

## ***Unit IV: Current Trends in Education***

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### **Solved Textual Questions & Answers**

#### **A. 1-Mark (Very Short) Answers**

**1. What is meant by inclusive education?**

Inclusive education refers to an educational approach where all children, regardless of their physical, intellectual, social, emotional, linguistic, or other conditions, are taught together in mainstream schools.

**2. When was the Right to Education (RTE) Act enacted?**

The RTE Act was enacted in 2009.

**3. What is distance education?**

It is a mode of delivering education where learners and instructors are separated by geography and/or time, using technology and correspondence.

**4. Name any two institutions providing distance education in India.**

IGNOU (Indira Gandhi National Open University) and NIOS (National Institute of Open Schooling).

**5. What does SSA stand for?**

Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.

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#### **B. Short Answer (2–3 Marks)**

**1. Write two objectives of SSA.**

- a. Ensure universal access to elementary education.
- b. Improve the quality of education and bridge social and gender gaps.

**2. What is vocational education?**

Vocational education is a form of education that prepares individuals for specific trades, crafts, and careers at various levels.

**3. State two features of distance education.**

- a. Flexibility in learning time and location.
- b. Learning materials provided through print, audio-visuals, or online platforms.

**4. What is environmental education?**

Environmental education is a process of recognizing values, clarifying concepts, and developing skills and attitudes necessary to understand and appreciate the interrelation between man, culture, and the natural environment.

**5. Mention two benefits of inclusive education.**

- a. Promotes equality and social integration.
- b. Enhances learning for both differently-abled and able-bodied children.

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**C. Long Answer (4–6 Marks)**

**1. Discuss the importance and objectives of inclusive education.**

Inclusive education ensures that all students, regardless of ability or background, receive equal opportunities to learn and participate. Objectives include equity in education, development of tolerance, and better academic and social outcomes for all learners.

**2. Describe the significance and methods of environmental education.**

Environmental education helps individuals understand the impact of their actions on the environment. It promotes sustainability, conservation, and responsible citizenship through

experiential learning, field visits, and integration with other subjects.

**3. What are the main aims and components of vocational education?**

Aims include employment readiness, skill development, and self-reliance. Components involve hands-on training, industry collaboration, and curriculum focused on trades and occupations.

**4. Explain the concept of distance education and its role in India.**

Distance education allows learners who cannot attend regular schools/colleges to access quality education. In India, it bridges regional, economic, and social barriers—especially through IGNOU, NIOS, and state open universities.

**5. Describe the implementation and achievements of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.**

SSA was launched in 2001 to provide free and compulsory education to all children aged 6–14. It achieved major milestones like increased enrollment, construction of schools, teacher recruitment, and infrastructural improvements, especially in rural and backward areas.

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## **Additional Questions with Model Answers**

### **Short Answer (2–3 Marks)**

**1. What is the aim of RTE Act 2009?**

To provide free and compulsory education to children aged 6 to 14 years.

**2. Name two components of vocational education.**

- a. Practical training in a trade.
- b. Soft skill development and entrepreneurship.

3. **Mention one initiative under environmental education in India.**  
Eco Clubs in schools under the National Green Corps program.
  4. **What is ICT in education?**  
ICT stands for Information and Communication Technology used to enhance teaching and learning through digital tools.
  5. **Write two challenges of inclusive education.**
    - a. Lack of trained teachers.
    - b. Infrastructural limitations in schools.
  6. **What is the significance of ICT in modern education?**  
It improves access, interactivity, and learner engagement; supports online learning and digital literacy.
  7. **Define continuous and comprehensive evaluation (CCE).**  
CCE is a system of school-based evaluation of students that covers all aspects of student development on a continuous basis.
  8. **Give two examples of distance learning institutions in Assam.**
    - a. KKHSOU (Krishna Kanta Handiqui State Open University).
    - b. IGNOU regional centre, Guwahati.
  9. **What is Life Skills Education?**  
It is education that equips learners with abilities for adaptive and positive behavior to deal with life's challenges effectively.
  10. **Mention two life skills promoted in modern education.**
    - a. Problem-solving.
    - b. Effective communication.
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### **Long Answer (4–6 Marks)**

11. **Explain the importance and features of ICT in modern classrooms.**

ICT enhances learning with interactive resources, multimedia, virtual labs, and digital content. It allows blended learning, promotes critical thinking, and offers anytime-anywhere access to learning.

12. **Describe the objectives and outcomes of RTE 2009.**

Objectives include access to quality education for every child without discrimination. Outcomes: increased enrollment, improved infrastructure, mandated pupil-teacher ratio, and inclusion of marginalized children.

13. **How does environmental education help promote sustainability?**

It creates awareness, instills conservation habits, encourages eco-friendly behavior, and fosters critical thinking about environmental challenges and solutions.

14. **Discuss the present status and challenges of vocational education in India.**

While many vocational institutions have been set up and courses diversified, challenges include outdated curricula, low awareness, limited job linkage, and social stigma around skill-based jobs.

15. **Compare and contrast inclusive education and special education.**

Inclusive education integrates all learners into mainstream classrooms. Special education provides separate instruction to differently-abled learners. Inclusive education promotes equality; special education offers individual-focused support.

16. **What are the features and limitations of distance education?**

Features: flexibility, affordability, mass reach. Limitations: lower motivation, less peer interaction, technological dependency.

17. **Explain the structure and goals of Sarva Shiksha Abhiyan.**

Structure: decentralized planning with community involvement.

Goals: universal access, retention, quality education, and reducing dropout rates.

18. **How can inclusive education be improved in Assam?**

By training teachers in inclusive methods, building accessible infrastructure, sensitizing communities, and ensuring resource support for differently-abled students.

19. **Discuss the relevance of life skills in 21st-century education.**

Life skills prepare learners to face personal and social challenges, foster collaboration, creativity, emotional intelligence, and global citizenship.

20. **Suggest ways to strengthen environmental education in schools.**

Integrate with science and geography, conduct fieldwork, promote eco-clubs, organize awareness drives, and include environmental issues in curriculum assessments.