks **plunged** by almost 75%. But over the past couple of months, the Shanghai market has shown signs of life, and Feng, a 56-year old retiree, has recouped half her losses. She is quietly hopeful that may be she will make it all back. 'Everyone seems to be so optimistic about the markets now,' she says.

Around the world, stocks have been on a tear. In Asia, for example, the Tokyo TOPIX stock index hit a 14-year high last week as a bull run in once-dormant Japan gathered momentum; Mumbai's main equity index hit an all-time high in trading early Friday amid India's continuing economic boom; and Hong Kong shares reached a five year high while indices in Singapore, Jakarta and Sydney set new records. And though stock in Asia, in particular, are on fire, they are not alone. From Germany to Venezuela to South Africa, equity markets in both mature and emerging markets have moved up sharply this year and show little sign of slowing.

The underpinning of stocks strong performance, global bulls say, is straightforward. Economic growth continues to be strong in places where it has been buoyant for several years (the U.S., China and India) and is finally picking up in places where it had been notably absent Japan and parts of 'old' Europe. Moreover, earning and corporate balance sheets around the world as healthy as they have been in years. In Japan, corporate profits have climbed for four straight years and consumer spending is rising briskly on the back of declining unemployment. Economists say that Japan is now in a golden cycle. So, for now, is much of the world. 'It comes down to very simple macroeconomics,' Says Subir Gokam, an economist at CRISIL, India's largest credit rating firm, 'the global economy is growing without much inflationary pressure.'

Is anything wrong with this picture?

One very big thing. Warn the **skeptics**. Interest rates are rising nearly everywhere, and if there is one simple adage that many investment advisers live by, it's this 'when rates are high, stocks will die.' Indeed, one of the most impressive-or scariest-aspects of the current global bull run is that it has come in the teeth of central-bank tightening. Most importantly by the U.S. Federal Reserve, which could slow growth in the world's key economic locomotives. The Fed has increased key short-term interest rate the so-called Fed funds rate 15 times dating back to June 2004, and is widely expected to raise it once or twice more over the next few months. A brief recession and the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks in 2001 **spurred** a prolonged period of very low interest rates. That **boosted** U.S. consumption-in particular the rate-sensitive housing market-and kept the global economy humming. But long-term rates are now beginning to tick upward: last week the U.S 30-year treasury bond reached 5.04% – it's highest level since late 2004, and the housing market is cooling off-potentially triggering an economic slowdown as home-owners cut their spending.

Word Count = 540
Time Taken =

- Q.1** According to the passage, what makes people hopeful about the markets?
- (a) The descent in the value of stocks.
 - (b) The trend of substantial increase in value of stocks.
 - (c) Safety provided by banks to their deposits.
 - (d) Optimism of the stock market players.
- Q.2** Which of the following is TRUE about the comparison between market indices of Mumbai and Hong Kong on the one hand and Singapore, Jakarta and Sydney on the other?
- (a) The indices in the former case are increasing while those in the latter are decreasing.

- (b) There is no remarkable trend visible between the two sets of indices.
- (c) Indices in both the groups of exercises are stable over a period of last five years.
- (d) The markets in both the groups of countries have shown upward trend.

Q.3 In what way did the terrorist attack in the US influence the markets?

- (a) It led to a brief recession.
- (b) It increased long-term need for housing.
- (c) It helped increase the interest rates on housing.
- (d) It prolonged the low interest rate regime.

Q.4 Which of the following is/are the reason(s) for the statement that 'Japan is now in golden cycle'?

- A. It is an economic growth without much inflationary pressure.
- B. Japan witnessed a substantial increase in corporate profits for the last four years.
- C. There are more employment avenues open and consumer's spending has increased significantly.
- (a) All the three A, B and C
- (b) A and B only
- (c) Either B and C only
- (d) A and C only

PASSAGE 25

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 3: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

Political **plays** initially hailed as masterstrokes often end up as flops. The ₹60,000 crores farm loan waiver announced in the budget writes off 100% of overdue of small and marginal farmers holding up to two hectares, and 25% of overdue of larger farmers. While India has enjoyed 8%–9% GDP growth for the past few years, the boom has bypassed many rural areas and farmer distress and suicides have made newspaper headlines. Various attempts to provide relief (employment guarantee scheme, Public distribution system) have made little impact, thanks to huge leakages from the government's lousy delivery systems. So, many economists think the loan waiver is a worthwhile alternative to provide relief.

However, the poorest rural folk are landless labourers, who get neither farm loans nor waivers. Half of the small and marginal farmers get no loans from banks and depend entirely on moneylenders and will not benefit. Besides, rural India is full of the family holdings rather than individual holdings and family holding will typically be much larger than two hectares even for dirt-poor farmers, who will, therefore, be denied the 100% waiver. It will, thus, fail in both economic and political objectives. IRDP loans to the rural poor in the 1980s demonstrated that crooked bank officials demand bribes amounting to one-third the intended benefits. Very few of the intended beneficiaries who **merited** relief received it. After the last farm loan waiver will similarly, slow down fresh loans to deserving farmers. While overdue to cooperatives may be higher, economist Surjit Bhalla says less than 5% of farmer loans to banks are overdue, i.e., overdue exist for only 2.25 million out of 90 million farmers. If so, then the 95% who have repaid loans will not gain benefit. They will be angry at being penalized for honesty.

The budget thus grossly overestimates the number of beneficiaries. It also underestimates the negative effects of the waiver-encouraging wilful default in the future and discouraging fresh bank lending for some years. Instead of trying to reach the needy, through a **plethora** of leaky schemes we should transfer cash directly to the needy using new technology like biometric smart cards, which are now being used in many countries and mobile phones bank accounts. Then benefits can go directly to phone accounts operable only by those with biometric cards, ending the massive leakages of current schemes.

The political benefits of the loan waiver have also been exaggerated since if only and many of these have to pay bribes to get the actual benefit, will the waiver really be a massive vote-winner? Members of joint families will feel **aggrieved** that, despite having less than one hectare per head, their family holding is too large to qualify for the 100% waiver. All Finance Ministers, of Central or State Governments give away freebies in their last budgets hoping to win electoral regards. Yet, four-fifth of all **incumbent** governments is voted out. This shows that beneficiaries of favours are not notably grateful, while those not so favoured may feel aggrieved and vote for the opposition. That seems to be why election budgets constantly fail to win elections in India and the loan waiver will not change that pattern.

Word Count = 528

Time Taken =

Q.1 What message will the loan waiver send to farmers who have repaid loans?

- (a) The Government will readily provide them with loans in the future.
- (b) As opposed to moneylenders banks are a safer and more reliable source of credit.

- (c) Honesty is the best policy.
(d) They will be angry at being penalized for honesty.

- Q.2** What are the terms of the loan waiver?
- A. One-fourth of the overdue loans of landless labourers will be written off.
B. The ₹60,000 crores loan waiver has been sanctioned for 2.25 million marginal farmers.
C. Any farmer with between 26 per cent to 100 per cent of their loan repayments overdue will be penalized.

- (a) Only A (b) Only B
(c) Both B and C (d) All A, B and C

- Q.3** What is the author's view of the loan waiver?
- (a) It will have an adverse psychological impact on those who cannot avail the waiver.
(b) It is a justified measure in view of the high suicide rate among landless labourers.
(c) It makes sound economic and political sense in the existing scenario.
(d) It will ensure that the benefits of India's high GDP are felt by the rural poor.

PASSAGE 26

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 5: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

Giving loans to impoverished women to make ceramics or to farmers to buy cows were not seen as great business. Microfinance was an industry championed by anti-poverty activists. Today it is on the **verge** of a revolution, with billions of dollars from big banks, private-equity shops and pension funds pouring in, driving growth of 30% to 40% this year alone. In 1998, a non-profit microfinance organization in Peru, converted into bank (called Mibanco). This demonstrated that the poor are good risks who repay loans on time and getting them together, not only chips away at poverty but also turns a profit. The success of Mibanco has **piqued** the interest of commercial banks, which has previously shunned the country's poor. Now, big banks are going after Mibanco's clients with low-rate loans and realizing it takes special know-how to work with the unbanked – are hiring away Mibanco's staff.

But with the emergence of players who are only out for profit, microfinance schemes could end up milking the poor. This could happen in countries where lenders do not have to disclose interest rates. When a Mexican microfinancier went public, revealing its loans had rates of about 86% annually; the Consultative Group to Assist the Poor (CGAP) criticized it for putting shareholders ahead of clients. The pressure of turn a profit also forces microfinance's to change their business models in ways that **depart** from the industry's core mission: to help poor people to lead better lives. Such shifts have caused the average loan size to triple. Moreover smaller loans being costlier to service, a lower percentage of loans go to women because, according to CGAP, with the flood of new large entities there is the risk that a large percentage of cross border funds go to Latin America and Eastern Europe, the world's most developed microfinance markets. 'The poorest of the world's poor who are predominantly in Asia and Africa get left out,' says the CEO of the

non-profit Grameen Foundation, which helps to develop microfinance institutions.

Segmenting the industry, might be worthwhile if it allows more of the poor to get access to credit. Multinational corporations could take the top microfinance institutions to the next level and the remainder could be the responsibility of development groups and regional banks. Yet making loans to poor people is hardly a poverty cure. Property rights and the rule of law matter too. One cannot over idealize what microfinance alone can do. Most non-profits started with lending simply because local laws prohibited non-bank from offering deposit accounts. With an increase in competition and marketing efforts, poverty alleviation experts are concerned that people will be talked into loans they would not otherwise want, for example organizations like Mibanco are providing consumer loans. There is nothing wrong with buying TVs and microwaves on credit, but certain markets, like Mexico, have been flooded with loans that have nothing to do with providing capital to **aspiring** entrepreneurs – just increasing household debt.

Word Count = 487

Time Taken =

- Q.1** What does the transformation of Peru's non-profit organization into bank illustrate?
- A. To compete with commercial banks, microfinance institutions should convert into banks and offer a wide variety of services.
B. Microfinance institutions turn higher profits as banks since interest rates on loans are at their discretion.
C. The poor prefer to go to large banks rather than NGOs to obtain loans.
(a) None (b) Both A and B
(c) All A, B and C (d) Only A

- Q.2** Why did most microfinance institutions initially provide only credit services?
- (a) They were unable to compete with the interest rates offered on deposits by commercial banks.
 - (b) They have to operate purely on a non-profit basis.
 - (c) Government restrictions prevented them from offering additional services.
 - (d) To ensure the poor have access to modern necessities like microwaves.
- Q.3** What is CGAP's fear with respect to new entities providing microfinance?
- (a) NGO will be unable to survive in an environment of cut throat competition.
 - (b) The poor will hesitate to take advantage of credit facilities because of the formalities involved.
 - (c) The poor in the developed world will be overlooked.
 - (d) The interests of the most deserving among the poor will be neglected.

- Q.4** What is the author's opinion about the competition for customers among microfinanciers?
- (a) It benefits the poor by providing them with loans they would have otherwise not had access to.
 - (b) It is futile since the poor have to pay high rates of interest in case of property loans.
 - (c) It is not beneficial since firms waste their profits on marketing rather than helping the poor.
 - (d) None of these.
- Q.5** Which of the following is/are consequence/s of microfinanciers altering their business models?
- A. Larger loan amounts get sanctioned.
 - B. Debt among the poor has fallen in some countries.
 - C. Drop in the loans awarded to women.
- (a) Both A and B (b) Both A and C
(c) Only C (d) All A, B and C

PASSAGE 27

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

It is difficult to compare countries because various factors such as size, culture, history, geography, natural **endowments**, geopolitics and internal polity comes into play. There are some goals which can be achieved by smaller countries; but sometimes smaller countries find it difficult to embark upon certain big technological plans even if they have the funds, because the size of the domestic market is too small. If we consider the bigger countries, the closest comparison to India is China, though there are many **crucial** differences.

The Chinese vision is to prepare the country for entry into the ranks of mid-level developed nations by the middle of the twenty-first century. Acceleration of his nation's economic growth and social development by relying on advances in science and technology is **pivotal** in this.

Documents describing the Chinese vision state that science and technology constitute premier productive forces and represent a great revolutionary power that can propel economic and social development. It is interesting to note that the main lessons the Chinese have drawn from their past performance is their failure to promote science and technology as strategic tools for empowerment. They also point to the absence of mechanisms and motivations in their economic activity to promote dependences on science and technology. Similarly, they hold that their scientific and technological efforts were not **oriented**. They conclude that a large number of achievements were

not converted into productive forces as they were too far removed from China's immediate economic and social needs. The Chinese vision is, therefore, aimed at exploiting state-of-art science and technology to enhance the nation's overall power and strength, to improve the people's living standards, to focus on resolving problems encountered in large-scale industrial and agricultural production and to effectively control and alleviate pressures brought on by population resources and the environment. By the year 2000, China had aimed at bringing the main industrial sectors up to the technological levels achieved by the developed countries in the 1970s or 80s and by 2020 to the level they would have attained by the early twenty-first century. The aim is to bridge an overall gap with the advanced world. There is a special emphasis on research and development of high technologies that would find defence applications. Some of these technologies are critical for improving the features of key **conventional** weapons. Some technologies are meant for enhancing future military capabilities. Other efforts are aimed at maintaining the momentum to develop capabilities for cutting-edge defence technologies. They call for defence technologies. They call for unrelenting efforts in this regard with the aim of maintaining effective self-defence and nuclear deterrent capabilities and to enable **parity** in defence, science and technology with the advanced world.

Word Count = 446

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Comparison between two countries becomes difficult because
- the countries differ in their internal political systems.
 - each country has its own culture and natural resources which differ from those of others.
 - the countries with homogeneous backgrounds are many in number.
- Only A
 - Only B
 - Only A and B
 - All the three A, B and C
- Q.2** Which of the following have the Chinese identified as their pitfall(s) from their past?
- Lack of orientation of Science and Technology towards economic growth.
 - Lack of mechanisms in their economic activities to promote use of Science and Technology.
 - Neglect of Science and Technology as a strategic measure for empowerment.
- Only A and B
 - Only B and C
 - Only A and C
 - All the three A, B and C

- Q.3** Which of the following is/are the expected result/s of China's new visions?
- To augment peoples' standard of living.
 - To tackle pressure effectively brought on by the population.
 - To utilize modern technology for bringing the latent power under control.
- Only A and B
 - Only B and C
 - Only A and C
 - All the three A, B and C
- Q.4** Which of the following is the essence of the contents of the passage?
- Enormous population of the country can be positively utilized for developments.
 - Scientific and Technological principles may not necessarily be instrumental in economic growth.
 - Harmonious development of a country can take place even in the absence of technology upgradation.
 - Economic growth needs to be driven by science and technology.

PASSAGE 28

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

We have witnessed several disasters in recent times, some natural others man-made. The **frequency** of such calamities has injured us and deadened our collective sensitivity, but that does not reduce the enormity of the personal tragedy of each victim's family and community. The economic loss is only secondary to the human suffering, but is also substantial. The Government whether State or Central has standardized its response. This consists of reacting late, blaming others, visits by VIPs announcing a relief package including compensation for those affected and then forgetting all about it. There seems to be little attempt at drawing lessons from each disaster, storing the knowledge for future use, long-term planning for possible **pre-emptive** action. Preparedness for disasters thus falls short of what is possible using today's technologies.

Floods in many parts of India like the states of Bihar and Assam are a yearly phenomenon. Yet the government seems to be caught by surprise year after year. It is obvious that tarpaulins, vaccines, medicines, clothes, satellite phones, large numbers of doctors and paramedical staff, etc., will be needed as will boats and buses for evacuation. This is known to all those who have combated emergencies yet the non-availability of these essential services and

commodities occur. Worse the organizational structure and mechanisms for dealing with disasters are **lethargic** and ill-defined. The National Disaster Management Agency, set up a short time ago being a central government agency has limitations relating to **infringing** the jurisdiction of states. It could have aggregated and disseminated experiences and knowledge, stocked many of the essential items required in an emergency or worked with agencies to ensure sufficient stocks, but has not

While the reaction to major disasters is **dismal**, the response to emergencies like accident is equally sad. Victims lie unattended since passers by are wary of getting caught in a labyrinthine of police and legal systems. The resulting delay in treatment converts injuries into deaths. Of late, unique and free service to provide assistance in emergency cases is operational. Emergency Management and Research Institute (EMRI) is a professionally managed operation initiated by the vision and grant from Ramalinga Raju. The service which is a successful example of public private partnership likely to become operational in a few states in the near future. Given the sad failure of conventional government organizations in handling disasters, it is time we looked at the PPP model as an alternative without the government seeking in any way to abdicate its responsibility. While the state provides the funding, private organizations will provide the drive, profession-

alism, competent management and output linked efficiency of a good corporate organization. Combining the sensitivity and purpose of an NGO with private entrepreneurial drive to handle disasters together is thus a worthwhile challenge for both corporate and the government.

Word Count = 463

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Which of the following is NOT true in the context of the passage?
- (a) Man-made disasters occur more frequently than natural disasters.
 - (b) The Public Private Participation model has been successful in handling emergencies.
 - (c) Floods occur every year in some Indian states.
 - (d) Analysis of previous disasters will help us to cope with future ones.
- Q.2** What is the author's view on the government's current reaction to natural disasters?
- (a) The government has not been able to handle disaster and should seek foreign aid.
 - (b) A Central Government agency should be set to speed-up coordination in rescue efforts.
 - (c) It has failed to utilize donations effectively to provide relief.

- (d) The government is apathetic and has not managed to handle disasters effectively.

- Q.3** What does the author consider 'a worthwhile challenge for both corporate and the government'?
- (a) Governments should gradually transfer disaster management to corporates.
 - (b) Their working together to manage disasters completely keeping public interests in mind.
 - (c) Reducing the incidence of man-made disasters.
 - (d) Mitigating the financial losses sustained during natural disasters.
- Q.4** Which of the following has/have been the impact/s of consistently occurring natural disasters?
- A. The Government has initiated a long-term planning process to handle them.
 - B. Use of technology in combating disasters has increased in India.
 - C. The Government is not caught unawares when such disasters occur.
- (a) None of these
 - (b) Only B
 - (c) Both A and C
 - (d) Both A and B

PASSAGE 29

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

John Maynard Keynes, the trendiest dead economist of this **apocalyptic** moment, was the godfather of government stimulus. Keynes had the radical idea that throwing money at recessions through aggressive deficit spending would **resuscitate** flailing economies and he was not too particular about where the money was thrown. In the depths of the Depression, he suggested that the Treasury could, 'fill old bottles with banknotes, bury them at suitable depths in disused coal mines', then sit back and watch a money-mining boom create jobs and prosperity. 'It would, indeed, be more sensible to build houses and the like,' he wrote, but above would be better than nothing.

As President-elect Barack Obama prepares to throw money at the current down turn a stimulus package starting at about \$350 billion chunk of the financial bailout-we all really do seem to be Keynesians now. Just about every expert agrees that pumping \$1 trillion into a **moribund** economy will rev up the ethereal goods-and services engine that Keynes called 'aggregate demand' and stimulate at least some short-term activity, even if it is all wasted on money pits. But Keynes was also right that there would be more sensible ways to spend it. A trillion dollars' worth of bad ideas sprawl-inducing highways and bridges to nowhere,

ethanol plants and pipelines that accelerate global warming, tax breaks for overleveraged Mac mansion builders and burdensome new long-term federal entitlements-would be worse than mere waste. It would be smarter to buy every American an iPod, a set of Ginsu knives and 600 Subway footlongs.

It would be smarter still to throw all that money at things we need to do anyway which is the goal of Obama's upcoming American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan. It will include a mix of tax cuts, aid to beleaguered state and local governments, and spending to address needed ranging from food stamps to computerized health records to bridge repairs to broadband networks to energy-efficiency retrofits, all designed to save or create 3 million to 4 million jobs by the end of 2010. Obama has said speed is his top priority because the faster Washington injects cash into the financial bloodstream, the better it stands to help avert a multi year slump with double-digit unemployment and deflation. But he also wants to use the stimulus to advance his long-term priorities: reducing energy use and carbon emissions, cutting middle-class taxes, upgrading neglected infrastructure, reining in health-care costs and eventually reducing the budget deficits that exploded under George W. Bush. Obama's goal is to exploit this crisis in the best sense of the word, to start pursuing his vision of a greener, fairer, more competitive, more sustainable economy.

Unfortunately, while 21st century Washington has demonstrated an impressive ability to spend money quickly, it has yet to prove that it can spend money wisely. And the chum of a 1 with 12 zeros is already creating a feeding frenzy for the ages. Lobbyists for shoe companies, zoos, catfish farmers. Mall owners, airlines, public broadcasters, car dealers and everyone else who can afford their retainers are lining up for a piece of the stimulus. States that embarked on **raucous** spending and tax-cutting sprees when they were flush are begging for bailouts now that they're broke. And politicians are dusting off their unfunded mobster museums, waterslides and other pet projects for regrinding as shovel ready infrastructure investments. As Obama's aides scramble to assemble something effective and transformative as well as politically achievable, they acknowledge the tension between his desires for speed and reform.

Word Count = 597

Time Taken =

- Q.1** John M. Keynes was advocate of which of the following suggestions?
- (a) Spending money recklessly during recessions is suicidal.
 - (b) Exorbitant spending during recessions is likely to boost economy.
 - (c) Aggressive deficit spending is likely to be fatal for economic meltdown.
 - (d) Government stimulus to economy may not help because of redtapism.
- Q.2** The author of the passage calls Barack Obama and his team as 'Keynesians' because

- (a) Barack Obama has been reluctant to follow Keynes' philosophy.
- (b) his team is advising Barack to refrain from Keynes' philosophy.
- (c) Barack Obama and his team have decided to fill old bottles with banknotes.
- (d) None of these.

- Q.3** Obama's upcoming American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan focuses on which of the following?
- A. Recovery of all debts from the debtors in a phased manner.
 - B. Pumping money very liberally in projects that are mandatory.
 - C. Investing money recklessly in any project regardless of its utility.
- (a) A only
 - (b) B only
 - (c) C only
 - (d) B and C only

- Q.4** Which of the following is/are corrective measure(s) as part of the long-term priorities of Obama that was an outcome of his predecessor's regime?
- A. Countering recession through immediate rescue operations.
 - B. Reducing the budget deficit.
 - C. Creating a more sustainable economy.
- (a) A and B only
 - (b) B and C only
 - (c) A and C only
 - (d) B only

PASSAGE 30

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

Goldman Sachs predicted that crude oil price would hit \$200 and just as it appeared that alternative renewable energy had a chance of becoming an economically viable option, the international price of oil fell by over 70%. After hitting the all-time high of \$147 a barrel, a month ago, crude fell to less than \$40 a barrel. What explains this sharp decline in the international price of oil? There has not been any major new discovery of a hitherto unknown source of oil or gas. The short answer is that the demand does not have to fall by a very sizeable quantity for the price of crude to respond as it did. In the short run, the price elasticity of demand for crude oil is very low. **Conversely**, in the short run, even a relatively big change in the price of oil does not immediately lower consumption. It takes months, or years, of high oil price to inculcate habits of energy conservation. World crude oil price had remained at over \$60 a barrel for most of 2005-2007 without making any major dent in demand.

The long answer is more complex. The economic slowdown in the US, Europe and Asia along with dollar depreciation and commodity speculation have all had some role in the downward descent in the international price of oil. In recent years, the supply of oil has been rising but not enough to catch up with the rising demand, resulting in an almost vertical escalation in its price. The number of crude oil futures and options contracts have also increased manifold which has led to significant speculation in the oil market. In comparison, the role of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) in fixing crude price has considerably weakened. OPEC is often accused of operating as a cartel restricting output thus keeping prices artificially high. It did succeed in setting the price of crude during the 1970s and the first half of the '80s. But, with increased futures trading and contracts, the control of crude pricing has moved from OPEC to banks and markets that deal with futures trading and contracts. It is true that most oil exporting regions of the world have remained politically unstable **fuelling** speculation

over the price of crude. But there is little evidence that the geopolitical uncertainties in West Asia have improved to weaken the price of oil. Threatened by the downward slide of oil price, OPEC has, in fact, announced its decision to curtail output.

However most oil importers will heave a sigh of relief as they find their oil bought options to import oil at prices higher than market prices. Exporting nations, on the other hand, will see their economic prosperity slip. Relatively low price of crude is also bad news for investments in alternative renewable energy that cannot compete with cheaper and non-renewable sources of energy.

Word Count = 479

Time Taken =

- Q.1** What does the phrase 'the price elasticity of demand for crude oil is very low' imply?
- When the price rises the demand for crude oil fails immediately.
 - A small change in demand will result in a sharp change in the price of crude.
 - Within a short span of time the price of crude oil has fluctuated sharply.
 - A small change in price does not affect much the consumption of crude oil.
- Q.2** Which of the following factors is responsible for rise in speculation in crude oil markets?
- OPEC has not been able to restrict the oil output and control prices.

- The supply of oil has been rising to match demand.
- Existence of large number of oil future and oil contracts.
- Only A
- Both A and B
- Only C
- All A, B and C

- Q.3** What does the author want to convey by citing the statistics of 2005-2007?
- The prices of crude were rising gradually so people were not alarmed.
 - The dollar was a strong currency during that period.
 - Many people turned to alternative renewable energy sources because of high oil prices.
 - If the price of oil is high for a short time it does not necessarily result in a drop in consumption.
- Q.4** What led to alternative energy sources being considered economically feasible?
- The price of oil rose by 70 per cent while renewable energy sources are cheap.
 - Exorbitant crude oil prices made alternative energy sources an attractive option.
 - Expert predictions that the price of oil would alternately escalate and plunge sharply.
 - Evidence that no new sources of oil and gas are available.

PASSAGE 31

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

Indeed the Western recession is really the beginning of good news for India! But to understand that we will have to move away for a while from the topic of Western recession ... to the Japanese recession! For years the Japanese style of management has been admired. However over the last decade or so, one **key** question has sprung up 'if Japanese management style is as wonderful as described then why has Japan been in a recession for more than a decade?'

The answer to this question is very simple. Culture plays a very important part in shaping up economies. What succeeds in one culture fails in another. Japanese are basically non-materialistic. And however rich they become unlike others, they cannot just keep throwing and buying endlessly. And once they have everything they need there is a saturation point. It was only when companies like Toyota realized that they cannot keep selling cars endlessly to their home market that they went really **aggressive** in the Western markets and the rest is history. Japanese companies grew

bigger by **catering** to the world markets when their home markets shrunk.

And the markets have to shrink finally after attaining a level of affluence! And that's great for the world because earth needs sustainable development. It does not need monstrous consumers who keep consuming at the cost of the environment and the earth. There should be limits to growth so that consumers are not converted into material dustbins for the profit of a handful of corporations.

Owing to the materialistic culture elsewhere, it was possible to keep selling newer products to the consumers despite having existing ones which served equally well. They were lured techniques of destabilization' of the customer: and then finally once they became ready customers, they were given loans and credits to help them buy more and more. When all the creditworthy people were given loans to a logical limit, they ceased to be a part of the market. Even this would have been understandable if it could work as an eye-opener. Instead of taking the Right Step' as Toyota did, they preferred to take a 'shortcut'. Now banks went to the non-creditworthy people and gave them loans.

The people expectedly defaulted and the entire system collapsed.

Now like Toyota, Western companies will learn to find new markets. They will now lean towards India because of its common man! The billion plus population in the next 25 years will become a **consuming** middle-class. Finally the world's attention will shift to the developing world. Finally there will be a real **surge** in income of these people and in the next fifty odd years, one can really hope to see an equal world in terms of material plenty, with poverty being almost non-existent! And this will happen not by selling more cars to Americans and Europeans. It will happen by creating markets in India, China, Latin America and Africa by giving their people purchasing power and by making products for them.

The recession has made us realize that it is not because of worse management techniques, but because of limits to growth. And they will realize that it is great for planet earth. After all, how many cars and houses must the rich own before calling it enough? It's time for them to look at others as well. Many years back, to increase his own profits, Henry Ford had started paying his workers more, so that they could buy his cars. In similar fashion, now the developed world will pay the developing world people so that they can buy their cars and washing machines.

The recession will kick-start the process of making the entire world more **prosperous**, and lay the foundation of limits to growth in the west and the foundation of real globalization in the world or the globalization of prosperity. And one of its first beneficiaries will be India.

Word Count = 660

Time Taken =

- Q.1** What does the author mean by the 'Right Step' in the passage?
- (a) Giving loans to creditworthy people only.
 - (b) Considering market growth along with environment protection.
 - (c) Restricting people to buy only such products which are needed by them.

- (d) To start looking at newer avenues and markets.

Q.2 Although admired since years, why did the skepticism over the Japanese management style start since the last decade?

- (a) Japanese companies have been moving out of their home markets since the last decade.
- (b) Japanese banks have provided loans indiscriminately to the creditworthy as well as non-creditworthy people.
- (c) Both (a) and (b)
- (d) Only (b)

Q.3 Why does the author foresee the markets being created in the developing countries instead of America and Europe?

- (a) All developing countries have materialistic culture.
- (b) Developed countries are willing to make an effort to achieve globalization.
- (c) American and European markets have had a large number of credit defaulters.
- (d) None of these.

Q.4 How does the author foresee the future globalization as an analogy to Henry Ford's example?

- A. Car companies would start selling cars in developing countries as well.
- B. By paying the developing world the developed world would increase its own profit in turn bringing affluence to developing world as well.
- C. To earn profit, the companies in developing countries would move to foreignland.
- (a) Only A
- (b) Only B
- (c) Only C
- (d) Only A and C

PASSAGE 32

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

Capitalism is a great slave, but a pathetic master. This truth unfortunately gets lost in our chase for the **elusive** dream. It's the dream of being independent masters of our lives or making big bucks and of being happy even if that happiness is being bought by money which all of them chase out there. No doubt, the West, on its part, has been fairly successful in creating material comforts a plenty. It has improved the living standard of its average citizen. However it has been achieved as a result of more than 200 years of **unbridled** growth and

exploitation. And that is what has made the rest of the world mindlessly **chase** Westernism not necessarily happiness or an ideal form of society. All because the shop window looks very impressive and it has been marketed very well.

But a deep look inside the shop tells a different tale. A different world lies behind; a world that is not quite visible to the starry eyed millions – for whom the Western way of life seems to be the ultimate dream.

Thus, we have Indians dreaming to become or to get married to an NRI and Indian middle-class fathers dreaming of their sons reaching the Bay area and landing tech jobs, unmindful of the second-class life they end up leading in the

West. What goes unseen and almost unheard is that the West also happens to be the land that is right amongst the top in terms of the number of divorces per thousand, the number of single parent families per thousand, the number of old people in old age homes, the number of suicides, homicides, and of course, the number of college/school shootouts.

And why not! After all, such societies are constantly driven towards higher profits and materialism. Expectedly, this materialism comes at a cost that the world is paying today. This is the reason why we have millions dying of curable diseases in Africa and other underdeveloped countries, while the rich grow richer. Their growth will be reduced, if they were to start thinking of the poor so what do they do to justify their greed for more? They most **shrewdly** propagate and market a ridiculously primitive law of the jungle for our 21st century civilian, the 'Law of Survival of the Fittest'!

The interesting thing about material things is that they only give an illusion of happiness; however such happiness is always **momentary** in nature. Ergo, at this juncture, you feel you are buying your new car or flat screen TV, and just a few days later, these are the very possessions that cease to make you happy. While you chase the bigger car and spend that extra bit of the wealth, you intercept someone's share of the daily bread and also sacrifice those who have the maximum power to make you happy-family, emotions and love. Prolonged abstinence in feeling emotions finally destroys bliss; and you do not even realize when you have become a dry-eyed cripple ... and then you land up in a sermon workshop to find out the real meaning of life – or whatever these workshops are capable of explaining. The truth is that such workshops are also driven by merchants who cash in on the **dejected** state of the people, a state created by their own fictional dreams. But by then it's really too late.

By then, you have made profits out of arms, and engineered wars to keep that industry alive. You have sold guns across counters at supermarkets and made more profits. You have lobbied that guns should be made accessible to the common man, and all for the sake of profits. This makes you realize one day that they are your own children who are in the line of fire against the school goer who opens fire at his schoolmates.

This is the society that finally creates an emotionless monster, who gets satisfaction in killing innocent adults and children alike for no cause no reason and for none, for himself. It is the utter destruction of spiritualism and the total focus on endless self-gratification. Where so many single parent families and divorces exist, it is impossible to bring up children or influence the killers, any better.

Word Count = 701

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Who does the author hold responsible for the shooting spree in schools and colleges?
- A. Lack of love and emotion in the society in general.
 - B. Increased focus on self-gratification even when it comes at the cost of innocent lives.
 - C. Deteriorating social structure leading to break up of families resulting in lack of families resulting in lack of moral development in children.
- (a) Only A
 - (b) Only C
 - (c) Only B and C
 - (d) All of these
- Q.2** According to the passage, which of the following is a reason for poverty and hunger in underdeveloped countries?
- A. Mindlessly chasing the Western way of living.
 - B. They have fallen prey to the idea of happiness through material comforts rather than love and emotional bond.
 - C. They do not have marketing techniques as good as the Western countries.
- (a) Only B
 - (b) Only C
 - (c) Only A
 - (d) Non-mentioned in the passage.
- Q.3** What does the author mean by, 'intercepting someone's share of daily bread'?
- (a) Hindering the process of marketing in underdeveloped countries by the developed countries.
 - (b) Denying material comfort to the Western world.
 - (c) Affecting the social life of those working towards material comforts only.
 - (d) Excess of wealth in western world while people in poorer nations struggle for survival.
- Q.4** The author's main objective in writing the passage is
- (a) to explain that consumerist societies have their own drawbacks which are over blinded by its material glare.
 - (b) to explain how too many material comforts have improved the living standard of common man in the west.
 - (c) that young children should not given access to guns and other ammunitions.
 - (d) all NRIs are leading unmindful, second-class lives abroad.

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: *Read the passage given below and solve the questions based on it.*

The conceptions of life and the world which we call ‘philosophical’ are a product of two factors: one, inherited religious and ethical conceptions; the other, the sort of investigation which may be called ‘scientific’, using this word in its broadest sense. Individual philosophers have differed widely in regard to the proportions in which these two factors entered into their systems, but it is the presence of both, in some degree, that characterizes philosophy.

‘Philosophy’ is a word which has been used in many ways, some wider, some narrower. I propose to use it in a very wide sense, which I will now try to explain.

Philosophy, as I shall understand the word, is something intermediate between theology and science. Like theology, it consists of speculations on matters as to which definite knowledge has, so far, been unascertainable; but like science, it appeals to human reason rather than to authority, whether that of tradition or that of revelation. All definite knowledge, so I should contend—belongs to science; all dogma as to what surpasses definite knowledge belongs to theology. But between theology and science there is a ‘No Man’s Land’, exposed to attack from both sides; this ‘No Man’s Land’ is philosophy. Almost all the questions of most interest to speculative minds are such as science cannot answer, and the confident answers of theologians no longer seem so convincing as they did in former centuries. Is the world divided into mind and matter, and if so, what is mind and what is matter? Is mind subject to matter, or is it possessed of independent powers? Has the universe any unity or purpose? Is it evolving towards some goal? Are there really laws of nature, or do we believe in them only because of our innate love of order? Is man what he seems to the astronomer, a tiny lump of carbon and water impotently crawling on a small and unimportant planet? Or is he what he appears to Hamlet? Is he perhaps both at once? Is there a way of living that is noble and another that is base, or are all ways of living merely futile? If there is a way of living that is noble, in what does it consist, and how shall we achieve it? Must the good be eternal in order to deserve to be valued, or is it worth seeking even if the universe is inexorably moving towards death? Is there such a thing as wisdom, or is what seems such merely the ultimate refinement of folly? To such questions, no answer can be found in the laboratory. Theologies have professed to give answers, all too definite; but their definiteness causes modern minds to view them with suspicion. The studying of these questions, if not the answering of them, is the business of philosophy.

Why, then, you may ask, waste time on such insoluble problems? To this one may answer as a historian, or as an individual facing the terror of cosmic loneliness.

The answer of the historian, in so far as I am capable of giving it, will appear in the course of this work. Ever since men became capable of free speculation, their actions in innumerable important respects, have depended upon their theories as to the world and human life, as to what is good and what is evil. This is as true in the present day as at any former time. To understand an age or a nation, we must understand its philosophy, and to understand its philosophy we must ourselves be in some degree philosophers. There is here a reciprocal causation: the circumstances of men’s lives do much to determine their philosophy, but, conversely, their philosophy does much to determine their circumstances.

There is also, however, a more personal answer. Science tells us what we can know, but what we can know is little, and if we forget how much we cannot know we may become insensitive to many things of very great importance. Theology, on the other hand, induces a dogmatic belief that we have knowledge, where in fact we have ignorance, and by doing so generates a kind of impertinent insolence towards the universe. Uncertainty, in the presence of vivid hopes and fears, is painful, but must be endured if we wish to live without the support of comforting fairy tales. It is not good either to forget the questions that philosophy asks, or to persuade ourselves that we have found indubitable answers to them. To teach how to live without certainty, and yet without being paralyzed by hesitation, is perhaps the main thing that philosophy, in our age, can still do for those who study it.

Word Count = 775

Time Taken =

- Q.1** The purpose of philosophy is to:
- reduce uncertainty and chaos.
 - help us to cope with uncertainty and ambiguity.
 - help us to find explanations for uncertainty.
 - reduce the terror of cosmic loneliness.
- Q.2** Based on this passage what can be concluded about the relation between philosophy and science?
- The two are antagonistic.
 - The two are complementary.
 - There is no relation between the two.
 - Philosophy derives from science.
- Q.3** From reading the passage, what can be concluded about the profession of the author? He is most likely **not** to be a:
- Historian
 - Philosopher
 - Scientist
 - Theologian

Q.4 According to the author, which of the following statements about the nature of the universe must be definitely true?

- (a) The universe has unity.
- (b) The universe has a purpose.
- (c) The universe is evolving towards a goal.
- (d) None of these.

PASSAGE 34

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 5: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

‘We have always known that heedless self-interest was bad morals. We now know that it is bad economics said American President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1937 in the midst of the Great Depression. And the world has learnt that **enlightened** self-interest is good economics all over again after the Great Recession of 2009. Americans are entering a period of social change as they are recalibrating their sense of what it means to be a citizen, not just through voting or volunteering but also through commerce. There is a new dimension to civic duty that is growing among Americans the idea that they can serve not only by spending time in communities and classrooms but by spending more responsibly. In short, Americans are beginning to put their money where their **ideals** are’.

In a recent poll, most said they had consciously supported local or small neighbourhood businesses and 40 per cent said that they had purchased a product because they liked the social or political values of the company that produced it. People were alarmed about ‘blood diamonds’ mined in war zones and used to finance conflict in Africa. They were also willing to pay \$2000 more for a car that gets 35 miles per gallon than for one that gives less, though the former is more expensive but environment-friendly. Of course, consumers have done their own doing-well-by doing-good calculation – a more expensive car that gives; better mileage will save them money in the long run and makes them feel good about protecting the environment. Moreover since 1995, the number of Socially Responsible Investment (SRI) mutual funds, which generally avoid buying shares of companies that profit from tobacco, oil or child labour has grown from 55 to 260. SRI funds now manage approximately 11 per cent of all the money invested in the US financial markets – an estimating mindset in a nation whose most iconic economist Milton Friedman wrote in 1970 that a corporation’s only moral responsibility was to increase shareholder profits.

At first the corporate stance was defensive: companies were punished by consumers for unethical behaviour such as discriminatory labour practices. The nexus of activist groups, consumers and government regulation could not merely tarnish a company but put it out of business. But corporate America quickly discerned that social responsibility **attracts** investment capital as well as customer loyalty, creating a virtuous circle. Some companies quickly **embraced** the new

ethos that consumers boycotted products they considered unethical and others purchase products in part because their manufacturers were responsible. With global warming on the minds of many consumers lots of **companies are racing to ‘out green’ each other**. The most progressive companies are talking about a triple bottom line-profit, planet and people that focuses on how to run a business while trying to improve environmental and worker conditions.

This is a time when the only thing that has sunk lower than the American public’s opinion of Congress is its opinion of business. One burning question is how many of these Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) initiatives are just shrewd marketing to give companies a halo effect? After all only 8 per cent of the large American corporations go through the trouble of verifying their CSR reports, which many consumers do not bother to read. And while social responsibility is one way for companies to get back their reputations consumers too need to make ethical choices.

Word Count = 552

Time Taken =

Q.1 Which of the following represents the change/s that has/have occurred in the American outlook?

- A. The perception that the government needs to invest resources in business rather than in education.
 - B. Loss of faith in American corporations as they do not disburse their profits equitably among shareholders.
 - C. Americans have cut down on their expenditure drastically to invest only in socially responsible mutual funds.
- (a) None of these (b) Only C
(c) Only A and B (d) Only A and C

Q.2 Which of the following is/are TRUE in the context of the passage?

- A. The voter turnout during the 2009 American elections was high.
 - B. African diamonds are highly valued by the American public.
 - C. American firms have to spend vast amounts on advertising because activists cast aspersions on their images.
- (a) None of these (b) Only A
(c) Only B and C (d) Only C

- Q.3** Which of the following is the central idea of the passage?
- (a) It is beneficial to invest in American companies as they are socially responsible and profitable.
 - (b) Large corporations should be penalised by the American government for their greed.
 - (c) Ethical consumerism is profitable for organizations as well as society as a whole.
 - (d) Companies should be required by law to account for their impact on the environment in their balance sheet.
- Q.4** Which of the following best describes the widespread view among Americans about big corporations?
- (a) They have been lax in fulfilling their moral responsibility of increasing profits and benefiting shareholders.
 - (b) They are being too severely penalised by activities and the government for their role in the economic crisis.

- (c) Their innovations have brought commercial success and benefited America tremendously.
- (d) They need to be held accountable for their unethical business practices.

- Q.5** What is the author trying to convey through the phrase '**companies are racing to outgreen each other**'?
- (a) The competition among companies to boost their bottom line profit, planet and people – is very stiff.
 - (b) The conflict facing businesses of whether to benefit their shareholders or the environment.
 - (c) Corporations are vying with each other to solicit investment.
 - (d) Companies are striving to find the necessary funds to finance their environment-friendly initiatives.

PASSAGE 35

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 6: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

The great fear in Asia a shortwhile ago was that the region would suffer through the wealth destruction already taking place in the U.S. as a result of the financial crisis. Stock markets turn bled as exports plunged and economic growth deteriorated. Lofty property prices in China and elsewhere looked set to bust as credit tightened and buyers **evaporated**. But with surprising speed, fear in Asia swung back to greed as the region shows signs of recovery and property and stock prices are soaring in many parts of Asia.

Why should this sharp Asian turnaround be greeted with skepticism? Higher assets prices mean households feel wealthier and better able to spend, which could further fuel the region's nascent rebound. But just as easily, Asia could soon find itself saddled with overheated markets similar to the U.S. housing market. In short **the world has not changed, it has just moved places**.

The incipient bubble is being created by government policy. In response to the global credit crunch of 2008, policy makers in Asia slashed interest rates and **flooded** financial sectors with cash in frantic attempts to keep loans flowing and economies growing. These steps were logical for central bankers striving to reverse a deepening economic crisis. But there's evidence that there is too much easy money around it's winding up in stocks and real estate, pushing prices up too far and too fast for the underlying economic fundamentals. Much of the concern is focused on China, where government stimulus efforts have been large and effective. Money in China has been especially easy to find.

Aggregate new bank lending surged 201% in the first half of 2009 from the same period a year earlier, to nearly \$1.1 trillion. Exuberance over a quick recovery which was given a boost by China's surprisingly strong 7.9% GDP growth in the second quarter has **buoyed** investor sentiment not just for stocks but also for real estate.

Former U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Alan Greenspan argued that bubble could only be recognized in hindsight. But investors who have been well schooled in the dangers of bubbles over the past decade are increasingly wary that prices have resented too far, and that the slightest bit of negative economic news could knock markets for a loop. These fears are compounded by the possibility that Asia's central bankers will begin taking steps to shut off the money. Rumours that Beijing was on the verge of tightening credit led to Shanghai stocks plunging 5%. Yet many economists believe that, 'there is close to a zero possibility that the Chinese government will do anything this year that constitutes tightening.' And without a major shift in thinking, the easy money conditions will stay in place. In a global economy that has produced more dramatic ups and downs than anyone thought possible over the past two years, Asia may be heading for another disheartening plunge.

Word Count = 482

Time Taken =

- Q.1** To which of the following has the author attributed the 2008 Asian financial crisis?
- A. Reluctance of Asian governments to taper off the economic stimulus.

- B. Greed of Asian investors causing them to trade stocks of American companies at high prices.
C. Inflated real estate prices in Asian countries.
(a) None of these (b) Only A
(c) Only C (d) Only A and B
- Q.2** What is the author's main objective in writing the passage?
(a) Illustrating that Asian economies are financially more sound than those of developed countries.
(b) Disputing financial theories about how recessions can be predicted and avoided.
(c) Warning Asian countries about the dangers of favouring fast growth and profits over sound economic principles.
(d) Extolling China's incredible growth and urging other countries to emulate it.
- Q.3** What does the author want to convey through the phrase, 'The world has not changed it has just moved place'?
(a) At present countries are more dependent on Asian economies than on the US economy.
(b) Economies have become interlinked on account of globalization.
(c) Asian governments are implementing the same economic reforms as developed countries.
(d) All economies are susceptible to recession because of the state of the US economy.
- Q.4** According to the passage, which of the following factor(s) has/have had a negative impact on the Asian stock markets?
A. Abrupt drop in exports by Asian countries.
B. Extravagant disbursement of housing loans in 2009.
C. Raising of interest rates by the Central Bank.
(a) None (b) Only A and B
(c) Only A (d) Only A and C
- Q.5** Which of the following can be inferred from the passage?
A. All Asian economies are recovering at the same pace.
B. Experts are apprehensive about the state of Asian economies despite their recovery.
C. Developed countries should implement the same economic reforms as Asian ones.
(a) Only A (b) Only B and C
(c) Only A and B (d) Only B
- Q.6** What do the Statistics about loans given by Chinese banks in 2009 indicate?
(a) There was hardly any demand for loans in 2008.
(b) The Chinese government has borrowed funds from the U.S.
(c) China will take longer than the US to recover from the economic crisis.
(d) None of these.

PASSAGE 36

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 3: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

There are various sectors in India that are to be assessed for their strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats.

The total population is over 1 billion which will increase to 1.46 billion populations will result in higher unemployment and deterioration of quality. Literacy in India is yet another factor to be discussed. According to 1991 census, 64.8% of the population was illiterate. The major downtrend of education is due to child labour which has spread all over India and this should be totally eradicated by way of **surveillance** and a good educational system implemented properly by the Government.

Pollution is one more threat to the environment and for the country's **prospects**. This has been experienced more in urban areas mainly in metropolitan cities. The water pollution by the sewage seepage into the ground water and improper maintenance will lead to various diseases which in turn will affect the next generation. In most of the cities

there is no proper sewage disposal. The Government has to take effective steps to control population which, in turn, will minimize the pollution.

Poverty questions the entire strength of India's political view and minimizes the energetic way of approach. The shortfall of rains, enormous floods, unexpected famine, drought, earthquake and the recent tsunami hit the country in a negative way. The proactive approach through effective research and analytical study helps us to determine the effects in advance. Proper allocation of funds is a **prerequisite**. In developed countries like U.S., Japan precautionary methods are adopted to overcome this, but it has to be improved a lot in our systems.

Increased population is one of the major reasons for poverty and the Government is unable to allocate funds for basic needs to the society. India has nearly 400 million people living below the poverty line and 90% of active population is in informal economy. The children are forced to work due to their poverty and **differential** caste system. They work

in match industry for daily wages, as servants, mechanics, stone breaker, agricultural workers, etc., to prevent child labour, existing laws which favour the Anti Child Labour Act should be implemented by the Government **vigorously**.

More population results in cheap cost by virtue of the demand supply concept. Most of the foreign countries try to utilize this factor by outsourcing their business in India with a very low capital. According to U.S., India is a 'Knowledge Pool' with cheap labour. The major advantage is our communication and technical skill which is adaptable to any environment. The cutting edge skill in IT of our professionals helps the outsourcing companies to **commensurate** with the needs of the consumers in a short span. The major competitors for India are China and Philippines and by the way of technical ability, Indians are ahead of the race. The major Metropolitan states are targeting the outsourcing field vigorously by giving various amenities to the outsourcing companies like tax concession, allotting land, etc., to start their businesses in its cities without any hurdles. Thereby most of the MNCs prefer India as their destinations and capitalize the resources to maximize their assets. Infrastructure is another key factor for an outsourcing company to start a business in a particular city. It includes road, rail, ports, power and water. The increased input in infrastructure in India is very **limited** where China's record is excellent.

India in earlier days gave more importance to the development of industry and less importance to other departments. But the scenario has quite changed nowadays by allocating a special budget of funds for security. This is because of the frightening increase in terrorism all-around the world especially emerging after the 9/11 terror attack in U.S. in the last ten years, budget towards the development of military forces is higher when compared to others. It shows when compared to others. It shows that the threat from our neighbouring countries is escalating. India has to concentrate more on this security factor to wipe out the problem in the way of cross border terrorism.

Making India, a developed country in 2020 is not an easy task. India has to keep in check a variety of factors in order to progress rapidly. To quote China as an example

is that they demolished an old building to construct a very big port to meet future things to happen. The profits gained by India through various sectors are welfare of the country. India's vision for a brighter path will come true not only by mere words or speech. But extra effort needed at all levels to overcome the pitfalls.

Word Count = 760

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Which of the following, according to the author, is/are result(s) of increased population in India?
- A. Pollution
B. Poverty
C. Unemployment
(a) Only A (b) Only A and B
(c) Only B (d) All A, B and C
- Q.2** Why according to the author has the Indian Government allotted more funds to strengthen the military forces?
- (a) To improve security in order to counter increasing terrorism.
(b) As the security in India over the past ten years was grossly inadequate.
(c) As the U.S. too has strengthened its military forces after the 9/11 attack.
(d) As the industry is developed enough and is not in need of any more funds.
- Q.3** What is the author's main objective in writing this passage?
- (a) To exhort the Government to garner support from its neighbouring countries.
(b) To suggest to the Government to follow China's example blindly thereby bringing about rapid development.
(c) To highlight the plight of the poor.
(d) To bring forth the problems associated with the India's development and to suggest measures to counter them.

PASSAGE 37

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 5: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

Thinking of what education might look like in the next decade, one quickly realizes that the trends in technology are leaving a large number of our students behind. Today is an age of exponential change. New and ever improving technologies are popping up every day and in every corner of society.

Educating the best and the brightest in this brave new world will take a new and improved educational **paradigm**.

Allowing our educational tools to age in the corner of the classroom will be the mistake that may cost us our future. Throwing away masses of children to **inequitable** access will ensure that we **languish** at the bottom of the global pool of employable workers for decades to come.

Technology will shape the way we educate students in the next decade. A user is not simply a person who uses. For the student, being a user should involve using the latest technology in a free and **autonomous** manner. This new-found freedom will allow the student to become an active participant in his/her education instead of a passive passenger. In

our current technological society, being a user also means being tracked. Tracking a student means having the ability to target education towards weaknesses and strengths. The ability to accurately customize curricula to the individual has been the holy grail of educational philosophy for many years. This golden age of technological development may soon enable this dream to become a reality.

Current educational curricula and individual assessment is **arbitrary** at best. Accurately assessing a student can only be achieved by using modern tracking and database technologies. Imagine a world where every child has a tablet computer with ready access to the internet. Further, imagine that every student can access all the knowledge of humankind freely at any moment in time. Continue to imagine world where a misspelled word brings up a spelling challenge application instead of an autocorrection. Try to contemplate what it would mean for a teacher to have a database of every misspelled word, every misunderstood concept or every missed, equation for each of their students. Try to envision a teacher with the ability to customize the experience of the individual 'user' with minimal effort. Imagine the curriculum being automatically targeted to the user through an intuitive educational platform that knows all strengths and each unique weakness. In the last few hundred years, most individuals would consider an education as something you receive. You often hear the question asked, 'Where did you receive your education?' as we proceed through the next decade, education will slowly move away from reception and toward being custom designed for the individual user. New technology will not only allow us to receive an education, but also develop an education. The question we might ask in ten years, 'How did you develop your education?' the question of where will still be important, but the how of the matter will be the focus that defines the individual.

To make this a reality we will need a standardized platform from which to develop a student's unique education. This standardized platform will allow to tailor a custom curriculum that will be matched to talents, interests and life goals. For the educator, a standardized platform will create a way to assist the student in discovering a true purpose in life through a unique educational experience. The basics of reading, writing and arithmetic will not be taught as much as they will be discovered and used. Learning will become a **reciprocal** experience between the teachers the student and the machine.

Under a standardized platform, each of these three participants will have a role to play. The teacher will be the facilitator assisting the development of the curriculum and inspiring the direction the student takes. The student will be the user, gathering resources, skills and knowledge in an efficient and measured sequence. The machine will do the work of data gathering and analysis, which will assist the teacher and student in refining the curriculum. This data gathering work of the machine will also free the teacher from the burden of record-keeping and tedious tasks that currently distract from the real job of teaching and learning.

Under a standardized system, grade level will be far less important. Achievement and progression will be measured by accomplishment and intelligence as a benchmark for success. The question of failure or success will be irrelevant and replaced with a standard and consistent measurement of potential and overall intelligence. Information will no longer be missed but continually rehearsed and monitored for retention by the machine. Tasks such as data tracking reporting and record keeping are currently accomplished manually. These tasks could easily be **delegated** to an intuitive database. Developing a standard to follow would eliminate these tasks and free the teacher to do their main job of teaching students.

The next decade may mark the moment in history when all are granted equal access to technology. Access to quality education will only be gained through investment and universal standardization of this technology. If we continue to divert wealth towards fruitless goals and corporate greed, this opportunity will be lost or hopelessly delayed.

Word Count = 855

Time Taken =

- Q.1** According to the author, which of the following will be the benefit(s) of introducing a standardized technological platform?
- A. Potential of a child will take precedence over the grade he/she scores.
 - B. Improving the educational syllabus would become easier.
 - C. Teachers would be able to devote more time to teaching.
- (a) Only C (b) All A, B and C
(c) Only B and C (d) Only A and B
- Q.2** Which of the following is/are **true** in the context of the passage?
- A. In the presence of technology each student would require constant monitoring by other individuals to maximize learning.
 - B. Educational philosophy is based on the belief of tailoring educational syllabus to individual student capability.
 - C. The author visualizes that each student will have access to technology in the future.
- (a) Only A and B (b) Only B
(c) Only C (d) Only B and C
- Q.3** What does the author mean by the term 'tracking a student'?
- (a) Analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of a student and designing an educational syllabus accordingly.
 - (b) Assessing whether a student is paying due attention to the existing curriculum offered by an institute of learning's.
 - (c) Analyzing the positives and negatives of an educational institute of modifying it suitably to cater to industrial requirements.

- (d) Following a student to the educational institute that he visits frequently in order to estimate the time he spends there.

Q.4 According to the author, why is the current education provided not satisfactory?

- (a) The teachers providing education are not qualified enough to emphasize on quality.
(b) Quality of education provided is not uniform across the globe and individual assessment is subjective.
(c) The education sector is fraught with corrupt practices and thus does not produce the desired.

- (d) The education system is not guided by technology and hence, the pace of learning is slow.

Q.5 What is the author's vision regarding the integration of technology with education?

- A. A substantial database consisting of each student's learning curve would be readily available.
B. An error would activate software which would encourage learning rather than autocorrecting.
C. Experimentation in academics would be encouraged.

- (a) Only C (b) Only A and B
(c) All A, B and C (d) Only A and C

PASSAGE 38

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

A few weeks ago, a newspaper article quoted a well-known scientist saying, 'IT has destroyed Indian science'. One can **speculate** about the various ways in which the growth of the IT sector and other similar knowledge industries such as biotechnology has led to a decline in basic scientific research in India.

The most obvious reason is money; pay scales in IT and BT are much higher than one can aspire to in academia. The argument goes; why should a **bright** B.Tech. or M.Sc. Student enroll in a Ph.D. programme when she can make a lot more money writing code? Not only does a **fresh** IT employee make a lot more than a fresh M. Tech. student, his/her pay will rise much faster in IT than in academia. A professor/s pay at a government-run university, even after the Sixth Pay Commission, tops out at far less than a senior executive's salary in a major industry.

Second, the social status of IT and BT jobs equal or even exceed the social status of corresponding academic positions, since they are seen as knowledge industries, which plays to the best and worst instincts of the societal order. As **quintessential** white collar professions, neither do they compel a successful entrepreneur to resort to violence and corruption, nor do they demand any physical labour. Unlike real estate or road construction, it is felt that IT workers can become rich while staying honest and sweat-free.

Assuming that the labour pool for academia and IT is roughly the same, the difference in our collective preferences biases the labour market towards IT and away from academia. Further, when the imbalance between IT and academia continues for years and even decades, a destructive loop, from academia's point of view, is created. When our best and brightest take IT jobs over academic ones for a decade or more, faculty positions in our univer-

sities and research centers are no longer filled by the best candidates.

As faculty quality goes down, so does the **capacity** to train top-class graduate students who, after all, are teachers in training. In response to decreasing faculty quality, even those students who otherwise choose an academic profession, decide to join industry or go abroad for their studies. These foreign trained graduates prefer to come back to corporate India if at all they do come back – and the downward cycle replicates itself in each generation. In other words, academia is trapped within a perfect storm created by a combination of social and economic factors.

In this social-economic calculus, the members of our societal classes should prefer an IT job to an academic one. Or, to put it another way, the knowledge economy, i.e., the creation of knowledge for profit, trumps the knowledge society, i.e., the creation of knowledge for its own sake or the sake of the greater good. As is said, 'Knowledge is power, but money is even more power.' Perhaps the scientist was **alluding** to this victory of capitalism over the pursuit of pure knowledge when he accused IT of having a negative influence on Indian science.

Surely, knowledge has become a commodity like any other and as a result, knowledge workers are like any other labourers, who will sell their wares to the highest bidder. One solution is to accept and even encourage the commoditization of knowledge; if so, Indian universities and research centers should copy their western counterparts by becoming more and more like corporations. These centers of learning should convert themselves into engines of growth. In this logic, if we increase academic salaries and research grants to match IT pay cheques we will attract good people into academia, where, in any case, it is rumoured that a certain **elusive** feeling called 'the quality of life' is better.

Word Count = 626

Time Taken =

- Q.1** According to the passage what did the scientist actually mean when he said, 'IT has destroyed Indian Science?'
- (a) The centres meant for scientific research are being utilized by IT industries.
 - (b) The IT industry does not employ people pursuing higher studies.
 - (c) As information is readily available on the internet because of IT. There is no need to seek further information.
 - (d) The desire for money has overshadowed the search for knowledge.
- Q.2** Which of the following is possibly the most appropriate title for the passage?
- (a) Is the future of IT Bright?
 - (b) The IT industry and the World Economy
 - (c) Research and Academics Losing the Battle against IT
 - (d) Scientific Research and the Need for Well Trained Faculty
- Q.3** What, according to the author, is a destructive loop?

- (a) Many people quit their existing jobs to work in the IT industry which in turn leads to the downfall of the other industries.
- (b) The fact that the best minds do not want to become teachers and this in turn leads to good students seeking knowledge elsewhere.
- (c) The fact that people working in the IT industry do not pursue higher studies which in turn leads to the deterioration in quality of employees.
- (d) The unending use of resources by the IT industry leading to a dearth of resources in the country.

- Q.4** Which of the following mentioned below is/are the author's suggestion/s to promote interest in Indian academia?
- A. Research centers should adopt the corporate culture as is done in the West.
 - B. Lessening the number of research grants given.
 - C. Making academic salaries equivalent to those paid in IT industries.
- (a) Only C
 - (b) Only A
 - (c) Only B and C
 - (d) Only A and C

PASSAGE 39

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

At the time when the unfortunate incident of the 'accidental' exposure to radiation that affected workers and waste collectors in Delhi as they handled radioactive material. Took place, the issue of waste disposal, particularly hazardous waste, made the headlines. The lives of those who live off collecting and sorting waste came into our line of vision. But then the issue disappeared.

Long-term policies that ensure that the safety and health of those who do such an essential job—a community of silent environmentalists someone called them are not such a high priority any more. One reason is that the people affected are virtually invisible.

Waste collectors around India work silently. Often late into the night, sorting out mountains of waste, **foraging** for anything that can be sold. If you walk down some streets of central Mumbai after 11 at night. You will see an army of waste collectors. Men women, children are all hard at work. They work through the night and finally manage to get some sleep on the doorsteps of the shops on those streets. By daylight they become invisible, having stowed their belongings in boxes behind the signs of the shops on whose doorsteps they sleep. These are the people of the night, not noticed by those who **inhabit** the areas in the day.

What is often not entirely appreciated is that a substantial percentage of waste collectors is women. According to a study, 85 per cent of waste collectors in the city are women, five per cent are children and 10 per cent are men. The majority of them are poor and landless people who came to the city because of drought in their villages. The age group ranges from 7 to 70 years and 98 per cent of them are illiterate. A survey of 60,000 waste collectors found a similar proportion. 60 per cent women, 20 per cent men and 20 per cent children. Studies have revealed that 90 per cent of the women waste-pickers are primary bread-winners, often widowed or deserted. It is interesting how the gender division of labour plays out even in the business of waste. While women, and children, do the more **hazardous** job of sorting and separating the waste, the men deal with the wholesalers and factories. As a result it is the women who are exposed to hazardous waste none of them wear any kind of protective gear and also face the physical problems of constantly bending and carrying head loads of the waste. Look at any group of waste collectors and you will spot the bent old women who have been performing this function for decades.

In the slum-city of Mumbai, waste collectors experience the most acute degree of homelessness. While poor people in other kinds of jobs somehow manage to find some shelter in a slum, irrespective of whether it is legal or illegal, waste collectors sleep next to the garbage they have sorted. This is

their wealth something they have to protect after they have collected and sorted it until they can **monetize** it. Hence, near many garbage dumps, even in the better off localities of cities like Mumbai, you see families of waste pickers asleep in the morning. And most often you see only women and children.

Why bring up waste collectors at a time when the main environmental issues being debated are the larger issues of global warming. Or environmental disasters such as the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico? This is because one cannot speak of the environment without **considering** its impact on the lives of people. We have hundreds of small-scale and continuing environmental disasters taking place all around us. But we overlook them so long as they do not impact our lives or our lifestyles. Millions of waste pacers in India. Who play a crucial, role in dealing with the perennial environmental crisis of waste. Risk their lives and their health every single day. This is an ongoing environmental issue that requires as much attention from ordinary people, the media and policy makers as the larger macro issues.

Word Count = 679

Time Taken =

- Q.1** Why are long-term policies favouring waste collectors not high priority?
- The government is currently contemplating over the effects of the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico and does not have time for other issues.
 - The plight of these people is not evident as they work late into the night and are not seen much during the day.
 - The Government is unable to see these people at all and thus is not aware of their existence.

- These waste collectors themselves are not in favour of being brought into the organized sector because of the numerous complications involved.

- Q.2** Which of the following is **true** about waste collectors as given in the passage?

- Majority of waste collectors are people who have migrated from their village because of some natural calamity.
 - Waste collectors prefer to sleep next to the garbage they have sorted.
 - Most waste collectors are not literate.
- (a) Only B (b) Only A and B
(c) Only C (d) All A, B and C

- Q.3** Which of the following is possibly the most appropriate title for the passage?

- The General Public's Apathetic Ways
- The Unorganized Sector
- The Invisible Waste
- Waste Collectors – The World Over

- Q.4** Why according to the author, is the issue of waste collectors as important as the issue of global warming?

- As most waste collectors in big cities are children who are ultimately the future of our nation.
 - As without the waste collectors sorting waste the phenomenon of global warming would increase exponentially.
 - As waste collectors deal with wastage which impacts the people's everyday lives and is also environmentally significant.
- (a) Only B and C (b) Only A
(c) Only A and B (d) Only C

PASSAGE 40

Start Time:

End Time:

Direction for questions 1 to 4: Read the passage below and solve the questions based on it.

Indians are known for their obsessive and compulsive fascination for gold. India is the largest importer and largest consumer of the yellow metal as Indians buy about 25 per cent of the world's gold. In 2008, India imported around 400 tons of it. About 80 per cent of the world's extracted gold is **fashioned** as jewellery. However, most of us do not know or do not think about the environmental cost of the metal. For instance, extracting enough gold to **forge** a solitary, no-frills wedding band ultimately translates into roughly 20-30 tons of waste. At some mines in Nevada (USA). Hundred tones or more of earth have been excavated for a single ounce of gold.

The waste is of two forms: redundant rock, which is typically piled as flat heaps in locations near the mining site and the effluent or tailings which are a result of chemical processing of the mined ore. Sulphides in the redundant rock react with oxygen heavy metals like cyanide, cadmium lead and mercury harmful to people even at miniscule concentrations. The tailings component is typically a thick slurry laced with cyanide, aluminum, copper, lead, and mercury: enough to **decimate** fish populations of water environment it is disposed of into. Disposal of wet tailings into water bodies has been effectively banned in developed countries but it continues to be practiced in most developing nations. There is also a very real danger of surface water and groundwater table contamination on account of these heavy metals.

- (b) As excavation of gold releases the highest amount of pollutants into the air as compared to any other metal.
- (c) As gold excavation is a very tedious process and requires usage of a number of environmentally destructive resources.

- (d) As the amount of gold recovered in proportion to the land excavated is negligible.

ANSWER KEYS

PASSAGE 1

1. (a) 2. (d) 3. (d)

PASSAGE 2

1. (d) 2. (d) 3. (c) 4. (d)

PASSAGE 3

1. (b) 2. (d) 3. (b)

PASSAGE 4

1. (d) 2. (b) 3. (d) 4. (c) 5. (a)

PASSAGE 5

1. (c) 2. (d) 3. (d) 4. (c) 5. (a)
6. (d)

PASSAGE 6

1. (b) 2. (b) 3. (a) 4. (d)

PASSAGE 7

1. (d) 2. (d) 3. (d) 4. (b)

PASSAGE 8

1. (c) 2. (d) 3. (b) 4. (a)

PASSAGE 9

1. (a) 2. (a) 3. (c) 4. (b)

PASSAGE 10

1. (c) 2. (b) 3. (c) 4. (b)

PASSAGE 11

1. (b) 2. (b) 3. (a) 4. (d) 5. (c)
6. (d)

PASSAGE 12

1. (b) 2. (d) 3. (d) 4. (c)

PASSAGE 13

1. (d) 2. (d) 3. (b) 4. (b) 5. (c)

PASSAGE 14

1. (c) 2. (d) 3. (a) 4. (d)

PASSAGE 15

1. (a) 2. (b) 3. (d)

PASSAGE 16

1. (a) 2. (d) 3. (d) 4. (d) 5. (b)
6. (d)

PASSAGE 17

1. (b) 2. (d) 3. (b) 4. (b) 5. (d)
6. (c)

PASSAGE 18

1. (d) 2. (a) 3. (c) 4. (c)

PASSAGE 19

1. (a) 2. (a) 3. (e) 4. (e)

PASSAGE 20

1. (b)
2. (a)
3. (c)
4. (d)
5. (c)
6. (b)
7. (d)

PASSAGE 21

1. (d)
2. (b)
3. (c)
4. (c)

PASSAGE 22

1. (c)
2. (d)
3. (d)
4. (a)

PASSAGE 23

1. (d)
2. (d)
3. (d)
4. (d)
5. (c)

PASSAGE 24

1. (b)
2. (d)
3. (d)
4. (d)

PASSAGE 25

1. (d)
2. (b)
3. (a)

PASSAGE 26

1. (d)
2. (b)
3. (d)
4. (d)
5. (c)

PASSAGE 27

1. (c)
2. (d)
3. (d)
4. (d)

PASSAGE 28

1. (a)
2. (d)
3. (b)
4. (a)

PASSAGE 29

1. (b)
2. (d)
3. (b)
4. (b)

PASSAGE 30

1. (d)
2. (c)
3. (d)
4. (c)

PASSAGE 31

1. (d)
2. (c)
3. (d)
4. (b)

PASSAGE 32

1. (d)
2. (d)
3. (d)
4. (a)

PASSAGE 33

1. (b)
2. (b)
3. (d)
4. (d)

PASSAGE 34

1. (a)
2. (a)
3. (c)
4. (d)
5. (a)

PASSAGE 35

1. (a)
2. (b)
3. (d)
4. (c)
5. (d)
6. (d)

PASSAGE 36

1. (d)
2. (a)
3. (d)

PASSAGE 37

1. (b)
2. (d)
3. (a)
4. (d)
5. (c)

PASSAGE 38

1. (d)
2. (c)
3. (b)
4. (d)

PASSAGE 39

1. (b)
2. (d)
3. (c)
4. (a)

PASSAGE 40

1. (d)
2. (b)
3. (b)
4. (b)

HINTS AND EXPLANATIONS

PASSAGE 1

1. Let us verify the options one by one:

- (a) Precise measurement is both a necessary and sufficient condition to ensure validity of conclusions resulting from an experiment is wrong because Line 4 of the passage states that a **'claim can only be said to be supported by experiment if the various ways in which the claim could be at fault have been investigated and eliminated'**. This proves **that not only** precise measurement but all the methods in which the claim could have gone wrong should be done in order to test whether the claim holds true or not.
- (d) Precise measurement along with experimenter's knowledge of the theory underpinning (forming the basis of) the experiment is sufficient to ensure the validity of conclusions drawn from the experiments. This is incorrect because the emphasis is not on precise measurements and theory, but it is on the ways in which the claim could be false, these ways should be checked and the claim should work sufficiently even in these various ways then only can it be said to be supported by experiments. Secondly, the author has mentioned inaccuracies of measurement to further explain Mayo's method of checking claims, but only measurements are not the only criteria which can make an experiment go wrong, therefore, the author states in the 5th line that a claim can only be supported by experiment if **all the ways** in which the claim could have gone wrong have been worked out and eliminated.

Option (a) 'Experimental data might support multiple theoretical explanations at the same time, hence validity of theories needs to be tested further', this is correct and is also illustrated by the author's line 13 **'owing to the roughness of the measurements, the law of refraction would be quite likely to pass this test even if it were false and some other law differing not too much from Snell's law true.'** This means that experimental data could have supported Snell's law as well as some other law not differing too much from Snell's law (multiple theoretical explanations) hence, validity of theories needs to be tested further.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. According to Mayo, the phrase **'scientific explanation'** means that explanation is true even when the experiment is done with the strictest precautions, and if the parameters are changed then we do not get the results. According to Mayo, the term means that explanation, which has proven to be true under all possible situations and when the situation was deviated then the results obtained were inconsistent from those that were expected. (a) One which is most **detailed** in its explanation of natural phenomena. There is no mention of a detailed experiment, but there is a mention of accurately performed experiments. (b) One which has been **thoroughly tested** by scientific experts. This does not ensure that the claim is true, it is expected that since scientific experts are conducting the experiment it will be done using the strictest precaution, but this is not true always and scientific experts have not been mentioned in the passage. (c) One which **survives examinations** better than other explanations. This is incorrect because it should not just survive better than others, it should be the **only explanation** which can completely explain an experiment. Hence, answer is (d), One which **refutes other explanations** convincingly. An explanation can successfully refute other explanations only when it has been tried and tested according to the strictest norms of the experiment.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. The author's use of Snell's law of refraction to illustrate Mayo's perspective can best said to be (a). (d) Illustrative since it is serving as an example or explanation to further explain Mayo's way of testing and accepting a claim. Contrived is incorrect as it means created or arranged in a way that seems artificial and unrealistic, which is not the case with the author's example. (b) Premeditated is incorrect because it means to think out or plan an action beforehand, but the author did not plan his example, it occurred many years ago. In the 14th line, it is given that 'An exercise I carried out in my school-teaching days serves to drive this point home.' (c) Superfluous is incorrect because it means unnecessary, but the example is very much required to show what Deborah Mayo actually means.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 2

1. Option (c) is wrong as there is no economic predicament. Line 4 states that China's authorities have tended to downplay the country's international clout, choosing to stress instead its developing country status and limited military capabilities. Such **modest rhetoric** was intended to allay the fears that China's rise was causing across its immediate neighbourhood. The modest rhetoric was used by China's authorities to pacify its neighbours and to minimize its actual international clout. It was to show that China is a developing country with little military abilities so that the neighbours would be pacified regarding China's status. Hence, option b is not the answer. In line 2 it is stated that China shied away from playing the kind of active role in international affairs and in line 3 it has been explained that China did not play a prominent role in world affairs even though it had adequate weight, 'This is because **traditionally China's politics have been defined by the need for economic development above all else.**'

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. China's current international status is evident in line 8 '**in which the Chinese President has formally developed a theory of international relations; the concept of harmonious world**'. Option b states that China is the largest economy in the world wherein in line 14 it is written that 'The country's economic strength—having acquired the largest foreign exchange reserves in the world—is undeniable and reports favour it to be the largest economy **in the next quarter of a century.**' Option c is incorrect as it is not mentioned that China is the **Largest** donor of aid to developing countries. Option a, China's current international status is not a cause of insecurity amongst developing nations, on the contrary, line 28 'when Africa was in need of aid and infrastructure or the United States needed help in negotiating with Korea **they turned to China**', and secondly, in line 24 '**growing influence has caused a shift in the geopolitical status quo and its influence is beginning to replace that of the United States and European powers in Africa.**'

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. Options (b) and (d) are irrelevant as no comment has been made on corruption in China and in line 18 it is stated that 'China needs to feed **its growing economy** are imported.' Option a is incorrect as International scrutiny of China's economic policies has not been done, only its '*concept of harmonious world*' has left '*world opinion perplexed*'. The correct answer is option c where a fallout (secondary effect) of China's increased participation in world affairs has been that its influence and prestige have grown substantially. This is supported by lines 24, 28, and 31 where it is shown that China is intervening even in places where other world powers are cautious to tread.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

4. China's current political standing internationally disproportionate to its financial strength is not true as it is written in line 7 that Beijing is **finally acknowledging its status as a major player** in the international system. Line 13, China's **recent willingness** to be a more active player. One could get confused from the first three lines 'Though the **last twenty-five years** have seen China dazzle the world with its excellent economic performance, it has **shied away** from playing the kind of active role in international affairs that would seem commensurate (equivalent, corresponding) with its economic weight,' but here the author is talking about the past twenty-five years.

China is a reluctant participant in military dialogues, this is also not true because it is mentioned in line 28 that 'by taking a lead in a variety of initiating bilateral and **military exchanges** and dispensing aid and technical assistance in parts of the world where traditional powers are cautious to tread.' Option c, The harmonious world theory is the only utilitarian remedy to the current challenges facing the world is incorrect as we cannot say that it is the **only** remedy. Option d is the answer as United States has recognized and acknowledged China's growing international reputation. This is clear from line mentioned '*Despite this when Africa was in need of aid and infrastructure or the United States needed help in negotiating with Korea they turned to China.*'

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 3

1. Patent resulted in a commercial treatment, we can say that patenting gives a boost to new ideas.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. Passage mentions both the advantages and disadvantages of patenting.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. Look at the first paragraph, it is stated that the court went against its own guidelines, hence it can be said that the system is ad hoc.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 4

1. The real theme of a passage is its central idea, it is the common thread which runs through the entire passage and is reinforced by the author. It is the basic crux (plot) of the passage around which the entire passage revolves. According to the passage, in the 6th line it is written that 'Intel co-founder Gordon Moore in the 1960s that the cost of a unit of computing power would fall by 50 per cent every eighteen to twenty-four months.' Option A is not the theme of the passage as it merely shows why the prices of cameras plunged and it is not reinforced throughout the passage. Popularity of removable media and internet leads to high demand for computers.

Lines 6–8 of the passage show that 'Cameras began to be equipped with what the industry called removable media—those little cards that hold the pictures—so pictures were easier to print or to move to other devices, such as computers. Printers improved. Their costs dropped too. The internet caught the popular imagination, and people began e-mailing each other pictures rather than print them, but whether or not, this led to a high demand for computers is not mentioned. Secondly, the passage is not about an increased demand for computers or popularity of the internet. Kodak managers were able to predict the flow of digital technology and their critical value drivers. This is the absolute opposite of the theme of the passage, Kodak was unable to assess and keep-up with the rapidly changing trend of digitization of photographs, it was unable to provide inexpensive and modern technology, and ultimately, became obsolete. Kodak did not have a vision to plough back the profits from old technology to research and development in new technology. This is the theme because this sentiment is common to the entire passage and is shown by various lines like line 9 'Kodak did little to ready itself for the onslaught of digital technology because it consistently tried to hold on to the profits from its old technology and underestimated the speed with which the new would take hold.' Line 13 **Kodak decided it could use digital technology to enhance film, rather than replace it.** 'Instead of preparing for the digital world, Kodak headed off in a direction that cost it dearly'. Line 40, Soon cameras became a free feature on many personal computers, too. What had been so profitable for Kodak for so long—capturing images and displaying them—was going to become essentially free. Line 53, In 2002, competition in the digital market was so intense that Kodak lost 75 per cent of its stock-market value over the past decade, falling to a level about half of what it was. All these lines reinforce option 4 hence it is the theme/central idea of the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. Option (b) is correct. The first statement, i. Kodak bought sterling drug as a strategic choice for a chemical business as it was already in the business of chemically treated photo paper, is correct because it is written in line 14 that 'Kodak bought sterling drug for \$5.1 billion. Kodak had decided it was really a chemicals business, not a photography company. So, Kodak reasoned, it should move into adjacent chemical markets, such as drugs.' Statement 4 states that Kodak's diversification attempt with purchase of sterling to strengthen its core business and shift to digital world was a shift from its strategic focus. Line 15, Kodak reasoned, it should move into adjacent chemical markets, such as drugs. Well, chemically treated photo paper really is not that similar to hormonal agents and cardiovascular drugs. The customers are different. The delivery channels are different. Kodak lost its shirt. It sold sterling in pieces in 1994 for about half the original purchase price. Therefore, Kodak's diversification attempt with sterling came at the most crucial time where instead of diversifying it should have moulded itself with the new era of digitization or like Agfa it should have temporized (played for time) on digital technology, then sold its film and paper business to private-equity investors in 2004. Although, the business went into bankruptcy, but that was not Agfa's problem since it had cashed out at a halfway reasonable price.

Statement ii, The chemical business was in sync with the existing business of Kodak running across the customer segment, delivery channels, and the regulatory environment, is false as it is written in the passage (line 17) that chemically treated photo paper really is not that similar to hormonal agents and cardiovascular drugs. The customers are different. The delivery channels are different. Statement iii is incorrect because it states that Kodak **committed a mistake by selling sterling in pieces at a loss of 50 per cent.** Kodak did commit a **mistake but according to the author this was the mistake Instead of preparing for the digital world,** Kodak headed off in a direction that cost it dearly. **Kodak bought sterling drug for \$5.1 billion.**' (line 14). The author states that purchasing sterling drug was a mistake which cost Kodak dearly, whether or not selling it was a mistake is not known. Secondly, as Kodak sold sterling in pieces in 1994 for about half the original purchase price, it is safe to say that the loss was atleast of 50 per cent if not more.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. Option (d) is the correct answer. Statement 1, when Carp became the CEO, the digital technology eclipsed film technology business and further Carp had been with the company for twenty-nine years and had no background in technology. This statement is wrong because nowhere is it mentioned that Carp had been

with the company for twenty-nine years and had no background in technology. Carp in 2004 introduced a film camera that won camera of the year award, yet it was discontinued by the time Kodak collected the award. **‘The move to digital in the 2000s happened so fast that, in 2004, Kodak introduced a film camera that won a “camera of the year” award, yet was discontinued by the time Kodak collected the award.’**

The camera was discontinued because it was a **film camera and the customer base had shifted to the digital camera**. This was not the reason why Kodak lost a big piece of its market share to its competitors. Statement iii, Kodak moved from traditional retail photo-processing systems into digital world, installing several thousands of image magic kiosks that failed to deliver real benefits to the customers is one of the reasons that Kodak lost a big piece of its market share to its competitors. Line 26, ‘Fisher also tried to move Kodak’s traditional retail photo-processing systems into digital world and in this regard installed tens of thousands of image magic kiosks. These kiosks came just **as numerous companies introduced inexpensive, high-quality photo printers that people could use at home**, which, in fact, is where customers preferred to view their images and fiddle with them’. This shows that the magic kiosks failed to deliver real benefits to their customers and other companies gave the customers the benefit of high-quality photo printers in the comfort of their home. Thus, Fisher’s magic kiosks led to a loss of Kodak’s market share. Statement iv, Phillip Kahn led the advent of cell phone camera and Kodak lost out on the print business, and ability to share images became a free feature with no additional charge is supported by the line **‘In 1997, Philippe Kahn led the advent of cell phone camera**. With the cell phone camera market growth Kodak did not just lose out on more prints. The whole industry lost out on sales of digital cameras because they became just a feature that was given away free on cell phone.’ Therefore, line 43, What had been so profitable for Kodak for so long—capturing images and displaying them—was going to become essentially free and this practically wiped off the customer base of Kodak.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. From the 12th line **‘Kodak decided it could use digital technology to enhance film, rather than replace it**. *Instead of preparing for the digital world*, Kodak headed off in a direction that cost it dearly.’ Kodak

ventured into chemical business to strengthen its digital technology business. He formed partnerships that let customers receive electronic versions of their photos by e-mail and gave them access to kiosks that let them manipulate and reproduce old photographs. You do not need Kodak to upload photos to your computer and e-mail them. Fisher also formed a partnership with AOL called ‘You’ve Got Pictures.’ iv, Kodak tied-up with business firms for photo processing. Line 56, In 2002, competition in the digital market was so intense that Kodak lost 75 per cent of its stock-market value over the past decade, falling to a level about half of what it was. i, Kodak lost to its competitors a big pie of its market share.

Line 58, As of 2005, Kodak employed less than a third of the number who worked for it twenty years earlier. iii, Kodak downsized its workforce drastically. Therefore, correct sequence is (c) ii, iv, i, iii.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

5. Line 3, ‘The quality of digital cameras greatly improved. Prices plunged eighteen to twenty-four months.’ So, Intel is matched with option d (price of technology product reduces to half every year or two). Line 22, ‘M. C. Fisher was the new CEO of Kodak in 1993. Fisher’s solution was to hold on to the film business as long as possible, while adding a technology veneer to it. For instance, he introduced the advantix preview camera, a hybrid of digital and film technology. Users took pictures the way they always had, and the images were captured on film.’ So, Fisher is matched with a (preview cameras that helped users to immediately see the pictures taken). AOL is matched with option b. Photo processing, developing, and posting online photos because line 32 clearly states that ‘Fisher also formed a partnership with AOL called “You’ve Got Pictures.” Customers would have their film developed and posted online, where friends and family could view them. Customers would pay AOL \$7 for this privilege, on top of the \$9 paid for photo processing’. Agfa is matched with c, lead to insolvency (bankruptcy) of digital technology business. In the last few lines it is written that, ‘Agfa temporized on digital technology then sold its film and paper business to private-equity investors in 2004. The business went into bankruptcy proceedings the following year.’

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 5

1. Refer to the second line: ‘The authenticity of democracy requires in addition that these reflective preferences influence collective outcomes and action...’
Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.
2. It can be inferred from the beginning lines of the second paragraph.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
3. Author argues for cooperation in the last line but also says that it is never a state of cooperation alone as such.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
4. Refer to the second last line of the first paragraph ‘... trappings of a Foucauldian discourse ... do simultane-

ously pose through coercion a threat to an utterance as such. If democracy cannot ensure utterance as freedom and if the illocutionary forces in a discursive democracy disciplines...’ This implies that it is not a strategic discourse.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

5. Primordial means existing from the beginning.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
6. ‘The alternative to competition, a mental-state which is out of a Desire to enjoy the other...’ None of the given choices matches this description.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 6

1. Look at para 2, second sentence: “... WTO was a product of a series of trade-offs between principal actors and groups.” The important players were essentially the United States; Europeans; countries like Canada and other middle and smaller trading partners; and the developing countries, which continued negotiations as part of the Uruguay Round till the 1990s. The Tokyo Round of the 1970s was an attempt at a ‘constitutional reform’ of the GATT, while what the important players eventually settled for in the WTO was the evolution of a rules-based system through multiple negotiations which obviously required time.
Though option (a) mentions that ‘the US government wanted to put off the Tokyo Round of the 1970s to the future’, but it is clear from para 2 that other important players also first wanted to evolve a rules-based system through negotiations before agreeing to anything binding on them.
Option (c) is factually incorrect as per para 3
Option (d) does not present the complete picture as ‘the Tokyo Round negotiation was an attempt at con-

stitutional reform of GATT,’ and not related to formation of a new organization (WTO).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. Option (b) presents the summary of what is discussed in the second paragraph and emerges from the last sentence of the paragraph. (a), (c) and (d) are also stated in the second paragraph. But these are mentioned as individual considerations that went into the WTO package formulation.
Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.
3. Passage mentions in paragraph 3 the process of ‘legal development’ as ‘the promotion of the technical legal values of consistency, clarity and effectiveness. Only option (a) covers how the value of consistency was achieved.
Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.
4. Action of member states were evaluated against the accomplishment of community goals. (paragraph 4, lines 7 and 8). The other options are not related to this point.
Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 7

1. This passage is not an excerpt from a research note (option (a)) since in many contexts the author has written in line 13 that ‘This book has also posited (postulated) that’. In the 2nd line it is mentioned that ‘the transcendent function **was seen by Jung**’ this means that the author has compared the outlook of Jung and others on transcendental function, further in line 7 ‘**in exploring the details of the transcendent function and its connection to other Jungian constructs, this work**’, this means that this is **an excerpt**

from a scholarly treatise since a treatise is a written work dealing formally and systematically with a subject, here the subject being transcendental function (relating to a spiritual realm, dealing with life beyond this one, metaphysical). Option (B), An entry on a psychopathology blog is incorrect as psychopathology is the scientific study of mental disorders and this is not dealt with in the passage. Option (C), A popular magazine article is incorrect as the passage deals with concepts of Jung philosophy, transcendentalism,

and spirituality which are parts of philosophy and do not make up for light reading. Option (e), A newspaper article is incorrect as the article is an analysis of Jung's work and talks in detail about how **'this work'** has unearthed significant changes, ambiguities, and **inconsistencies in Jung's writings. In the last line it is clearly mentioned that** 'The expansive transcendent function has been explored further **by surveying other schools of psychology**, with both depth and non-depth orientations, and **evaluating the transcendent function** alongside structures or processes in those other schools which play similar mediatory and/or transitional roles.' This further lends support to the answer that this is an excerpt from a scholarly treatise.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. It cannot be inferred from the passage above that (a) The expansive transcendent function would include elements of both the Consciousness and the Unconscious because in line 9, **'the narrow transcendent function, the function or process within Jung's pantheon of psychic structures, generally seen as the uniting of the opposites of consciousness and the unconscious from which a new attitude emerges.'** (b), Archetypes emerge from the narrow transcendent function is wrong as in line 13 it is written that **'the expansive transcendent function, as the root metaphor for exchanges between conscious and the unconscious, is the wellspring from whence flows other key Jungian structures such as the archetypes and the Self.'** (c) The whole work, from which this excerpt is taken, **primarily concerns itself** with the inconsistencies in Jung's writings is incorrect because in line 4–7 it is stated that **'Jung portrayed the transcendent function as operating through symbol and fantasy and mediating between the opposites of consciousness and the unconscious to prompt the emergence of a new, third posture that transcends the two.'** In line 14 it is stated that **'the expansive transcendent function, subsumes (includes as a part of itself) Jung's pantheon.'** Line 15 'exchanges between conscious and the unconscious, is the wellspring from whence flows other key Jungian structures such as the archetypes and the Self'. Line 18 shows that **'The expansive transcendent function** has been explored further by surveying other schools of psychology, with both depth and non-depth orientations, and evaluating the transcendent function.' It is clear from the above lines that the passage is not about unearthing Jung's inconsistencies but about shedding further light on the transcendent function, its complex workings, and unveiling its crux. (d), Jung's pantheon of concepts subsumes the root metaphor of psyche is incorrect as it is written in line 11 that **'the root metaphor for psyche or being psychological that subsumes Jung's pantheon'**. (E), The transcendent is the core of the individuation process is correct as is evident from line 14 **'the expansive transcendent function, as the**

root metaphor for exchanges between conscious and the unconscious, is the wellspring from whence flows other key Jungian structures such as the archetypes and the Self, and **is the core of the individuation process.'**

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. In line 9 **'The two separate images of the transcendent function:** (1) the **narrow** transcendent function, the function or process **within** Jung's pantheon (all the gods of a religion collectively) of psychic structures, generally seen as the uniting of the opposites of consciousness and the unconscious **from which a new attitude emerges**; and (2) the **expansive** transcendent function, the root **metaphor** (analogy, comparison, and parallelism) for psyche or being psychological that **subsumes (includes) Jung's pantheon** and that apprehends the most fundamental psychic activity of interacting with the unknown or other.' The **narrow** transcendent function is a process **within** Jung's pantheon, whereas the **expansive** transcendent function **subsumes (includes) Jung's pantheon, hence, the narrow function is a small part of Jung's pantheon, which in turn is a small part of the expansive transcendent function.** They are mutually inclusive and complete each other, but they are not the same, the narrow function signifies the uniting of the opposites of consciousness and the unconscious **from which a new attitude emerges**, whereas the **expansive** transcendent function is the root/psyche (human soul, mind, or spirit), which apprehends (understands) the interaction with the unknown therefore, the two images are opposite of each other but complete each other. (a), Raucous: hilarious is wrong as raucous means making or constituting a disturbingly harsh and loud noise and hilarious means amusing or very funny; these words are unrelated to each other. (b) Synchronicity, the simultaneous occurrence of events which appear significantly related but have no discernible causal connection and Ontology, the branch of metaphysics dealing with the nature of being is also incorrect as synchronicity is not related to ontology and neither are they opposites which make up a whole. (c) Recession means decline and withdrawal means removing or taking away, this is also not related to the relation between the narrow and *expansive* function. (d) Penurious means to be very poor, decrepit means to be worn out or ruined because of age or neglect, both these words are unrelated too. Therefore, the correct answer is none of the above. A correct comparative term would be yin and yang: soul consciousness.
- Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
4. In line 14, "the expansive transcendent function,... is the **wellspring (source)** from whence flows other key Jungian structures such as the archetypes and the Self, and is **the core** of the individuation process". The key Jungian structure—other than the Self—that emerges

from the expansive transcendent function may NOT be expressed as an anomaly (abnormality), since it is a common source from which individualization emerges. Therefore, it can be a Stereotype: standard/conventional image. (c) Idealized model (optimistic model). (d) Original pattern (from the word wellspring

[source]). (e) Epitome (prime example) but it cannot be an abnormality (anomaly). Hence, expansive transcendent function may NOT be expressed as option (b) Anomaly.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 8

1. Refer to the 4th line of the passage. The author clearly states that 'greenery and growth are not polar opposite' secondly, in order to reinforce the above line in the 6th line, the author mentions that 'After decades of expansion in China and other fast-emerging economies, some of the negative side-effects and their impact on human welfare, above all the death toll **caused by** foul air and water, are horribly clear'. This denotes that the author **talks about the impact of environmental health as a causative factor on economic growth**. Hence, A is not the answer. In the last lines, the author talks in detail about factors determining good governance, one of which is how the government handles pollution 'that fouls up nature (such as acid rain, which poisons lakes and forests) as opposed to directly killing human beings'. Hence, (b) is not the answer. The 16th line states that 'Amongst the killers especially of children, in which the environment plays the role, are diarrhoea, respiratory infections, and malaria', the author has talked about environmental factors **affecting child mortality**, therefore, (d) is not the answer. The author has talked about **economic burden on society caused by bad environmental health but not about** the impact of economic growth on environment health.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

2. In the 6th line it is stated that 'After decades of expansion in China and other fast-emerging economies, some of the negative side-effects **and their impact on human welfare, above all the death toll caused by foul air and water, are horribly clear**'. It can be inferred that fast-emerging economies are responsible for polluting their environment. Since the 16th line says, "Amongst the killers especially of children, in which the **environment**.....reinforce a **vicious circle of poverty** and hopelessness by **depressing production**." Therefore, bad environmental health affects a country's production. The author begins with the question that, 'Can poor countries afford to be green?' He reinforces this line of thought by 'Some experts feel that poor countries have been quite right to challenge the sort of green orthodox, which rejects the very idea of economic growth' and that **environment can be protected only after economic prosperity has been achieved** is made clear with this line that, **Growth does offer solutions to the sorts of environmental woes** (local air pollution, for example) that directly kill humans. Most of the **victims are poor**

people who are already vulnerable because of bad living conditions, lack of access to medicine, and malnutrition. Additionally, in the first few lines, the author has stated that poor countries have to pay **attention to the human beings living nearby** rather than **caring about preserving forests and saving cuddly animals, thus showing that economic prosperity is vital for Environment protection**. The confusion may arise due to this line 'The key to addressing that sort of pollution is not just money but good governance', but this line has been written not to diminish the value of economic prosperity but to stress the importance of good governance. The author wants to say that economic prosperity is a prerequisite for a healthy environment but it is not the only factor. Economic prosperity as well as good governance is required for a healthy environment. Option (d), The link between the state of the environment and human health is not vague/ambiguous because 'side-effects **and their impact on human welfare, above all the death toll caused by foul air and water, are horribly clear**' and 'environmental woes (local air pollution, for example) that directly **kill humans**'.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. How Green is Their Growth? would have been an appropriate title if this passage dealt with economically prosperous countries and their environmental health. On the contrary, this passage disproves the myth that being economically prosperous means having a good environmental health. The author stresses that the actual scenario is quite the opposite. Growth versus Greenery is not the answer because growth and greenery are not inversely proportional, neither are they pitched against each other, they in fact go hand in hand as shown in line 4 of the passage. Global Warming is a phenomenon indicative of poor environmental health but it has not been dealt at all hence, cannot be the title. Green Orthodoxy is the correct title because the author believes that 'poor countries have been quite right to challenge the sort of **green orthodox**, which rejects the very idea of economic growth'. Line 9, 'But that does not imply **that economic growth automatically leads to an improvement in the environment**.' The last lines, 'the poor Dominican Republicthan that of many developing countries' also show that green orthodoxy has been challenged.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. The 9th line states that ‘the single biggest variable in determining the countries ranking is income per head. But that does not imply **that economic growth automatically leads to an improvement in the environment.** Growth does offer solutions to the sorts of environmental woes (local air pollution, for example) that directly kill humans. This **matters, because about a quarter of all deaths in the world have some link to environmental factors.**’ Thus, it can be inferred that since ranking in income per head does not imply **that economic growth automatically leads to an improvement in the environment and since quarter of all deaths in the world have some link to environmental factors, therefore, according to the author** environmental health should be the single biggest variable in determining a country’s ranking. Secondly, from the line 12 to the last line, all the lines support the fact that a country’s Environmental health should be the biggest variable in determining a country’s ranking because ‘economic burden on the society caused by bad environmental health amounts to between 2 per cent and 5 per cent of GDP. As poor countries get richer, they usually invest heavily in environmental improvements, such as cleaning up water supplies and improving sanitation, that boost human health.’

In the first few lines, ‘Can poor countries afford to be green?’ That is a question which politicians in the developing world have often asked pointedly, but this is an outlook and it cannot be generalized and said for all poor countries that ‘Poor countries cannot afford to save forests or protect cuddly animals.’ Haiti, Nicaragua, and Belgium are the most polluted countries in the world. This cannot be inferred since the author has compared Haiti to Dominican Republic, Nicaragua has been compared to Costa Rica, and ‘Belgium is the sick man of Western Europe’, but this does not mean that these cities **are most polluted in the world.** Economic progress can help to ease environmental woes, as long as the governance is good **can be incorrectly inferred from the fourth last line that ‘The key to addressing that sort of pollution is not just money but good governance’** but here, by money the author means **economic prosperity and not economic progress.** Secondly, ‘as long as’ derides the importance of good governance, which is a vital factor according to the author for easing environmental woes.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 9

1. **Explanation: Sentence 1:** The starting point for our discussion is the common view expressed in the saying ‘Necessity is the mother of invention.’ **Sentence 2:** Some inventions do conform to this common sense view of necessity as inventions’ mother. **Sentence 3:** Thus, invention is often the mother of necessity, rather than vice versa. **Sentence 4:** Thus, the common sense view of invention that served as our starting point reverses the role of invention and need, and probably overstates the importance of rare geniuses such as Watt and Edison. **Sentence 5:** In truth, technology develops cumulatively, and through the inventions and improvements of many predecessors and successors; rather than in isolated heroic acts, and it finds most of its uses after it has been invented, rather than being invented to meet a foreseen need.

The above five sentences are spread across the passage to discuss invention is the mother of necessity.

- (a) **Correct.** The five sentences above support this option. Also, it is the message seen across the passage.
- (b) The passage does not say anything negative about the inventors. So, using ‘villains’ is wrong.
- (c) ‘The Heroic Theory of Invention’ is only available in the 2nd paragraph. A title must be linked with the entire passage.

- (d) The term ‘not Necessities’ is wrong. The passage talks about necessities and how inventions struggle to be a part of common acceptance.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. **Explanation:** In this question, we have to reject the options that are true according to the passage.

- (a) Facilitate is a very broad term. Facilitating would mean helping by providing funds, arranging man power, etc. Helping or not helping the innovations is out of the purview of patent laws. The only aspect discussed in the passage is that patent laws could only authenticate the real work. The innovators who would breach the law would pay fine.
- (b) We see the evidence for this option on the 2nd paragraph ‘.... starting point reverses the role of invention....’. In the case of trucks which earlier could not replace existing horses and railroads as mode of transportation. Only after WW1, trucks started turning into the need for people. It is correct according to the passage.
- (c) In the 1st paragraph, we see a sentence ‘..... In fact, many or most inventions were developed by people driven by curiosity or by a love of tinkering, in the absence of any initial demand for the product they had in mind’. Hence, option is *not incorrect* according to the passage.

- (d) In the 2nd paragraph, we see a sentence ‘..... Intensive post-war lobbying by truck manufacturers and armies finally convinced the public of its own needs and enabled trucks to begin to supplant horse-drawn wagons in industrialized countries.’ Hence, option (d) is *not incorrect*.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

3. **Explanation:** ‘According to the passage’ indicates that we have to select one such option which is true. In other words, it is a true or false question.

- (a) In the 1st paragraph, we see a sentence ‘.....Some inventions in search of an initial use included most of the major technological breakthroughs of modern times, including the airplane, the automobile, internal combustion engine, electric light bulb, the phonograph, and transistor.....’ Hence, airplanes and automobiles were not invented out of curiosity but on the basis of ‘initial use’.
- (b) In the 1st paragraph, we see a sentence ‘..... In fact, many or most inventions were developed by people driven by curiosity or by a love of tinkering, in the absence of any initial demand for the product they had in mind.’. Hence, curiosity and necessity **are not** the obstacles for invention, but the driving forces for the inventions. So, option B is wrong.
- (c) In the last part of the 1st paragraph, we see a sentence ‘.....For example, when Edison built his first phonograph in 1877, he published an article listing ten uses to which his invention might be put. Reproduction of music did not figure high on that list. Only after twenty years, did Edison reluctantly concede that the main use of his pho-

nograph was to play and record music.’ Hence, often the direct or main application of an invention is not known immediately.

- (d) Information in option (d) is not discussed anywhere in the passage.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

4. **Explanation:** The last sentence ‘.....In truth, technology develops cumulatively, and through the inventions and improvements of many predecessors and successors; rather than in isolated heroic acts, and it finds most of its uses after it has been invented, rather than being invented to meet a foreseen need.....’

- (a) As seen in the last sentence, the author does believe in the heroic acts. What he does not believe in is isolated heroic acts. Hence, A is wrong.
- (b) This option uses a phrase ‘**does not always**’, which is equal to ‘**may**’. Such options are generally correct. Author says ‘.....it finds most (approximately 70 per cent to 80 per cent, but not 100 per cent) of its uses after it has been invented, rather than being invented to meet a foreseen need’ Hence, there is a scope of 20 per cent to have inventions on the basis of needs.
- (c) The last sentence uses ‘isolated heroic acts’ to convey that isolated efforts would not support the technological development.
- (d) Here, in the last sentence, the author does not discuss recognizing the initial inventors. He uses the words predecessors and successors to convey that improvements of existing inventions paves path for technological development.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 10

1. **Explanation:**

- (a) In the last paragraph, the author says ‘.....You go and oppose the prevailing faith, you go and criticize a hero, too obviously, reactionary.....’. So, a person could be reactionary rather than arrogant.
- (b) Option (b) is actually the opposite of what passage encourages everyone to not follow in the 2nd paragraph ‘.....because I could not do otherwise. The day we find a great number of men and women with this psychology who cannot devote themselves to anything else than the service of mankind and emancipation of the suffering humanity—that day shall **inaugurate the era of liberty**.....’ So, the passage conveys it is the sacrifice (not belief) that will make tomorrow better.

- (c) We see the evidence for this option in last paragraph in the lines ‘.....Because Mahatmaji is great, therefore none should criticize him. Because he has risen above, therefore everything he says—may be in the field of politics or religion, economics or ethics—is right. Whether you are convinced or not you must say, ‘Yes. That’s true.....’ So, it can be deduced that Mahatmaji attained greatness and had an uncritical follow-ship.
- (d) This is wrong. According to the author if you do not believe in god still independence can be achieved. We see the evidence for this in lines ‘.....because I could not do otherwise. The day we find a great number of men and women with this psychology who cannot devote themselves to anything else than the service of mankind and

emancipation of the suffering humanity—that day shall **inaugurate the era of liberty**.....’

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

2. **Explanation:** The question is to find the ESSENCE OF THE PASSAGE. In other words, we have to find the crux of the passage. So, one option, which only satisfies one paragraph, will be wrong. One option that stands true for all the paragraphs will be correct. As such the essence of the passage is to encourage people to be independent without being selfish.

- (a) Criticizing a man like Mahatmaji..... This information is only present in the last paragraph. Author uses this information to say that do not fear to question even the hero because such mentality will not help in achieving freedom ‘..... This mentality does not lead towards progress.’ This is not the essence of the passage.
- (b) The author says that he is sacrificing for no selfish motive but for independence. When great number of men and women would be ready to devote themselves to the idea of independence, freedom could be seen. Any fear or reservation in the name of god or the tendency of not to question the hero will not help in achieving the goal. So, some have to desist their belief in god and the others have to do so for their hero.
- (c) Author is not defending himself or anyone in the passage. He is trying to agitate the people that do not just console yourself by saying god exists and everything will be fine in future. He tries to agitate them to selflessly devote themselves to the fight for freedom.
- (d) To selflessly believe in god is not the objective of the passage.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. **Explanation:** Before going to the options, let us check the last paragraph to have a better understanding of the word vainglorious, in terms of what the author mean by it. Read the highlighted portion carefully. ‘..... You go and oppose the prevailing faith, you go and criticize a hero, a great man, who is generally believed

to be above criticism because he is thought to be infallible, **the strength of your argument shall force the multitude to decry you as vainglorious**. This is due to the mental stagnation: **criticism** and **independent thinking** are the two indispensable qualities of a revolutionary. Because Mahatmaji is great, therefore none should criticize him. Because he has risen above, therefore everything he says—may be in the field of politics or religion, economics or ethics—is right. **Whether you are convinced or not you must say, “Yes. That’s true”**.....’ So, according to the author, vainglorious here may mean—revolutionary, critic, independent thinker, and true. Opposites of these words are conservative, amateur, dumb, and dishonest. One of these words or their synonyms would be the right choice. Only, option (c) is the best choice.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

4. **Explanation:**

- (a) In the 3rd paragraph, we see ‘.....Is the pride in their noble cause to be misinterpreted as vanity? Who dares to utter such an abominable epithet? To him, I say either he is a fool or a knave.....’ The author here states that calling the individuals devoting themselves to a noble cause or having pride for fighting for their independence have vanity is wrong. This option is correct according to the passage, but the question is about NOT TRUE as per the passage.
- (b) Since this option is NOT TRUE according to the passage, we choose it as our answer. Now, how this option is NOT TRUE? Serving the mankind is not the ultimate path, but one of the paths to freedom. Not to accept the wrong is the ultimate path. Author also discusses other paths to strive to reach the goal of freedom such as questioning the heroes, not to follow them uncritically, and not to be laidback in the name of god.
- (c) Last paragraph has the evidence for this option.
- (d) 1st paragraph, last lines exactly say the same thing. So, true according to the passage.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 11

1. **Explanation:** Let us check the complete information in the passage that deals with the delay in the formation of WTO. In the 1st paragraph, we see ‘..... since that negotiation was an attempt at a “constitutional reform” of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). Or it could have been put off to the future, as the U.S. government wanted.....’

So, we see **two possibilities (notice carefully possibilities are not the confirmed reasons)** here:

- (a) Tokyo round was an attempt at ‘constitutional reform’. All the important member countries must have considered so.
- (b) The U.S. government did not want it.

So, the best option will be the one that tries to accompany both the statements. If only one of the possibilities is mentioned, we have to consider that option as incomplete information.

- (a) True but incomplete.
- (b) This option encompasses both the possibilities together.
- (c) In this part of the passage, we do not see any information which talks about lawyers and dispute settlement etc.
- (d) True but incomplete.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. **Explanation:** To understand why all the nations agreed to WTO, we can divide the entire 2nd paragraph into the following five points:

- (a) **Why the United States agreed:** For the United States, which did not want a new organization, the dispute settlement part of the WTO package achieved its longstanding goal of **a more effective and more legal dispute settlement system**.
- (b) **Why Europe agreed:** For the Europeans, who by the 1990s had come to view GATT dispute settlement less in political terms and **more as a regime of legal obligations**, the WTO package was acceptable as **a means to discipline the resort to unilateral measures by the United States**.
- (c) **Why Canada and other middle and smaller trading partners agreed:** Countries like Canada and other middle and smaller trading partners were **attracted by the expansion of a rules based system and by the symbolic value of a trade organization**, both of which inherently support the weak against the strong.
- (d) **Developing countries agreed:** The developing countries were attracted due to the **provisions banning unilateral measures**.
- (e) **Common to all partners:** Finally, and perhaps most importantly, many countries at the Uruguay round **came to put a higher priority on the export gains** than on the import losses that the negotiation would produce, and they came to associate the WTO and **a rules based system with those gains**. This reasoning—replicated in many countries—was contained in United State Ambassador Kantor's defence of the WTO, and it amounted to a recognition that international trade and **its benefits cannot be enjoyed unless trading nations accept the discipline of a negotiated rules based environment**.

Now, let us see the options.

- (a) It is true but narrow. It is true for points b, c. and d, i.e., for Europe, Canada and other middle small trading partners, and for the developing countries. And it is narrow because it does not include why the United States accepted WTO.
- (b) It sums up everything for all the partners. The point e above elaborates it.

- (c) It is again true but narrow. It is true because the United States accepted WTO only for this reason. It is narrow because it does not cover the interests of other partners.
- (d) This option gives wrong information that the rules based system will produce export gains. Compare points c and e. So, from the points c and e, we can infer that Canada and other middle and small partners got attracted by WTO's rules based system which will protect (and not produce) export gains.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. **Explanation:** In the 2nd paragraph, we see '..... Legal development can be defined as promotion of the technical legal values of **consistency, clarity (or certainty), and effectiveness**; these are the values that those responsible for administering any legal system will seek to maximize. As it played out in the WTO, **consistency** meant integrating under one roof the whole lot of separate agreements signed under GATT auspices; **clarity** meant removing ambiguities about the powers of contracting parties to make certain decisions or to undertake waivers; and **effectiveness** meant eliminating exceptions arising out of grandfather-rights and resolving defects in dispute settlement procedures and institutional provisions.....' So, there are three aspects.

- (a) Checks the consistency element of technical legal values.
- (b) It is discussed far at the end of the paragraph to convey that because of the technical values the rules will have incentive to follow. But, the technical values have not been promoted through the rules rather the reverse will be true.
- (c) According to the passage, **effectiveness** meant **eliminating** exceptions arising out of grandfather-rights and **resolving** defects in dispute settlement procedures and institutional provisions. The given option due to the absence of words eliminating and resolving gives opposite sense. So, it is wrong.
- (d) In the passage, on the clarity element, it is discussed to **remove** the ambiguities. So, technical legal values were not promoted through the ambiguities, but by the removal of ambiguities.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

4. **Explanation:** The question talks about method of interpretation. It was teleological method of interpretation. In the 3rd paragraph, we see:

PART A: '.....One means the Court used to expand integration was the "**teleological method of interpretation**", whereby the actions of member states were evaluated against "the accomplishment of the most elementary community goals set forth in the Preamble to the [Rome] treaty".....'

PART B: The **teleological method** represents an effort to keep current policies consistent with stated goals, and it is analogous to the effort in GATT to keep contracting party trade practices consistent with stated rules. In both cases, legal concerns and procedures are an independent force for further cooperation.....

So, first important word to understand here is ‘teleological’, which means the effect/the end is important. If the final outcome is good because of any cause, everything is acceptable. Understanding PART B is important so as to limit the confusion. PART B only says that some causes will remain unchanged so as to achieve the goals. Now, let us analyze the options.

- (a) Keeping policies consistent is looking at the cause rather than the effect. It is not teleological.
- (b) This option again does not talk about the final outcome.
- (c) Enunciation means just pronouncing or speaking the community goals. Speaking is different from evaluating the goals not discussed.
- (d) It is clearly mentioned in PART A.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

5. **Explanation:** the question is to identify the meaning of ‘it’. So, the first thing is ‘it’, a pronoun, has an antecedent placed before, may be in the sentence before. In the 2nd paragraph, we see ‘.....Finally, and perhaps most importantly, many countries at the Uruguay Round came to put a higher priority on the export gains than on the import losses that the negotiation would produce, **and they came to associate the WTO and a rules based system with those gains.**

This reasoning—replicated in many countries—was contained in United States Ambassador Kantor’s defence of the WTO, and **it** amounted to a recognition that international trade and its benefits cannot be enjoyed unless trading nations accept the discipline of a negotiated rules based environment.....’

So, we experience a backward movement w.r.t the pronoun ‘it’ → this reasoning → rules based system with **those** gains → rules based system with **export** gains. Clearly, option 3 is the best fit.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

6. **Explanation:** in the 4th or the 2nd last paragraph, we see ‘.....has consistently rendered decisions that have expanded incrementally the European Union’s internal market, in which the doctrine of “mutual recognition” handed down in the case Cassis de Dijon in 1979 was a key turning point. The Court is now widely recognized as a major player in European integration, even though arguably such a strong role was not originally envisaged in the Treaty of Rome, which initiated the current European Union’

So, with the doctrine of ‘mutual recognition’ handed down, i.e., allowed to be followed from then onwards. This ‘mutual recognition’ was important and recognized as major factor in European integration.

- (a) True but irrelevant to the question. Question is w.r.t Cassis de Dijon.
- (b) True but irrelevant.
- (c) True but irrelevant
- (d) A clear cut answer.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 12

1. **Explanation:** Throughout the passage the author has mentioned west, globally, the Netherlands, and American States to prove that big retails could not provide a relief to agriculture elsewhere; hence, would not be able to do so in India. Now, let us analyze the options.

- (a) The preference of Indian framers is not discussed in the passage. So, it is wrong.
- (b) The author gives many examples, statistics, and research by Pennsylvania State University to prove that big retail chains killed the agriculture sector.
- (c) This is true, but author does not largely reject the idea of retail chains to ameliorate the farmers’ condition by saying that they pay less to farmers. But, the author proves his point by giving examples. Also, we may mark this option only if option 2 was not given.
- (d) This comparison is not given in the passage. The word subsidy is used by the author to question the

administrators that from where would they provide subsidy to Indian farmers after importing a failed model.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. **Explanation:**

- (a) Towards the end, the option says ‘multigrain retailing’. There was no discussion on multigrain retailing. If at all the word retail is used, it is used for big retail chains.
- (b) In the passage, there are no details given for supermarket chains providing large investments for anything.
- (c) Opposite to what author says throughout the passage.
- (d) Last sentence of paragraph 4 provides evidence for this option.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. **Explanation:** In the 2nd paragraph, we see ‘..... administrators in India are gung-ho about allowing foreign direct investment in multi-brand retailing.’ ‘The agriculture sector needs well-functioning markets to **drive** growth, employment, and economic prosperity in rural areas,’ says a discussion paper.’

Additionally, in the 3rd paragraph, we see ‘..... that the supermarket chains will squeeze out the middlemen thereby providing higher prices to farmers and at the same time providing large investments for the development of post-harvest infrastructure.....’

So, undoubtedly statements B and D are correct.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. **Explanation:** For the big retail chains, author carries a negative tone. He disagrees to the idea of retail chains for the betterment of farmers. So, we want correct information and a negative tone or negative word for retail, multi-brand shop, or supermarket. Let us check the options.

- (a) Positive tonality.
- (b) Positive
- (c) A negative tone.
- (d) It is opposite to the information given in paragraph 2. The author uses a word ‘gung ho’. So, according to the passage, the administrators are willing to allow the retail chain.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 13

1. **Explanation:** Let us read the sentence where this word is used. In the 2nd last paragraph, we see ‘.....if a vendor **palms off** a bad piece whose defects are obvious, I never go back to that person again it is amazing how often that happens’

So, the author will never go back to the vendor who tries to cheat by selling or passing on a defective piece.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. **Explanation:** In the 1st paragraph, we see ‘..... we believe that airline travel is safe. Our trust in these institutions depends on two factors: **skill and ethics**. We expect that the **people** who run these institutions **know** what they are doing. That they build and operate machines that work as they are supposed to and that they are looking out **for our welfare**’

So, we repose trust in institutions not known to us only because we believe they practice workmanship, ethics, and skills. Now, let us analyze the options.

- (a) No marketing strategies have been discussed in the passage. So, we reject this option.
- (b) Passage does not talk about following others, but it talks about workmanship. Reject.
- (c) There is no mention of learning from richer counter parts. Information is unavailable according to the passage.
- (d) The 1st paragraph provides evidence for this option.
- (e) Price is not the reason that we believe in the institutions we do not know.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. **Explanation:** The author presents various cases where trust is breached—how a student loses his trust in teachers or examiners, government officials etc. Towards the end, the author ends up by saying that he does not go to the same vendor if he cheats.

- (a) The author does not talk about modifications.
- (b) The author is discussing the loss of ethics and skills and increase in deception and widening trust deficit.
- (c) It is a very broad option. According to the author, airlines work in India. Hence, there will be cases where India will not be a country without ethics.
- (d) Author does not talk about the failure of the government.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. **Explanation:** In the 2nd paragraph, we see ‘..... trust breaks down and we either pay a **high price** in safety—as in the Bhopal tragedy—or a large welfare premium such as the elaborate security measures at airports. Trust-deficient environments work in the favour of the rich and powerful, who can command **premium treatment and afford welfare premiums**. Poor people can command neither; which is why air travel is safer than train travel,’

- (a) We see evidence here in the line ‘.....Poor people can command neither’
- (b) There is no discussion of wellbeing in the passage.
- (c) Given in the line ‘.....we either pay a high price.....’

Hence, both (a) and (c) are correct. Option (b) is the best choice.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

5. **Explanation:** In the 7th paragraph or the 3rd last paragraph, we see ‘.....I think the real problem lies deeper, in the failure of every day institutions that are quite apart from institutions that impinge on our lives only on **rare occasions**.’

- (a) According to the passage, the general public does care about the failures, but because they do not feature, they are unaware about these failures.

- (b) Such failures exist. So, reject.
- (c) Such failures are known to us only on rare occasions.

- (d) Very broad. Author does not talk about every country, he only mentions India.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 14

1. **Explanation:** In the 2nd paragraph, we see ‘..... This is not surprising. Forests constitute not just community and national wealth, but global wealth. But for millions, forests are also critical for livelihoods and their daily lives,’

- (a) Not the reason for issue.
- (b) Global warming is not discussed.
- (c) This is evident in the lines ‘.....for millions, forests.....livelihood.....daily lives’.
- (d) Less women representation is the reason for poor forest governance.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

2. **Explanation:** The author is negative in the answer to the question. In the answer, we see ‘.....with its **top down implementation and focus on commercial species**, was **neither** social **nor** forestry, and would **protect neither** forests **nor** village livelihoods. The answer, I argued, lay in **allowing forests communities** to manage local forests.....’

‘.....Forests were indeed becoming greener, but women’s **problem** of firewood shortages **persisted** and, in many cases, had become more **acute**. Also, despite their high stakes in forests, women continued to agreement. I coined the term “participatory exclusions”.....’

Let us analyze the options.

- (a) It is true but incomplete. This option has only the positive tone and information.
- (b) Passage does not talk about the shift in governance from local groups to local groups with more women. But yes, a shift from top down implementation to local groups.
- (c) There is no mention of the word ‘**balance**’. Wrong.

- (d) Majorly covers the answer, although more information could have been added to make it better.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. **Explanation:** In the question ‘But has this question not been raised before?’, the author identifies, ‘..... On the one hand, their everyday dependence on forests for firewood, fodders etc. creates a strong stake in dependence can **compel them to extract heavily from forests**. As one landless woman told me: of course, **it hurts me to cut a green branch but what do I do if my children are hungry?**’

- (a) It is similar to the portion above given in bold.
- (b) True but incomplete.
- (c) Women representation is not a part of the rural women’s complex relationship with forests.
- (d) This information is not available.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

4. **Explanation:** In the passage, we see ‘.....Second, and unexpectedly, groups with more women typically **make stricter forest use rules**..... To regenerate these, they have to **sacrifice** their immediate needs..... although extraction is higher, they still **balance self-interest with conservation goals**, when placed in decision-making positions.

Third, groups with more women outperform other groups in improving forest conditions..... substantially improves protection and conflict resolution’

- (a) Incomplete.
- (b) Not given.
- (c) Opposite.
- (d) This option matches with information given in the passage.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 15

1. **Explanation:**

Step 1. Analyze any of the statement. Let us start with the STATEMENT–IV. Industrial revolution is not mentioned in the passage. So reject this statement. In OPTION 2 we see IV along with II. So, we reject option 2. Now, we have to check the authenticity of II.

Step 2. There is no hint about Growth of leather footwear industry and Vietnam shoe controversy. So, reject all the options with STATEMENT–II. So, now option

4 is also out. Here, we see II along with III. Now, we try to check the authenticity of STATEMENT–III.

Step 3. In STATEMENT–III ‘Modern U.S. population and traditional expatriates’ we find the word ‘expatriates’ problematic. There is no hint about the traditional expatriates. So, we reject this statement.

Now, we are only left with option (a). Option (a) is the best choice.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. Explanation:

Let us observe the 1st paragraph, we see:

- (a) ‘.....Buffett did this in markets bullish and bearish and through economies fat and lean, from the **Eisenhower** years to **Bill Clinton**, from the **1950s** to the **1990s**, from saddle shoes and Vietnam to junk bonds and the **information age**.
- (b) ‘.....Buffett began his career, working out his study in Omaha in 1956.’
- (c) ‘.....Buffett was born in the midst of depression.’
- (d) ‘.....In this, he resembled the magnates of a previous age, such as J. P. Morgan Sr.....’
- (e) ‘.....A few years later, when these friends had metamorphosed into young associates starting out on Wall Street, the ritual was the same.’

In paragraph 2, we see ‘.....Even at his **California** beachfront vacation home, Buffett would work every day for weeks and not go near the water. Like other **prodigies**, he paid a price. Having been raised in a home with more than its share of demons, he lived within an emotional fortress.....’

Analysis:

- Eisenhower must be a president when Buffet started working. Bill Clinton came later.
- Depression must have occurred before Buffet started working, during his birth.
- Depression → Eisenhower → Microsoft.
- J. P. Morgan existed before Buffet started working. Bill Gates came during IT age.
- J. P. Morgan → Buffett → Bill Gates
- California → Omaha → New York (Wall Street).

Conclusion:

STATEMENT–I is correct. We see I in options (a) and (b). So, we reject all the other options.

STATEMENT–II is wrong.

STATEMENT–III is also correct. So, we only have option (b) as the best answer.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. Explanation:

Let us check paragraph 2. We see here:

- (a) ‘.....Even his children could scarcely recall a time when he **broke through his surface calm and showed some feelings**. Though part of him is a showman or preacher, he is essentially a private person.....’
- (b) ‘.....Peter Lynch, the mutual-fund wizard, visited Buffett in the 1980s and was struck by the **tranquillity** in his inner sanctum. His archives, neatly alphabetized in metal filing cabinets, looked as files had in another era. He had no armies of traders, no rows of electronic screens, as Lynch did. Buffett had no price charts, no computer—only a newspaper clipping from 1929 and an antique ticker under a glass dome.....’
- (c) ‘.....He has **no art collection** or **snazzy car**, and he has never lost his taste for hamburgers. He lives in a **commonplace house** on a tree-lined block, on the same street where he works.....’

Analysis:

In PART A, we see that he is an expressionless man. So the word straight-faced or deadpan will be good to define him.

In PART B, we see that he works in old style. He does not have latest gadgets. Part B does not say that he is against or hates technology.

In part C, we see he is a very simple man.

STATEMENT–I and STATEMENT–III are clearly true. So, the best choice is option (d).

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 16

1. In recent times, governments, usually controlled by men, have ‘given’ women the right to contraceptive use and abortion access when their countries were perceived to have an overpopulation problem. When these countries are perceived to be under populated that right has been absent. Since, in countries that have an overpopulation problem give women the right to contraceptive use and abortion access, therefore, according to the author’s arguments India and China are more likely to allow abortion.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. A tradition of matriarchal control is **not** a reason for banning of abortions by 1900. ‘By 1900, abortion was banned in every state except to save the life of the mother. The change was strongly influenced by the medical profession, which focused its campaign

ostensibly on health and safety issues for pregnant women and the sanctity of life.’ Option 1 has been mentioned. ‘The large influx of eastern and southern European immigrants with their large families was seen as a threat to the population balance of the future United States.’ Option 2 has been mentioned. In the 2nd paragraph, in the last three lines it is mentioned that ‘The change was strongly influenced by the medical profession, which focused its campaign ostensibly on health and safety issues for pregnant women and the sanctity of life. Its position was also a means of control of non-licensed medical practitioners such as midwives and women healers who practiced abortion.’ Option 3 has been mentioned.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. In the 5th paragraph, it has been mentioned how pro-life women view abortion. 'On one side of the controversy are those who call themselves "**pro-life**". They view the foetus as a human life rather than as an unformed complex of cells; therefore, they hold to the belief that abortion is essentially murder of an unborn child. These groups cite both legal and religious reasons for their opposition to abortion. Pro-lifers point to the rise in legalized abortion figures and see this as morally intolerable.' Therefore, the answer is none of the above as pro-life women view abortion as murder.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. Pro-choice women object to the notion of the home being the 'women's sphere' because they believe (7th paragraph) that 'Pro-choice advocates reject the view of separate spheres. They object to the notion of the home being the 'women's sphere'. Women's reproductive and family roles are seen as potential barriers to full equality. Motherhood is seen as a voluntary, not a mandatory or "natural" role.' Therefore, option 2 that reproduction is a matter of choice for women and that men and women are equal is clearly mentioned. It has not been mentioned in the passage that 'joint sphere' is what pro-choice advocates are looking for, they are just advocating that women's role not be restricted only to the house. Also, a man could run the house solely without the sphere being shared, this is evident as the author says that motherhood is seen as a voluntary, not a mandatory, natural role.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

5. Two health tragedies affecting the United States society in the 1960s led to retaining the anti-abortion laws

with some exceptions because it is mentioned that 'These tragedies combined with a change of attitude towards a woman's right to privacy lead a number of states to pass abortion-permitting legislation.' Which shows that a number of states passed abortion-permitting legislation but some did not therefore, the anti-abortion laws with some exceptions were still in effect.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

6. Historically, the pro-choice movement has not got support from 1, major patriarchal religions because it is mentioned in the 2nd paragraph that '**Patriarchal religion**, as manifest in Islamic fundamentalism' traditionalist Hindu practice, orthodox Judaism, and Roman Catholicism, has been an important historical contributory factor for this and continues to be an important presence in contemporary societies. In recent times, governments, usually controlled by men, have 'given' women the right to contraceptive use and abortion access when their countries were perceived to have an overpopulation problem.' This shows that they supported it only as a means of curbing population. 2. Countries with low population density have not supported abortion practices because it has been mentioned that 'When these countries are perceived to be under populated that right has been absent.' 3. Medical profession did not support abortion because 'By 1900, abortion was banned in every state except to save the life of the mother. The change was strongly influenced by the **medical profession**, which focused its campaign ostensibly on health and safety issues for pregnant women and the sanctity of life.'

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 17

1. The passage highlights the importance of moods and emotions in marketing as is evident from the following lines. 'What is important for marketing is that **moods colour outlook and bias judgments**.' When consumers are in a good mood, they are more optimistic about buying, more confident in buying, and much more willing to tolerate things like waiting in line.' The author maintains and reiterates this summary up till the last line. Csikszentmihalyi argues that '**humans need to keep consciousness fully active is what influences a good deal of consumer behaviour**.'

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. 'Conspicuous consumption' according to the author means consumption of material items for impressing others. This is evident from '**Consumers, as socially involved individuals, are deeply influenced by the prevailing social climate**. Marketers recognize the

phenomenon and talk about the national mood being, say for or against conspicuous consumption.' This means that customers shop according to the trends of the social climate in order to impress others living in the same time and age.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. Mood congruence means when moods are synchronous with thoughts and actions as is evident from the 15th line, 'There is **mood congruence** when thoughts and actions fall in line with mood.'

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. The marketers should understand and make use of moods and emotions in designing and selling products and services. This is an implication which can be understood from the following text 'What is important for marketing is that **moods colour outlook and bias judgments**. Hence, the importance of consumer

confidence surveys, as consumer confidence typically reflects national mood’.

‘When consumers are in a good mood, they are more optimistic about buying, more confident in buying, and much more willing to tolerate things like waiting in line. On the other hand, being in a mood makes buying behaviour in the ‘right mood’ by the use of music and friendly staff or, say, opening bakeries in shopping malls that delight the passer-by with the smell of fresh bread.’ and from the last line ‘Sometimes it does not matter what we are shopping for—the point is to shop for anything, regardless, as consuming is one way to respond to the void in consciousness when there is nothing else to do.’ It follows that since *Proposition*: is a statement which forms a part of the given text, therefore, line 2 Consuming is nothing but way of filling the void in consciousness is a proposition.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

5. ‘In any case, **moods are distinguished from emotions proper by not being tied to any specific object.**’ 1.

In general, emotions are object specific. 2. In general, moods are not object specific can be easily understood from the 4th line of paragraph 1. This automatically rejects option 3 as moods and emotions are different. ‘Thayer views moods as a mixture of biological and psychological influences and, as such, a sort of clinical thermometer, reflecting all the internal and external events that influence us.’ Therefore, option (d) as per Thayer, moods are a mix of biological and psychological influences is correct.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

6. In the 2nd paragraph, 5th line, the author mentions that ‘**An elated mood of calm energy is an optimistic mood, which is good for business.**’ Further, in the 19th line, the author says ‘When consumers are in a good mood, they are more optimistic about buying, more confident in buying, and much more willing to tolerate things like waiting in line.’ Hence, ‘Moods provide energy for human actions’, option (c) is right.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 18

1. It is a logic-based question. The passage is about the effectiveness of CDR strategy to combat global warming. So, the information provided in brackets about the increased acidity is not central to the issue. So, (d) becomes the obvious choice. No additional information is provided, so A is eliminated. Emphasizing or highlighting its importance or impact is not the key reason, so (b) and (c) are out. (e) is incorrect as it calls it positive.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. (b) is mentioned in 2nd paragraph, (e) in the 1st paragraph, and (c) and (d) find mentions in the 3rd one, so (a) is the answer.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

3. The answer is clearly indicated in the 3rd paragraph that the equilibrium of the ocean surface would ensure that the reduced CO₂ levels are compensated to a certain extent. (a), (b), (d), and E mention the natural phenomenon that helps in absorbing CO₂ from the atmosphere, and are factored in the CO₂ reduction target. So, (c) is clearly the answer.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

4. (a) and (b) do not find support in the passage. (d) is not correct as the statement does not explain its necessity. (e) does not go with the main idea of the passage. The 3rd line of the 3rd paragraph says, ‘forest responses add complications...’ so, (c) is the answer.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 19

1. The transition word ‘yet’ seals the deal. (b) and (c) are not aligned with the main idea of the passage; D is an extreme choice, and as no principle has been introduced or challenged, E is also out. Clearly, the author challenges the views of the business analysts, so A is the answer.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. The main position of the author is given in the 3rd paragraph of the passage. As the 2nd paragraph has no direct logical connection with the 3rd one, (b), (c), and (e) are eliminated. As the 2nd paragraph does not shift the direction of the passage, (d) is also out. Clearly, (a) is the correct choice.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

3. Option (a) presents a fact, so cannot be considered as an inference. (b) is not supported by the ideas men-

tioned in the passage. (c) is not mentioned, and (d) cannot be deduced from the information given in the passage. The 1st line of 3rd paragraph says widespread automation would increase productivity numbers, so (e) is the answer.

Hence, option (e) is the correct answer.

4. (e) is not mentioned, and (b) and (c) are not supported by the available information. On the basis of the few examples provided, we cannot make a generalization so (d) is also eliminated. Through examples in the 2nd paragraph, it is indicated that errors in manufacturing are an obstacle to increased efficiency and lower costs in traditional setups. So, (e) is the answer.

Hence, option (e) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 20

1. Viewed India as if it was a single and unitary entity devoid of diversity. This can be understood from the 5th line of the 1st paragraph **‘India into a monolithic entity** (a single and unitary entity)—**a critical element in the much maligned “Orientalist” enterprise**’.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. Modern scholarship has, quite properly, tended to explore these elements **in isolation**. (In part, this trend represents the conscious reversal of the stance taken by an earlier generation of scholars whose work **reified (make something abstract, more concrete and real)** **India into a monolithic entity—a critical element in the much maligned ‘Orientalist’ enterprise**).

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

3. Judging and evaluation because the word valuation is mentioned in the 26th line of the passage. ‘As a doctrine, *karma* encompasses a **number of quasi-independent concepts: rebirth (punarjanam), consequence (phala, literally ‘fruit’, a term that suggests the ‘ripening’ of actions into consequences), and the valuation or ‘ethic-ization’ of acts, qualifying them as either ‘good’ (punya or sukarman) or ‘bad’ (papam or duskarman)**’.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

4. In the 14th line it has been mentioned ‘Indeed, its dominance is such in the Hindu world view **that karma encompasses, at the same time, life-affirming and life-negating functions**; for just as it defines the world in terms of the ‘positive’ function of delineating a doctrine of rewards and punishments, so too it defines the world through its ‘negative’ representation of action as an all but inescapable trap, an unrelenting cycle of death and rebirth. In the 18th line it has been mentioned that ‘Despite, or perhaps because of, *karma*’s ubiquity, the doctrine is not easily defined. Wendy Doniger O’Flaherty reports of a scholarly conference devoted to the study of *karma* that although the participants admitted to a general sense of the doctrine’s parameters, considerable time was in a ‘lively but ultimately vain attempt to define...*karma* and rebirth.’ Therefore, option 2, meaning of *karma* is not unanimous is correct. ‘As a doctrine, *karma* encompasses a **number of quasi-independent concepts: rebirth (punarjanam), consequence (phala, literally ‘fruit’, a term that suggests the ‘ripening’ of actions into consequences), and the valuation or “ethic-ization” of acts**.’ Meaning of *karma* includes many other quasi-independent concepts. Therefore, option 3 is correct. ‘The same person enjoys the fruit of the same sinful or a meritorious act in the next world in the same manner and to the same extent according to the manner and extent, to which that (sinful or meritorious) act has been done by him

in this world.’ In option 4, *Karma* also means actions and their rewards is mentioned. All the statements have been mentioned, therefore, answer is 4.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

5. The base meaning of the term ‘*karma*’ (or, more precisely, in its Sanskrit stem form, *karmana* neuter substantive) is ‘**action**’.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

6. ‘India is renowned for its diversity.’ Therefore, option 1 is right. (B) Doctrine of *karma* runs across divergent Hindu thoughts. This is wrong because the author mentions in line 9 that ‘the Hindu tradition has long maintained a body of mythology that weaves the disparate (separate and distinct) temples, gods, even geographic landscapes that exist throughout the subcontinent into a unified, albeit syncretic, whole. In the realm of thought, there is no more pervasive (prevalent), **unifying structure** than *karma*. (C) Doctrine of *karma* has a rich scholarly discourse is mentioned in line 19 ‘Wendy Doniger O’Flaherty reports of **a scholarly conference devoted to the study of karma**’. (D) Scholars could not resolve the meaning of *karma* has been mentioned because ‘Wendy Doniger O’Flaherty reports of a scholarly conference devoted to the study of *karma* that although the participants admitted to a general sense of the doctrine’s parameters, considerable time was in a **“lively but ultimately vain attempt to define...*karma* and rebirth”**.’ Vain attempt means that they failed in defining *karma*.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

7. (A) *Karma* is judged based on the observers’ perception, and hence the observer is a necessary condition, for its validity would not make the concept of *karma* according to the Bhagavad Gita uniform across time and space since the concept does not talk about the **observer’s perception at all, the individual is the source and end of karma**. *Karma* is an orientalist concept limited to oriental countries would not make the concept of *karma* equally valid across different space–time combinations as then it would be limited to Orientalist countries. So, option (B) is incorrect. If (C) **Each epoch** (a particular period of time in history) will have its own understanding of *karma*, and therefore there cannot be uniform validity of the concept of *karma* across time as it will change with each era. In the 26th line it has been mentioned that **In a general way, however, for at least the past 2000 years, the following (from the well-known text, the Bhagavata Parana) has held true as representing the principal elements of the karma doctrine: “The same person enjoys the fruit of the same sinful or a meritorious act in the next world in the same manner and to the same extent according to the manner and extent, to which that (sinful or meritorious) act has been done**

by him in this world.’ Therefore, according to the *Bhagavata Purana* it is the individual who is solely responsible for his actions and their corresponding result (phala) thus, option (D), the information of the past actions and the righteousness of each action

would be embodied in the individual would make the concept of karma—as defined in *Bhagavata Purana*—to be equally valid across different space–time combinations.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 21

1. In the last paragraph it has been mentioned that, ‘Thanks to the unsound state that the Indian higher education system is in today. **Thanks to years of sustained financial neglect, most Indian universities and colleges do no research worth the name.**’ ‘Even as the number of students entering colleges has increased dramatically, **public investment in higher education has actually declined in relative terms.**’

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. All the statements are **TRUE** in the context of the passage. In the last paragraph 2nd line it is mentioned that ‘Most colleges do not carry out research worth the name.’ Therefore, option a is correct. In the 1st line of the passage it is mentioned that ‘The University Grants Commission’s directive to college and university lecturers to **spend a minimum of 22 hours a week in direct teaching.**’ Therefore, option b is correct. In the last paragraph it is mentioned that ‘All of

us are well aware of the **unsound state** that the Indian higher education system is in today.’ Therefore, option c is correct.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. In the 4th line of the 1st paragraph it is mentioned that ‘if one considers the amount of time academics require to prepare lectures of good quality, as well as **the time they need to spend doing research,** it is clear that most conscientious teachers work more than 40 hours a week.’

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

4. In the 9th line it is mentioned that ‘Now the UGC says universities must implement a complete **freeze on all permanent recruitments,** abolish all posts which have been vacant for more than a year, and cut staff strength by 10 per cent.’

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 22

1. The author states in the last few lines of the 2nd paragraph that religious unity and peace can be obtained when we believe in unity of spirit and not of organization as is evident in the last few lines of the 2nd paragraph ‘We can do so only if we accept something like the Indian solution, which seeks the unity of religion not in a common creed but in a common quest. Let us believe in a unity of spirit and not of organization, a unity which secures ample liberty not only for every individual but for every type of organized life which has proved itself effective.’

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

2. Search is the Indian solution because it is clearly stated that ‘We can do so only if we accept something like the Indian solution, which seeks the unity of religion not in a common creed but in a common quest.’

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. At the end of the 1st paragraph it is mentioned that, The political ideal of the world is not so much a single empire with a homogeneous (option 1 is wrong) civilization and single communal will be a brotherhood of free nations differing profoundly in life and mind, habits and institutions, existing side by side in peace and order, harmony and cooperation,

and each contributing to the world its own unique and specific best, which is irreducible to the terms of the others. The political ideal of the contemporary world is to create a brotherhood amongst people of various regions, creed, race, colour, castes, and religions where each and every unique quality is preserved and respected. 3) Create a world commonwealth preserving religious diversity of all the nations is incorrect because there should be freedom for every individual to be diverse. 2) Foster the unity of all the religions of the world is incorrect because the author mentions that each religion should be respected and that they should be bound together by ‘unity of spirit and not of organization, a unity which secures ample liberty not only for every individual but for every type of organized life which has proved itself effective.’ Also the author says in the beginning of the 2nd paragraph that ‘The cosmopolitanism of the eighteenth century and the nationalism of the nineteenth are combined in our ideal of a world commonwealth, which allows every branch of the human family to find freedom, security, and self-realization in the larger life of making. I see no hope for the religious future of the world, if this ideal is not extended to the religious sphere also.’

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. According to the author the world would be a much poorer thing if 1) one religion swallows all other religions. As it is mentioned in the 2nd line of the 3rd

paragraph that 'The world would be a much poorer thing if one creed absorbed the rest.'

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 23

1. In the 8th line of the 1st paragraph, it is clearly mentioned that **'debt-equity swaps have formed a part of private corporations restructuring process for some time.'**

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. In the 1st line of the last paragraph, it is clearly mentioned that **'In the case of the debt swap scheme between Central and State governments in India, states can restructure their debt by pre-payment of high-cost central debt with additional market borrowing at a lower rate of interest. Essentially, this should result in the reduction in the average cost of debt of the State Government.'** Therefore the author suggests that **'pre-payment of high-cost central debt with additional market borrowing at a lower rate of interest'** which is the opposite of option 1. Option (2), The debt restructuring should be done at bare minimum level is incorrect because the author has explained debt restructuring in the first paragraph as **'instead of continuing to make interest payments on outstanding loans contracted in the past at a very high rate, the debtor is able to find some other means of setting the debt, which is satisfactory to both the debtor and creditor.'** This does not mean a minimum level it means that a level which is acceptable to both the debtor and the creditor. In the 3rd paragraph, 4th line, the author clearly mentions that **'negative incentive effects of debt overhang.'** Attention has also been paid on the effect of debt swap on the secondary market prices of debt. **In the case of external debt, Mexico and Brazil suspended the debt conversion program, because they can be inflationary as they put excessive pressure on the free market for foreign exchange or because swapping of foreign debt with domestic debt can be expensive.** Therefore, option 3 is not correct. In the 2nd paragraph the author clearly mentions that **'in case of debt-equity swap, debt is exchanged by a claim on capital stock owned by the debtor. In the case of external debt, if the government retires external debt by issuing domestic bonds, in a balanced budget there are no real effects beyond those created by the initial wealth effect: the economy will display a current account surplus, accompanied by an initial appreciation of parallel exchange rate and a high real interest rate. These effects are independent of the discounts received by the government.'** 4th paragraph, 1st line states that **'If the debt is swapped through money financing, it leads to an expansion of money supply. If the government can run sustained deficits, the fis-**

cal side provides a key link through which swaps can create **macroeconomic disequilibrium.'** **In the last paragraph, 'that swap-induced additional market borrowing may put pressure on the interest rate.'** and the last few lines **'It is evident from this discussion that aggressive debt restructuring proposed to reap the benefit of low interest rate regime at times may itself become the cause of hardening of future interest rates.'** Thus option (d) is correct that the debt-equality swap should be banned.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. In the 3rd paragraph, it is mentioned that debt-equity swap in the context of external debt has given rise to **active controversy.** It questions the **welfare characteristics of such swaps, their potential for reducing net capital flows, and the degree to which swap can reduce the negative incentive effects of debt overhang.** Attention has also been paid on the effect of debt swap on the **secondary market prices of debt.** In the case of external debt, Mexico and Brazil suspended the debt conversion program because they can be inflationary as they put excessive pressure on the free market for foreign exchange or because swapping of foreign debt with domestic debt can be expensive. Both the reasons and the above points indicate that the negative effects of debt swap far outweigh the positive effects.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. In the 4th paragraph, the 6th line, it is clearly mentioned that **'government will have to issue fresh bonds, which in turn may push up the interest rate.'**

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

5. In the 4th paragraph, the 7th line, it is clearly mentioned that **'Finally, if the government continues to run a fiscal deficit and to avoid inflationary effects if it relies mostly on debt for bonds swapped, and if this in turn leads to an accumulation of domestic debt, which the public expects will eventually be monetized, the domestic rate of inflation will immediately begin to rise.'** A) If accumulated internal debts start getting monetized, is correct. B) If interest rates start reducing for public borrowings, is correct as the author mentions in the last paragraph that **'In the case of the debt swap scheme between Central and State governments in India, states can restructure their debt by pre-payment of high-cost central debt with additional market borrowing at a lower rate of interest. This should result in the reduction in the average cost of debt of the**

State Government.’ Further, ‘if a large gap is to be filled by additional borrowing, there is a possibility that swap-induced additional market borrowing may put pressure on the interest rate. Also, in an extreme case, continuous financing of swappable debt through bond financing may fuel inflation if the holder of the bond expects that debt will eventually be monetized.’ (c) is wrong as in the 4th paragraph the author mentions that In a deficit situation,

if the supply of bond is increased to swap the debt, and if the discounts obtained by the government due to interest rate differential are not large enough to cover the deficit, government will have to issue fresh bonds, which in turn may push up the interest rate.’ (But he does not mention that this will cause inflation on the domestic side).

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 25

1. The message that the loan waiver sends to the farmers who have repaid loans is mentioned in the last few lines of the 2nd paragraph that **‘less than 5 per cent of farmer loans to banks are overdue, i.e., overdues exist for only 2.25 million out of 90 million farmers. If so, then the 95 per cent who have repaid loans will not benefit. They will be angry at being penalized for honesty.’** Hence, correct answer is (d). They will be angry at being penalized for honesty is correct. Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.
2. (a) One-fourth of the overdue loans of landless labourers will be written off is incorrect as no such information has been mentioned. (b) The ₹60,000 crore loan waiver has been sanctioned for 2.25 million marginal farmers. This is clear from the last lines of the 1st paragraph which state that **‘The ₹60,000 crore farm loan waiver announced in the budget writes off 100 per cent of overdues of small and marginal farmers holding up to two hectares,’ and the last few lines of the last paragraph which state that ‘less than 5 per cent of farmer loans to banks are overdue, i.e., overdues exist for only 2.25 million out of 90 million farmers.’** On combining information in these two lines we can easily say that option B is correct. (c) Any farmer with between 26 per cent to 100 per cent of their loan repayments overdue will be penalized is incorrect as it has only been mentioned that **‘₹60,000 crore farm loan waiver announced in the budget writes off 100 per cent of overdues of small and marginal farmers holding up to two hectares, and 25 per cent of overdues of larger farmers.’** Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. The author’s view of the loan waiver is that 1) It will have an adverse psychological impact on those who cannot avail the waiver because it is mentioned in the last lines of the 2nd paragraph that **‘If so, then the 95 per cent who have repaid loans will not benefit. They will be angry at being penalized for honesty.’** Also it is mentioned in the last paragraph that **‘Members of joint families will feel aggrieved that despite having less than one hectare per head, their family holding is too large to qualify for the 100 per cent waiver.’** 2) It is a justified measure in view of the high suicide rate amongst landless labourers is incorrect as it is mentioned in the 1st paragraph that **‘Political ploys initially hailed as master-strokes often end up as flops and’ While India has enjoyed 8 per cent to 9 per cent GDP growth for the past few years, the boom has bypassed many rural areas, and farmer distress and suicides have made newspaper headlines.** However, the poorest rural folk are landless labourers, who get neither farm loans nor waivers. Half of the small and marginal farmers get no loans from banks and depend entirely on money-lenders and will not benefit. This clearly shows that the author does not believe that it is a justified measure. 4) It will ensure that the benefits of India’s high GDP are felt by the rural poor is incorrect because the author has mentioned in the above lines that even though India has enjoyed high GDP, its benefits have bypassed many rural areas. 3) It makes sound economic and political sense in the existing scenario is incorrect as the author states in the 6th line of the 2nd paragraph that **‘It will, thus, fail in both economic and political objectives.’**

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 26

1. The 5th line of the 1st paragraph states that ‘Micro-finance was an industry championed by antipoverty activists. Today it is on the verge of a revolution, with billions of dollars from **big banks, private-equity shops, and pension funds pouring in, driving a growth of 30 per cent to 40 per cent this year alone.**

In 1998, a non-profit microfinance organization in Peru, converted into bank (called Mibanco). This demonstrated that the poor are good risks who repay loans on time and getting them together, not only chips away at poverty, but also turns a profit.’ Thus, the answer is only option A. But with the emer-

gence of players who are only out for profit, microfinance schemes could end up milking the poor. This **could happen in countries where lenders do not have to disclose interest rates.** 2) Microfinance institutions turn higher profits as banks since interest rates on loans are at their discretion. (The author clearly mentions in some countries). 3) The poor prefer to go to large banks rather than NGOs to obtain loans has not been mentioned anywhere.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. The author mentions that ‘The pressure of turn a profit also forces microfinance’s to change their business models in ways that depart from the industry’s core mission: to help poor people lead better lives. **Such shifts have caused the average loan size to triple.** Moreover smaller loans being costlier to service...’ All the options are therefore incorrect.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

5. (c) Drop in the loans awarded to women is correct as the author (2nd paragraph, 6th line) clearly mentions that ‘**The pressure of turn a profit also forces microfinance’s to change their business models in ways that depart from the industry’s core mission: to help poor people lead better lives.** Such shifts have caused the average loan size to triple. Moreover smaller loans being costlier to service, **a lower percentage of loans go to women.**’ (a) Larger loan amounts get sanctioned is incorrect as the author mentions that ‘Such shifts have caused the average loan size to triple. Moreover smaller loans being costlier to service...’ (b) Debt amongst the poor has fallen in some countries. ‘**The poorest of the world’s poor who are predominantly in Asia and Africa get left out,** says the CEO of the non-profit Grameen Foundation, which helps develop microfinance institutions.’ Therefore, this option is also incorrect.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 27

1. The answer as to why comparison between two countries becomes difficult is given in the first few lines of the 1st paragraph ‘**It is difficult to compare countries because various factors such as size, culture, history, geography, natural endowments** (quality and characteristics), **geopolitics, and internal polity comes into play.**’ Therefore, option (a) The countries differ in their internal political systems and option (b) Each country has its own **culture and natural resources**, which differ from those of others is correct. Option (c) The countries with homogeneous backgrounds are many in number, is therefore, incorrect.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

2. In the 3rd paragraph, 3rd line it is mentioned that ‘It is interesting to note that **the main lessons the Chinese have drawn from their past performance is their failure to promote science and technology as strategic tools for empowerment. Option C) They also point to the absence of mechanisms and motivations in their economic activity to promote dependences on science and technology.** Option B) Similarly, they hold that their scientific and technological efforts were not oriented. Option A) Lack of orientation of Science and Technology towards economic growth. B) Lack of mechanisms in their economic activities to promote use of Science and Technology. C) Neglect of Science and Technology as a strategic measure for empowerment, therefore, all are correct.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. The Chinese vision is therefore aimed at **exploiting state-of-art science and technology to enhance the nation’s overall power and strength, (option c) to improve the people’s living standards, (option**

a) to focus on resolving problems encountered in large-scale industrial and agricultural production, and to effectively control and alleviate pressures brought on by population (option b) resources and the environment. A) To augment peoples’ standard of living. B) To tackle pressure effectively brought on by the population. C) To utilize modern technology for bringing the latent power under control. Therefore, all the options are correct.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. The essence of the contents of the passage is 1) Enormous population of the country can be positively utilized for development. In the middle of the 3rd paragraph it is mentioned that **Chinese vision is therefore aimed at exploiting state-of-art science and technology to enhance the nation’s overall power and strength, to improve the people’s living standards, to focus on resolving problems encountered in large-scale industrial and agricultural production, and to effectively control and alleviate pressures brought on by population resources and the environment.** This makes option 1 incorrect. 2) Scientific and Technological principles may not necessarily be instrumental in economic growth and 3) Harmonious development of a country can take place even in the absence of technology up-gradation both are incorrect as the author has mentioned many times that both science and technology are required for the development of the country. 4) Economic growth needs to be driven by science and technology. **Acceleration of his nation’s economic growth and social development by relying on advances in science and technology is pivotal (of utmost importance) in this.** The Chinese

vision state that science and technology constitute premier productive forces and represent a great revolutionary power that can propel economic and social development. They also point to the absence of mechanisms and motivations in their economic

activity to promote dependences on science and technology. All these lines clearly show that science and technology are absolutely crucial for the development of a nation's economy.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 28

1. First option is not true as it is mentioned in the 1st line that 'We have witnessed several disasters in recent times, **some natural other man-made.**' (a) The Public Private Participation model has been successful in handling emergencies is true as it is mentioned in the last paragraph that 'Emergency management and Research Institute (EMRI) is a professionally managed operation initiated by the vision and grant from Ramalinga Raju. **The service, which is a successful example of public private partnership, is likely to become operational in a few states in the near future.** Given the sad failure of conventional government organizations in handling disasters, **it is time we looked at the PPP model as an alternative without the government seeking in any way to abdicate its responsibility.**' (c) 'Floods occur every year in some Indian states' is true as it is mentioned in the 2nd paragraph that '**Floods in many parts of India like the states of Bihar and Assam are an yearly phenomenon.**' Option (d) is also true as it is mentioned that '**There seems to be little attempt at drawing lessons from each disaster, storing the knowledge for future use, and long-term planning for possible pre-emptive action.**'

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. (a) The government has not been able to handle disaster and should seek foreign aid is incorrect as there is no mention of foreign aid. (b) A Central Government agency should be set to speed-up coordination in rescue efforts is incorrect as it has been mentioned that 'The National Disaster Management Agency, set up a short time ago, **being a Central Government agency has limitations relating to infringing the jurisdiction of states**' that means a Central Government agency already exists. (c) It has failed to utilize the donations effectively to provide relief has not been mentioned. (d) The government is apathetic and has not managed to handle disasters effectively is correct as it is shown by these lines of the 2nd paragraph, '**Floods in many parts of India like the states of Bihar and Assam are an yearly phenomenon.** Yet the government seems to be caught by surprise year after year. It is obvious that tarpaulins, vaccines, med-

icines, clothes, satellite phones, large numbers of doctors, paramedical staff etc. will be needed as will boats and buses for evacuation. This is known to all those who have combated emergencies yet the non-availability of these essential services and commodities occur. **Worse, the organizational structure and mechanisms for dealing with disasters are lethargic and ill defined.**'

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. According to the author, 'a worthwhile challenge for both corporate and the government' is (b) Their working together to manage disasters, completely keeping public interests in mind because it is said in the last few lines that 'While the state provides the funding, private organizations will provide the drive, professionalism, competent management, and output-linked efficiency of a good corporate organization. **Combining the sensitivity and purpose of an NGO with private entrepreneurial drive to handle disasters together is thus a worthwhile challenge for both corporate and the government.**'

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. None of the options are correct. (a) The Government has initiated a long-term planning process to handle them is incorrect as the author has said that '**There seems to be little attempt at drawing lessons from each disaster, storing the knowledge for future use, and long-term planning for possible pre-emptive action.**'

(b) Use of technology in combating disasters has increased in India is incorrect as the author says 'Preparedness for disasters **thus falls short of what is possible using today's technologies**' meaning that technology is still underutilized.

(c) The Government is not caught unawares when such disasters occur is incorrect as the author mentions that '**Floods in many parts of India like the states of Bihar and Assam are an yearly phenomenon. Yet the government seems to be caught by surprise year after year.**'

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 29

1. John M. Keynes was advocate of the suggestion that **'throwing money at recessions through aggressive deficit spending would resuscitate flattened economies and he was not too particular about where the money was thrown.** In the depths of the Depression, he suggested that the Treasury could "fill old bottles with banknotes, bury them at suitable depths in disused coal mines" **then sit back and watch a money-mining boom create jobs and prosperity.** It would, indeed, be more sensible to build houses and the like," he wrote, "but above would be better than nothing.'

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. The answer is none of these as the author clearly mentions that 'As President-elect, Barack Obama prepares to throw money at the current down urn, a stimulus package starting at about \$ 350 billion chunk of the bailout, we all really do seem to be Keynesians now.' 'Just about every expert agrees that pumping \$ 1 trillion into a moribund economy will rev up the ethereal goods and services engine that Keynes called "aggregate demand" and stimulate at least some short-term activity, even if it is all wasted on money pits'. Barack is following Keynes philosophy and therefore, the author mentions that 'we all really do seem to be Keynesians now'.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. Obama's upcoming American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan focuses on (b) Pumping money very liberally in projects that are mandatory because the author mentions that 'throw all that money at things we need to do anyway', which is the goal of Obama's upcoming American Recovery and Reinvestment Plan. The

entire 3rd paragraph supports this option. It will include a mix of tax cuts, aid to beleaguered state and local governments, and spending to address needs ranging from food stamps to computerized health records to bridge repairs to broadband networks to energy-efficiency retrofits, all designed to save or create three million to four million jobs by the end of 2010. Obama has said speed is his top priority because the faster Washington injects cash into the financial bloodstream, the better it stands to help avert a multiyear slump with double-digit unemployment and deflation, but he also wants to use the stimulus to advance his long-term priorities: reducing energy use and carbon emissions, cutting middle-class taxes, upgrading neglected infrastructure, reining in health care costs, and eventually reducing the budget deficits that exploded under George W. Bush. Obama's goal is to exploit this crisis in the best sense of the word, to start pursuing his vision of a greener, fairer, more competitive, and more sustainable economy.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. But he also wants to use the stimulus to advance his long-term priorities: reducing energy use and carbon emissions, cutting middle-class taxes, upgrading neglected infrastructure, reining in health care costs, and eventually reducing the budget deficits that exploded under George W. Bush. Obama's goal is to exploit this crisis in the best sense of the word, to start pursuing his vision of a greener, fairer, more competitive, and more sustainable economy. B) Reducing the budget deficit and C) Creating a more sustainable economy are therefore correct.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 31

1. The author mentions in the 4th paragraph that 'Even this would have been understandable if it could work as an eye opener. Instead of taking the Right Step' as Toyota did, they preferred to take a 'short-cut'. Now, banks went to the non-creditworthy people and gave them loans. The people expectedly defaulted and the entire system collapsed. What Toyota did is mentioned in the 1st line of the 5th paragraph 'Now like Toyota, western companies will learn to find new markets.' This clearly indicates that the right step is (d) To start looking at newer avenues and markets.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. Although admired since years, the skepticism over the Japanese management style started since the last decade because (a) Japanese companies have been

moving out of their home markets since the last decade. In the 2nd paragraph, last few lines have stated 'like Toyota realized that they cannot keep selling cars endlessly to their home market, that they went really aggressive in the western markets and the rest is history. Japanese companies grew bigger by catering to the world markets when their home markets shrunk.' (b) Japanese banks have provided loans indiscriminately to the creditworthy as well as non-creditworthy people, in the 4th paragraph it is mentioned that 'Owing to the materialistic culture elsewhere it was possible to keep selling newer products to the consumers despite having existing ones, which served equally well. They were lured techniques of destabilization' of the customer: and then finally once they became ready customers, they were given loans and credits to help them buy more

and more. When all the creditworthy people were given loans to a logical limit, they ceased to be a part of the market.' Therefore, option (c) both (a) and (b) are correct.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

3. The authors foresee the markets being created in the developing countries instead of America and Europe because in the 5th paragraph it is mentioned 'They will now lean towards India because of its common man! The billion plus population in the next twenty-five years will become a consuming middle-class. Finally the world's attention will shift to the developing world. Finally there will be a real surge in income of these people and in the next fifty odd years, one can really hope to see an equal world in terms of material plenty, with poverty being almost non-existent!' Therefore, all the following options are wrong. (a) All developing countries have materialistic culture this cannot be inferred. It is only mentioned in the 4th paragraph that, Owing to the materialistic culture elsewhere it was possible 'to keep selling newer products to the consumers despite having existing ones, which served equally well.' (b) Developed countries are willing to make an effort to achieve globalization has not been mentioned, it is just mentioned in the last paragraph that 'The recession will kick-start the process of making the entire

world more prosperous, and lay the foundation of limits to growth in the west and the foundation of real globalization in the world—or the globalization of prosperity. And one of its first beneficiaries will be India.' indicating that the limits of growth in West will usher an era of prosperity for the entire world, which will begin in India. In the 4th paragraph it is mentioned that 'When all the creditworthy people were given loans to a logical limit, they ceased to be a part of the market' this does not mean that (c) American and European markets have had a large number of credit defaulters is correct. Hence, answer is none of the above, correct answer is 4.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. The author's view and how he foresees the future globalization as an analogy to Henry Ford's example is clear from the last few lines as the author mentions that 'Many years back, to increase his own profits, Henry Ford had started paying his workers more, so that they could buy his cars. In a similar fashion, now the developed world will pay the developing world people so that they can buy their cars and washing machines.' Therefore, option (b) By paying the developing world, the developed world would increase its own profit in turn bringing affluence to the developing world as well, is correct.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 32

1. All three points have been mentioned in the last paragraph 'This is the society that finally creates an emotionless monster (option a), who gets satisfaction in killing innocent adults and children alike for no cause, no reason, and for none, for himself. It is the utter destruction of spiritualism and the total focus on endless self-gratification (option b). Where so many single-parent families and divorces exist, it is impossible to bring up children or influence the killers, any better.' (option c)).

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. The reason for poverty and hunger in underdeveloped countries has not been mentioned because this issue has been addressed in the 4th paragraph 'millions dying of curable diseases in Africa and other underdeveloped countries, while the rich grow richer. Their growth will be reduced if they were to start thinking of the poor, so what do they do to justify their greed for more?' A clear cut reason as to why the rich do not think about the poor has not been mentioned. Poor people do nothing of the given three options like (a) Mindlessly chasing the Western way of living. This has been said in the 3rd paragraph regarding Indians 'we have Indians dreaming to become or to get married to an NRI and Indian middle-class fathers dream-

ing of their sons reaching the Bay area and landing tech jobs, unmindful of the second-class life they end up leading in the West'. (b) They have fallen prey to the idea of happiness through material comforts rather than love and emotional bond. This is mentioned in the 5th paragraph. (c) They do not have marketing techniques as good as the Western countries. In the 1st paragraph 'All because the shop window looks very impressive and it has been marketed very well.' This has been written to show that the West might be way ahead in terms of materialism, but is hollow when emotions and family stability is concerned.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. In the last paragraph the author says 'you chase the bigger car and spend that extra bit of the wealth, you intercept someone's share of the daily bread', which means that while we are concentrating on luxuries, some people are not getting even the basic needs. 4) Excess of wealth in Western world, while people in poorer nations struggle for survival is correct.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. The author's main objective in writing the passage is (a) 'To explain that consumerist societies have their own drawbacks which are over blinded by its material

glare.’ (b) To explain how too many material comforts have improved the living standard of the common man in the West is incorrect because living standard of the common man has not been mentioned. (c) That young children should not be given access to guns and other ammunitions. Author mentions that ‘your

own children who are in the line of fire against the school goer who opens fire at his schoolmates’. 4) All NRIs are leading unmindful, second-class lives abroad is not mentioned.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 33

1. It is correct as it is clearly mentioned in the last line that the goal of philosophy is ‘**To teach how to live without certainty, and yet without being paralyzed by hesitation, is perhaps the chief thing that philosophy, in our age, can still do for those who study it.**’ Philosophy according to the author is the knowledge of accepting uncertainty but not being frightened by hesitation. Also, in the last few lines it is mentioned that ‘it is not good either to forget the questions that philosophy asks’. The author does not state anywhere that philosophy reduces the terror of being alone or reduces uncertainty neither does it explain it but it definitely helps us to deal with it.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. In the 8th line it has been mentioned that ‘Philosophy is something intermediate between theology and science. Like theology, it consists of speculations on matters as to which definite knowledge has, so far, been unascertainable; but like science, it appeals to human reason rather than to authority, whether that of tradition or that of revelation.’ Complementary, means combining in such a way as to enhance or emphasize the qualities of each other or another. Therefore, answer 2 is correct.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. The most unlikely profession of the author is that of a theologian. It is mentioned in the 27th line ‘Why, then, you may ask, waste time on such insoluble problems? To this one may answer as a historian, or as an individual facing the terror of cosmic loneliness. The

answer of the historian is so far as I am capable of giving it.’ ‘Philosophy’ is a word which has been used in many ways, some wider, some narrower. I propose to use it in a very wide sense, which I will now try to explain. Therefore, author could be a philosopher. The pro science attitude of the author has been shown in many lines, like the 3rd line ‘the sort of investigation which may be called “scientific”, using this word in its broadest sense.’ In the last paragraph ‘Science tells us what we can know, but what we can know is little, and if we forget how much we cannot know we may become insensitive to many things of very great importance.’ Showing the author’s scientific bent of mind. The author could be a scientist. It is likely that the author is not a theologian because he does not agree with the view of theologians, as in the 25th line he says, ‘Theologies have professed to give answers, all too definite; but their definiteness causes modern minds to view them with suspicion. And then again in the last paragraph it is mentioned that ‘Theology, on the other hand, induces a dogmatic belief that we have knowledge, where in fact we have ignorance, and by doing so generates a kind of impertinent insolence towards the universe.’

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

4. The author asks a question in the 17th line that ‘Has the universe any unity or purpose? Is it evolving towards some goal?’ But there are no answers given whether or not there is a unity, purpose, or goal of the universe.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 34

1. (a) The perception that the government needs to invest resources in business rather than in education. This is incorrect as the author mentions in the 5th line that ‘There is a new dimension to civic duty that is growing amongst Americans, the idea that they can serve not only by spending time in communities and classrooms but by spending more responsibly.’ The perception is that they can serve by spending time in classrooms and communities and by spending wisely. (b) Loss of faith in American corporations as they do not disburse their profits equitably amongst shareholders. ‘At first the corporate stance was defensive:

companies were punished by consumers for unethical behaviour such as discriminatory labour practices.’ But now there is a change of perception wherein consumers support a company that provides better working conditions and are not harming the environment. Thus, there has been no loss of faith regarding disbursement of their profits equitably amongst shareholders.

(c) ‘Americans have cut down on their expenditure drastically to invest only in socially responsible mutual funds.’ But the author mentions that ‘the number of socially responsible investment (SRI)

mutual funds, which generally avoid buying shares of companies that profit from tobacco, oil, or child labour has grown from fifty-five to 260.' Americans have not cut down on their expenditure drastically but have consciously invested in socially responsible mutual funds. Therefore, the correct answer is none, that is, option 1.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

2. (a) The voter turnout during the 2009 American elections was high. There is no mention of voter turnout.
(b) African diamonds are highly valued by the American public is incorrect as it has been mentioned that 'People were alarmed about "blood diamonds" mined in war zones and used to finance conflict in Africa.'
(c) American firms have to spend vast amounts on advertising because activists cast aspersions on their images. Incorrect as it has not been mentioned.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

3. Ethical consumerism is profitable for organizations as well as society as a whole is correct as the entire passage has lines that favour ethical consumerism such as the 4th line 'And the world has learnt that enlightened self-interest is good economics all over again after the Great Recession of 2009'. 'In short, Americans are beginning to put their money where their ideals are'. 'consciously supported local or small neighbourhood businesses and 40 per cent said that they had purchased a product because they liked the

social or political values of the company that produced it'. And the last line 'while social responsibility is one way for companies to get back their reputations, consumers too need to make ethical choices.' Option 4, Companies should be required by law to account for their impact on the environment in their balance sheet is not the central idea, it just expands on option 3 in the last paragraph, it is an example of ethical consumerism.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

4. According to the line 'This is a time when the only thing that has sunk lower than the American public's opinion of Congress is its opinion of business.' It is clear that big corporations need to be held accountable for their unethical business practices.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

5. In the 3rd paragraph, the last few lines clearly mention that 'With global warming on the minds of many consumers lots of companies are racing to "out green" each other. The most progressive companies are talking about a triple bottom line—profit, planet, and people—that focuses on how to run a business while trying to improve environmental and worker conditions.' Therefore, the competition amongst the companies to boost their bottom line—profit, planet, and people—is very stiff.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 36

1. All have been mentioned. In the 2nd paragraph, 'Pollution is one more threat to the environment and for the country's prospects.' In the 3rd paragraph, 'Poverty questions the entire strength of India's political view and minimizes the energetic way of approach.' In the 2nd line the author mentions 'The total population is over 1 billion which will increase to 1.46 billion, which will result in higher unemployment and deterioration of quality.'

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. It is clearly mentioned in the 7th paragraph that 'India in earlier days gave more importance to the development of industry and less importance to other departments. But the scenario has quite changed now-a-days

by allocating a special budget of funds for security. This is because of the frightening increase in terrorism all around the world, especially emerging after the 9/11 terror attack in United States. In the last ten years, budget towards the development of military forces is higher when compared to others.'

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

3. To bring forth the problems associated with the India's development and to suggest measures to counter them. The author mentions overpopulation, unemployment, pollution, poverty, outsourcing, and poor infrastructure, and also provides suggestions to get rid of these problems.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 37

1. (a) Potential of a child will take precedence over the grades he/she scores. In the 7th paragraph it is mentioned that 'Under a standardized system, grade level will be far less important. Achievement and progression will be measured by

accomplishment and intelligence as a benchmark for success. The question of failure or success will be irrelevant and replaced with a standard and consistent measurement of potential and overall intelligence.'

- (b) Improving the educational syllabus would become easier. In the 5th paragraph it is mentioned that ‘To make this a reality we will need a **standardized platform from which to develop a student’s unique education.** This standardized platform will allow to **tailor a custom curriculum that will be matched to talents, interests, and life goals.**’
- (c) Teachers would be able to devote more time to teaching. In the 6th paragraph, it is mentioned that ‘This data gathering work of the machine will also free the teacher from the burden of record-keeping and tedious tasks that currently **distract them from the real job of teaching and learning.**’

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. (a) In the presence of technology each student would require constant monitoring by other individuals to maximize learning is not true as it is said that ‘**The student will be the user, gathering resources, skills, and knowledge in an efficient and measured sequence. The machine will do the work of data gathering and analysis, which will assist the teacher and student in refining the curriculum.** This data gathering work of the machine will also free the teacher from the burden of record-keeping and tedious tasks.’ this means that no monitoring will be required.
- (b) Educational philosophy is based on the belief of tailoring educational syllabus to individual student’s capability. In the 5th paragraph it is mentioned that ‘This standardized platform will allow to **tailor a custom curriculum that will be matched to talents, interests, and life goals.** For the educator, a standardized platform will create a way to assist the student in discovering **a true purpose in life through a unique educational experience.**’
- (c) The author visualizes that each student will have access to technology in the future. In the 4th paragraph it is mentioned that ‘Imagine a world where every child has a tablet computer with ready access to the internet.’

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. Analyzing the strengths and weaknesses of a student and designing an educational syllabus accordingly is correct as the author says in the 3rd paragraph that ‘**Tracking a student means having the ability to target education towards weaknesses and strengths.** The ability to **accurately customize curricula according** to the individual has been the holy grail of educational philosophy for many years. This golden age of technological development may soon enable this dream to become a reality.’

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

4. The education system is not guided by technology and hence the pace of learning is slow, is correct because the author states that ‘**Technology will shape the way we educate students in the next decade.**’ and ‘Current educational curricula and individual **assessment is arbitrary at best.**’ The author also suggests that ‘**The machine will do the work of data gathering and analysis, which will assist the teacher and student in refining the curriculum.** This data gathering work of the machine will also free the teacher from the burden of record-keeping and tedious tasks that currently distract them from the real job of teaching and learning’, indicating that in the current scenario distractions slow down the process of learning.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

5. (a) A substantial database consisting of each student’s learning curve would be readily available. ‘**Tracking a student means having the ability to target education towards weaknesses and strengths.** The ability to **accurately customize curricula according** to the individual has been the holy grail of educational philosophy for many years. This golden age of technological development may soon enable this dream to become a reality.’
- (b) An error would activate software which would encourage learning rather than auto-correcting is correct as it is stated that ‘**Continue to imagine a world where a misspelled word brings up a spelling challenge application instead of an auto correction.** Try to contemplate what it would mean for a teacher to have a database of every misspelled word, every misunderstood concept, or every missed equation for each of their students. Try to envision a teacher with the ability to customize the experience of the individual “user” with minimal effort.’
- (c) Experimentation in academics would be encouraged. ‘**One quickly realizes that the trends in technology** are leaving a large number of our students behind. **Today is an age of exponential change. New and ever improving technologies are popping up every day and in every corner of the society.** Educating the best and the brightest in this brave new world will take a new and improved **educational paradigm.** Allowing our educational tools to age in the corner of the classroom will be the mistake that may cost us our future. **Throwing away masses of children to inequitable access will ensure that we languish at the bottom of the global pool of employable workers for decades to come**’, this shows that the author believes that innovation and experimentation in academics would be the norm if we wish to educate the best and the brightest in the future.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 38

1. Answer lies in the 6th paragraph, 'Perhaps the scientist **was alluding to this victory of capitalism over the pursuit of pure knowledge when he accused IT of having a negative influence on Indian science.**'

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. Option (a) Is the future of IT Bright? is not the answer because this passage is not about the future of IT, it is about the present day scenario of research in India. The author wants to bring to light the issue that IT has increased, the prospects for young students. It is clear by the line '**this victory of capitalism over the pursuit of pure knowledge when he accused IT of having a negative influence on Indian science**'.

Option (b) The IT industry and the World Economy cannot be the title because the author has not stressed on IT sector's influence on world economy or vice versa.

Option (c) Research and Academics Losing the Battle against IT is **the correct title** as the passage focuses on how research in India has taken a backseat because young students want to go into the IT industry as there is more money involved there, as well as supposedly the quality of life is also better.

Option (d) Scientific Research and the Need for Well Trained Faculty is not the title because this is a small part of the passage and has been written as a consequence of intelligent people preferring jobs in IT than doing research.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

3. The destructive loop has been referred to in the 4th paragraph 'Further, when the imbalance between IT and academia continues for years and even decades, **a destructive loop**, from academia's point of view, is created. When our best and brightest take IT jobs over academic ones for a decade or more, **faculty positions in our universities and research centres are no longer filled by the best candidates.**' Therefore, **the answer is 2.** The fact that the best minds do not want to become teachers and this in turn leads to good students seeking knowledge elsewhere.

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. (a) Research centres should adopt the corporate culture as is done in the West. (c) Making academic salaries equivalent to those paid in IT industries. The author suggests that if knowledge should be treated as a commodity, it should be done on the same lines as the West. 'One solution is to **accept and even encourage the commoditization of knowledge; if so, Indian universities and research centres should copy their Western counterparts by becoming more and more like corporations.** These centres of learning should convert themselves into engines of growth. In this logic, if **we increase academic salaries and research grants to match IT pay cheques we will attract good people into academia.**'

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 39

1. The long-term policies favouring waste collectors is not high priority because (b) The plight of these people is not evident as they work late into the night and are not seen much during the day, this is evident from the line '**Long-term policies that ensure that the safety and health of those who do such an essential job—a community of silent environmentalists someone called them—are not such a high priority any more.** One reason is that the people affected are **virtually invisible. Waste collectors around India work silently. Often, late into the night, sorting out mountains of waste, foraging for anything that can be sold.**'

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

2. All the following are **true** about waste collectors as given in the passage as (a) Majority of the waste collectors are people who have **migrated from their village** because of some natural calamity is mentioned. (b) Waste collectors prefer to sleep next to the garbage they have sorted is true as it is mentioned that 'By daylight they become invisible, having stowed their

belongings in boxes behind the signs of the shops on whose doorsteps they sleep' (3rd paragraph 3rd last line). In the 5th paragraph it is mentioned that '**While poor people in other kinds of jobs somehow manage to find some shelter in a slum, irrespective of whether it is legal or illegal, waste collectors sleep next to the garbage they have sorted.**'

(c) Most waste collectors are not literate is true as it is mentioned in the 3rd paragraph '**The age group ranges from seven to seventy years and 98 per cent of them are illiterate.**'

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

3. The most appropriate title for the passage is:
- (a) The General Public's Apathetic Ways is not the title as the passage deals specifically with the issues of waste pickers and the treatment meted out to them by the general public.
- (b) The Unorganized Sector is not the title of the passage because it is not the unorganization of the sector that is stressed it is the very existence of waste pickers which has been neglected.

- (c) The Invisible Waste is the **correct title** of the passage because of the fact that waste pickers are invisible during the day, their existence is immaterial, and their miserable situation is also ignored.
- (d) Waste Collectors—The World Over is irrelevant as the matter is not about the entire world, it is only said in the last paragraph in a comparative sense that ‘**Why bring up waste collectors at a time when the main environmental issues being debated are the larger issues of global warming. Or environmental disasters such as the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico?**’ This is because one cannot speak of the environment without considering its impact on the lives of people.’

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

4. According to the author, the issue of waste collectors is as important as the issue of global warming because ‘**Why bring up waste collectors at a time when the**

main environmental issues being debated are the larger issues of global warming. Or environmental disasters such as the oil spill in the Gulf of Mexico? This is because one cannot speak of the environment without considering its impact on the lives of people. Millions of waste pacers in India who play a crucial role in dealing with the perennial environmental crisis of waste risk their lives and their health every single day. This is an ongoing environmental issue that requires as much attention from ordinary people, the media, and policy makers as the larger macro issues.’ (b) As without the waste collectors sorting waste the phenomenon of global warming would increase exponentially. (c) As the Waste collectors deal with wastage, which impacts the people’s everyday lives, and is also environmentally significant thus, both are true.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

PASSAGE 40

1. It is clearly mentioned in the 5th paragraph that **nearly seven years after the closure of these mines, the people of this region continue to face serious environment and health problems, particularly in July and August, due to winds in these months that carry with them cyanide particles from the dust piles in the abandoned mines.** When the mines were operational, a layer of red soil used to be put over these dust piles before these crucial months to prevent the cyanide particles from being carried away by the heavy winds. Now that the mines have been closed, the imitative measures have **ceased (stopped)** as well.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

2. (a) Waste generated while mining for gold is harmful even in small quantities is true as the author mentions in the 9th paragraph ‘Even with the **comparatively minuscule amounts of gold mining been done so far, we have tripped up on environmental considerations.**’
- (b) Groundwater gets polluted due to the release of heavy metals generated from the mining of gold. In the 2nd paragraph, the last lines mention that ‘There is also a very real danger of surface **water and ground-water table contamination** on account of these heavy metals.’
- (c) Gold mining activities cause respiratory illnesses in people is true as it is mentioned in the 4th paragraph that ‘According to a study, **respiratory ailments**, soil and water contamination, thick blankets of dust, withering of coconut trees, and changes in land pattern use are some of the common features of the urban area around a particular gold mine in Karnataka.’

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

3. (a) To discourage the Indian Government from investing in gold mining. The author has not discouraged the government, but has just stated the condition of places where there have been gold mines that have caused great harm to the environment and people alike.
- (b) To bring forward the problems associated with gold mining for India’s benefit. The author clearly mentions in the last paragraph that **India’s terrain is very similar to those in other parts of the world where there have been huge gold finds.** What we need to do is to **learn from the mistakes** committed by certain developed countries in their own backyard. We have a whole series of examples of where things have gone wrong from **other developing countries.** We need to use these insights to our advantage and quickly. In the beginning, the author has brought to light that Indians are obsessed with gold as a metal for making jewellery, but the tone of the author is factual and here the aim is not (c) To discourage Indians from buying gold based on its repercussions, but to simply state that Indians value gold a lot. (d) To advocate the import of gold instead of mining it, this is incorrect as the author says that since mining sites are not present in abundance in India, it does not mean that we can sit and relax. 8th paragraph ‘Why should these facts about gold mining bother us? After all, we just import the metal: **we do not mine it here to the extent other countries do.** That is about to change though.’

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

4. Option (a) is incorrect because the word ‘only’ has been used. (a) As gold is the **only** metal which generates harmful waste on its excavation, ‘gold mining generates more waste per ounce than any other metal and the effects are starting’. (c) As gold excava-

tion is a very tedious process and requires the usage of a number of environmentally destructive resources is incorrect, the tediousness of the process has not been mentioned and secondly, it does not require environmentally destructive resources, it generates tons of waste.

(d) As the amount of gold recovered in proportion to the land excavated is negligible 'think about the environmental cost of the metal'. For instance, '**extracting enough gold to forge a solitary, no-frills wedding band ultimately translates into roughly twenty to thirty tons of waste.** At some mines in Nevada (United States), **100 tons or more of the earth have been excavated for a single ounce of gold**'. This option is partially correct, but the author has placed main

emphasis on pollution and the detrimental effects of gold excavation on the environment. Option 2 is correct because the author mentions many times the contamination caused by gold excavation, 2nd paragraph 'The tailings' component is typically a thick slurry laced with cyanide, aluminum, copper, lead, and mercury: enough to **decimate** fish populations of water environments it is disposed of into.' 'There is also a very real danger of **surface water and groundwater table contamination** on account of these heavy metals. Many areas are reported to have become **infertile** because of soil contamination.' 4th paragraph states that 'They contain a percentage of heavy metals enough to retard plant growth.'

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.