

# VERBAL ABILITY

## INTRODUCTION

There are over 40 types of questions that are given in the Verbal Ability section of various management entrance examinations. This chapter introduces you to most of the important types.

The objective of the Verbal Ability section is to test the candidate on vocabulary, grammar, verbal reasoning skills and awareness of styles of writing. Until 1998, Verbal Ability was a separate section. Since 1999 Verbal Ability and Reading Comprehension have been clubbed into one section. This does not mean that the importance of either section has diminished.

The questions in the Verbal Ability section may be classified under four broad heads.

- I. Vocabulary-based questions
- II. Grammar-based questions
- III. Questions on writing styles
- IV. Verbal Reasoning questions

### VOCABULARY-BASED QUESTIONS

It is obvious that test takers must have good vocabulary in order to attempt vocabulary-based questions. Wide reading is the best way to acquire a good vocabulary since it introduces you to new words in their natural context.

The following are the different types of vocabulary based questions.

#### 1. SYNONYMS - SINGLE WORD:

'Please work out the questions given in Verbal Ability Study Material

#### 2. SYNONYMS - FOREIGNWORDS/ PHRASES:

'Please work out the questions given in Verbal Ability Study Material

#### 3. SYNONYMS - WORD IN A CONTEXT:

'Please work out the questions given in Verbal Ability Study Material

#### 4. MEANING OF AN EXPRESSION

'Please work out the questions given in Verbal Ability Study Material

#### 5. ANTONYMS - SINGLE WORD:

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#### 6. ANTONYMOUS PAIR:

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#### 7. IDIOM IN A SENTENCE:

'Please work out the questions given in Verbal Ability Study Material

#### 8. COMPOUND WORDS/ COMBINATIONS:

'Please work out the questions given in Verbal Ability Study Material

#### 9. WORD USAGE:

This question type has appeared often in XAT and on one occasion in CAT Here, four sentences are given, each with a word missing. These are followed by four words that can possibly fit into the blanks in each of the sentence. Each of the words fit in at least one of the blanks. However, some of these words may fit in more than one of the given sentences. You must identify the maximum number of times any word can fit and mark this as your answer and NOT the number of the option that fits into these sentences.

Now attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 5:** Four sentences are given with a blank in each. Four words are also given. The blank in each sentence can be filled by one or more of the four words given. Similarly, each word given in the choices can go into any number of sentences. Identify the number of sentences each word can go into and mark as your answer, the maximum number of sentences any word can go into.

1. (1) The \_\_\_\_\_ age of the workers is 30.  
(2) Bus is the cheapest \_\_\_\_\_ of transport.  
(3) The teacher wanted us to calculate the \_\_\_\_\_ of the numbers.  
(4) I did not \_\_\_\_\_ to offend you.  
(A) mode (B) median (C) mean (D) average
2. (1) We have to take his \_\_\_\_\_ into consideration.  
(2) She would not appreciate his \_\_\_\_\_ of view.  
(3) We have to learn to accommodate different points of \_\_\_\_\_.  
(4) Can you see that \_\_\_\_\_ from here?  
(A) point (B) view (C) opinion (D) note
3. (1) Shyam is \_\_\_\_\_ at his work.  
(2) The potatoes are not \_\_\_\_\_.  
(3) We should nurture \_\_\_\_\_ thoughts.  
(4) \_\_\_\_\_ manners are learnt at home.  
(A) fresh (B) noble  
(C) good (D) expensive
4. (1) You will \_\_\_\_\_ the bus.  
(2) She could not \_\_\_\_\_ the humour.  
(3) None can \_\_\_\_\_ his speed.  
(4) Please \_\_\_\_\_ your step.  
(A) miss (B) catch (C) match (D) watch
5. (1) We will have to \_\_\_\_\_ it a day.  
(2) The \_\_\_\_\_ has given a boost to Indo-US relations.  
(3) This did not \_\_\_\_\_ in the list.  
(4) The police \_\_\_\_\_ they have nabbed the culprit.  
(A) claim (B) call (C) visit (D) figure

## 10. APPROPRIATE SUBSTITUTE

A word is given followed by a sentence in which this word is used. The four answer choices have a word or phrase each. You must pick the word or phrase that is the most appropriate substitute for the question word in the given sentence. The appropriate substitute may or may not be a synonym but the closest possible word in the context.

Attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 5:** For each of the words below, a contextual usage is provided. Pick the word, from the alternatives, that is most appropriate substitute for the question-word in the given context.

1. **OBDURATE:**  
Her obdurate nature stood in the way of her progress.  
(A) stubborn (B) extravagant  
(C) mean (D) petty
2. **PUNITIVE:**  
The arrest seemed to be a punitive measure.  
(A) retaliatory (B) vindictive  
(C) disciplinary (D) conciliatory
3. **FACTITIOUS:**  
Everybody criticised his factitious style of writing.  
(A) flippant (B) contrived  
(C) factual (D) facetious
4. **PENSIVE:**  
He was in a pensive mood most of the time.  
(A) sorrowful (B) peaceful  
(C) angry (D) joyous
5. **ASSIDUITY:**  
Assiduity seems to run in their blood and the brothers have done well.  
(A) irritability (B) diligence  
(C) stupidity (D) honesty

## 11. INAPPROPRIATE SUBSTITUTE

A word is given followed by a sentence in which this word is used. The four answer choices have a word or phrase each. You must pick the word that is the most inappropriate substitute for the question word in the given sentence.

The inappropriate substitute need not be an antonym of the question word. Infact, most often it is not. The other three words are synonyms of the question word. This question is similar to the 'odd man' question – three of the options are synonyms, one is not. Herein lies your clue. Even if you don't know the question word, if you can identify the words that are synonyms you can find the right answer.

Attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 15:** In each question below, a word is used in a sentence. Select as your answer, the word that is inappropriate as a replacement to the word in the main sentence.

1. **UTOPIAN:** Her Utopian world existed only in her dreams.  
(A) perfect (B) idealistic  
(C) optimistic (D) stark

2. **WITHER:** The hot summer winds make the plants wither.  
(A) dry (B) blossom  
(C) droop (D) shrivel
3. **ZENITH:** Such dubious practices at the zenith of his medical career proved disastrous.  
(A) pinnacle (B) acme  
(C) prime (D) perigee
4. **BANTER:** His banter puts people immediately at ease.  
(A) jest (B) chaff  
(C) banner (D) badinage
5. **DISFIGURE:** Vandals disfigured the statue of Lord Buddha.  
(A) defaced (B) unsnarled  
(C) mutilated (D) blemished
6. **ECLECTIC:** The audience was enthralled by the eclectic mix of music played by the rock star.  
(A) varied (B) diverse  
(C) unique (D) wide ranging
7. **HALLOW:** The player, who conquered the hallowed grass of Wimbledon, was felicitated by the state governor and the chief minister.  
(A) famous (B) venerated  
(C) revered (D) worshipped
8. **DESECRATED:** The suburb was tense after an idol had seen desecrated by hooligans.  
(A) vandalized (B) violated  
(C) defaced (D) impaired
9. **OPALESCENT:** The opalescent beads on her dress reflected various colour on to her face in a strangely beautiful way.  
(A) glittering (B) glorious  
(C) iridescent (D) lustrous
10. **LAIDBACK:** Her laidback attitude will not let her realise her dreams.  
(A) nonchalant (B) insouciant  
(C) uptight (D) equable
11. **BOORISH:** He made a public spectacle of himself with his boorish behaviour.  
(A) uncouth (B) unseemly  
(C) awkward (D) pompous
12. **SERENE:** I liked the serene expression on his face and went there to meet him again.  
(A) queer (B) composed  
(C) unperturbed (D) calm
13. **CURSORY:** We must all realise that there is more to scriptures than meets the  cursory eye.  
(A) casual (B) attentive  
(C) fleeting (D) perfunctory
14. **ENTICE:** Free bus tours are being introduced with a view to entice visitors.  
(A) help (B) woo  
(C) draw (D) attract
15. **OMINOUS:** Apart from their ominous tones, such statements were factually wrong.  
(A) menacing (B) sinister  
(C) propitious (D) baleful

## 12. ANALOGIES :

This question type used to be quite common in the CAT. Since 1997 it has ceased to appear. However, there is no saying when it may be revived.

A pair of capitalized words are given which are related to each other in some fashion. This is followed by four answer choices each having a pair of words. You must identify the pair that has a similar relationship as the capitalized pair of words have. The sequence of the relationship in both the capitalized pair and the correct answer pair must be maintained.

The different types of analogies that we commonly came across are:

- (1) Synonymous relationship
- (2) Antonymous relationship
- (3) Tool to workman – eg. Awl: Cobbler
- (4) Tool to function – eg. Scalpel: Incision
- (5) Degrees of something – eg. Warm: Scorch
- (6) Description of type – eg. Pauper : Poor
- (7) Characteristic actions –  
eg. Insomniac : Sleep
- (8) Lack of something –  
eg. Pessimist : Hope
- (9) Classification – eg. Measles : Disease
- (10) Cause/prevent something –  
eg. Remedy : Illness
- (11) Part to whole relationship –  
eg. Soldier : Army

Now attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 10:** In each of the following questions a pair of words in capitals is given followed by four numbered pairs of words. Select, from the choices, the pair which exhibits the same relationship as the capitalised pair of words and mark its corresponding letter as your answer.

1. CONTEMPLATE : PONDER  
(A) Fascinate : Wonder  
(B) Mitigate : Reject  
(C) Fabricate : Feign  
(D) Captivate : Capture
2. WATER : DEPTH  
(A) Height : Feet (B) Density : Mass  
(C) Colour : Strength (D) Rule : Law
3. BLOOD : CLOT  
(A) Cake : Bake (B) Milk : Curdle  
(C) Rice : Pound (D) Meat : Mince
4. PISTON : POWER ENGINE  
(A) Missiles : Speed (B) Time : Watch  
(C) Wings : Aeroplane (D) Bullet : Pistol
5. POEM : RECITE  
(A) Speech : Express  
(B) Prayer : Chant  
(C) Choreography : Dance  
(D) Song : Tune
6. RADICAL : MODERATE  
(A) Robust : Mighty  
(B) Epicurean : Extravagant  
(C) Grotesque : Massive  
(D) Revolutionary : Conservative

## 7. DEATH : GALLOWS

- (A) Jailer : Jail (B) Love : Heart  
(C) Judge : Court (D) Criminal : Crime

## 8. FOUNDATION : EDIFICE

- (A) Earth : Moon (B) Teacher : Student  
(C) Constitution : Nation (D) Oxygen : Life

## 9. BOTANIST : SOCIOLOGIST

- (A) Plants : Society (B) Plant : Sociology  
(C) Botany : Society (D) Problems : Mind

## 10. OPHTHALMIA : EYE

- (A) Lungs : Air (B) Rickets : Bone  
(C) Dust : Allergy (D) Sleep : Brain

## 13. REVERSE ANALOGIES:

This question is similar to the previous one but is its opposite in one sense. A pair of capitalized words is given and the words are related to each other in some fashion. This is followed by four answer choices each with a pair of words. The words in three of the four pairs display the same relationship as the words in the question pair. You must identify the pair that does not display a relationship similar to that of the capitalized pair of words. You must be careful when reading the instruction to check whether it is an analogy or a reverse analogy question.

Now attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 15:** In each of the following questions a capitalized pair of words is given followed by four numbered pairs of words. Three of the numbered pairs exhibit the same relation between the words as the capitalised pair of words does. Identify the numbered pair which does not exhibit the same relationship as the capitalised pair and make its corresponding letter your answer.

1. TYRANT : DESPOTISM  
(A) Misanthrope : Hatred  
(B) Traitor : Betrayal  
(C) Irony : Sarcasm  
(D) Debonair : Elegance
2. PEDAGOGUE : TEACHER  
(A) Mendicant : Poet  
(B) Peasant : Farmer  
(C) Mentor : Guide  
(D) Buffoon : Clown
3. SAW : CARPENTER  
(A) Knife : Butcher  
(B) Sickle : Farmer  
(C) Scalpel : Surgeon  
(D) Axe : Hammer
4. WORD : SENTENCE  
(A) Verse : Poem  
(B) Language : Vocabulary  
(C) Tree : Forest  
(D) Cell : Organ
5. CAT : KITTEN  
(A) Horse : Foal  
(B) Deer : Fawn  
(C) Goat : Kid  
(D) Elephant : Cub

6. BALDNESS : WIG  
 (A) Wrinkle : Cream  
 (B) Greyness : Dye  
 (C) Obesity : Exercise  
 (D) Toothlessness : Denture

7. RETRENCH : EMPLOYEES  
 (A) Cut : Flab  
 (B) Redress : Grievances  
 (C) Dispose : Waste  
 (D) Prune : Trees

8. CRICKET : SPORT  
 (A) Spout : Container  
 (B) Squash : Vegetable  
 (C) Cricket : Insect  
 (D) Maroon : Colour

9. READ : MAP  
 (A) Portray : Character  
 (B) Paint : Canvas  
 (C) Polish : Metal  
 (D) Blemish : Scar

10. GOODNESS : MALICE  
 (A) Generosity : Greed  
 (B) Hatred : Love  
 (C) Blackhole : Light  
 (D) Constancy : Fickleness

11. FLOWER : BOUQUET  
 (A) Page : Book  
 (B) Hair : Braid  
 (C) Spoke : Wheel  
 (D) Wood : Stick

12. STONE : PEBBLE  
 (A) Stream : Brook  
 (B) Boulder : Rock  
 (C) Tree : Shrub  
 (D) Tea : Drink

13. THEATRE : ENTERTAINMENT  
 (A) Church : Worship  
 (B) University : Learning  
 (C) Restaurant : Recreation  
 (D) Hospital : Treatment

14. HEARTH : WARM  
 (A) Igloo : House  
 (B) Ice : Cold  
 (C) Rainbow : Gorgeous  
 (D) Scent : Fragrant

15. ROSE : FLOWER  
 (A) Aubergine : Vegetable  
 (B) Flax : Costume  
 (C) Albatross : Bird  
 (D) Port : Drink

#### 14. CONFUSING WORDS:

This is a question type that has appeared over the last 2 years.

The question presents sentences with blanks. Each blank is followed by a pair of words one of which is the correct choice for the blank. This is a test of not only knowledge of word meanings, but also of appropriate use of words.

A sample of this question is as follows:

- (i) The potential for the emancipation of marginal people, who have no representation in actual policy making, should be ----- (*imminent (a) / immanent (b)*) in the daily policy process.
- (ii) The social organization Jan Manch has demanded that the district administration should ----- (*ensure (a) / insure (b)*) that the polling personnel are able to exercise their franchise.
- (iii) Since ----- (*depraved (a) / deprived (b)*) students are capable of doing university-level work, there should be more funding arrangements for them.
- (iv) While he may have had justification for his annoyance, he should not have behaved in such a ----- (*crass (a) / cross (b)*) manner.
- (v) The instructor ----- (*rebuked (a) / rebuffed (b)*) the cadets for not taking care of their equipment.
- (A) aaaaa (B) aabab  
 (C) babaa (D) aabaa

#### 15 to 19: SENTENCE COMPLETION:

This is one of the most important question varieties to appear in the CAT and has been a regular feature over the last few years. This variety was given in CAT2000, 2001 and 2003.

The Sentence Completion question has a long sentence of about 25 to 45 words with two blanks. Four pairs of words are given as options and the words are to be used in the blank in the same order. Since the sentence is long, the clue to the right words is to be found in the sentence itself. Sometime collocation leads us to the right word. At other times it may be the preposition following the blank or an idiomatic expression. At any rate, familiarity with good written English (acquired through wide reading) is an invaluable asset.

Let us look at a couple of questions.

Pakistan's \_\_\_\_\_ with Kashmir is the reason for the lack of significant progress in the relation between the two countries, but India cannot escape blame as it has relied on the principle of \_\_\_\_\_ in areas such as the visa regime.

- (A) fixation . . . complicity  
 (B) addiction . . . retaliation  
 (C) obsession . . . reciprocity  
 (D) detachment . . . mutuality

In the context of Pakistan and Kashmir. It cannot be 'detachment' (rules out 4). It can be 'fixation' 'obsession' or even 'addiction'. But addiction cannot be 'with', it must be 'to'. The context of India and visa regime makes 'complicity' (suggesting unlawful activity) inappropriate in the second blank. Hence we arrive at 'obsession' and 'reciprocity' (choice 3) as the right answer.

The fear of product obsolescence drives businessmen to \_\_\_\_\_ at the sametime that it \_\_\_\_\_ the consumer toward rented, disposable or temporary products.

- (A) insanity . . . carries  
 (B) adaptation . . . impairs  
 (C) innovation . . . impels  
 (D) adoption . . . dispels

The fear of obsolescence (things becoming out of date) will lead businessmen to 'innovation'. 'Insanity' is an extreme case, 'impairs' and 'dispel' cannot fit in the second blank. Hence choice 3 is the right answer.

In this question, the following classifications may appear:

- (a) **Continuation Type:** In this type, the sentence has the same idea running throughout. It is usually identifiable by the use of 'and', 'also', 'in addition to' etc.
- (b) **Contrast Type:** In this type, the sentence presents two contrasting ideas, linked with a conjunction, or a connective such as 'but', 'whereas', 'despite', 'in spite of', 'although', 'even though', 'notwithstanding', 'yet', 'however' and 'nevertheless'.
- (c) **Definitional Type:** In this type, the sentence defines an idea or a concept or something.
- (d) **Cause-Effect Type:** In this type, the first part of the sentence refers to the cause of an event, while the second part elaborates on the result/effect of the same event.
- (e) **Adjective-Noun Concord:** In this type, the adjective that is to fill the blank that precedes a noun, must adopt the same tone/idea implied by the noun and not one in opposition to it.

Attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 10:** Select the correct word/ words from the choices that complete the given sentence. Please note that more than one choice may fit in to make a syntactically correct sentence but select the choice that is logical in the context of the sentence.

1. The \_\_\_\_\_ of our nation is that neither the selfless leaders and great men who took over at the dawn of independence nor the selfish politicians who succeeded them through skilful \_\_\_\_\_ manoeuvres ever dared to formulate and practice the best policies and principles of effective and efficient management in civil administration.  
(A) bane . . . electoral (B) boon . . . political  
(C) evil . . . secular (D) curse . . . economical
2. The Indian Railways claims a steady \_\_\_\_\_ in the number of accidents but major accidents witnessed recently \_\_\_\_\_ these arguments.  
(A) decrease . . . testify  
(B) abatement . . . substantiate  
(C) decline . . . negate  
(D) progress . . . condemn
3. The public health system in the state is under \_\_\_\_\_ strain with a variety of viral and bacterial diseases sweeping across several districts \_\_\_\_\_ doctors and officials.  
(A) unforgivable . . . intimidating  
(B) unprecedented . . . baffling  
(C) tremendous . . . enervating  
(D) unusual . . . incapacitating
4. General Anxiety Disorder constitutes \_\_\_\_\_ tension and worry over \_\_\_\_\_ life-events, triggered off by factors like life-experiences, psychological traits and genetic factors.  
(A) understandable . . . common  
(B) acceptable . . . mundane  
(C) exaggerated . . . routine  
(D) unreasonable . . . stressful

5. By \_\_\_\_\_ cricketing ties between India and Pakistan, the dream of millions to see a match between them has been \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) deferring . . . shattered  
(B) resuming . . . stumped  
(C) abandoning . . . quashed  
(D) forsaking . . . raised
6. The experiences obtained from the exercise are now being \_\_\_\_\_ to the districts for them to \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) circulated . . . repudiate  
(B) dissipated . . . promulgate  
(C) disseminated . . . replicate  
(D) distributed . . . copy
7. There is no \_\_\_\_\_ of buyers today and there is a/an \_\_\_\_\_ for all types of designers.  
(A) shortage . . . potential  
(B) dearth . . . market  
(C) scarcity . . . avenue  
(D) shortcoming . . . place
8. Somewhat \_\_\_\_\_ within the party, he now seems intent on \_\_\_\_\_ the image of the government.  
(A) relegated . . . improving  
(B) affiliated . . . spoiling  
(C) uncomfortable . . . building  
(D) isolated . . . tarnishing
9. Powerlessness and \_\_\_\_\_ in the face of impending disaster often throw up \_\_\_\_\_ heroes.  
(A) vulnerability . . . unlikely  
(B) poverty . . . unseemly  
(C) susceptibility . . . unforeseen  
(D) despair . . . unknown
10. Well cooked rice piled on a broad green leaf is a/an \_\_\_\_\_ sight and \_\_\_\_\_ the appetite.  
(A) welcome . . . provides  
(B) grand . . . encourages  
(C) pleasant . . . whets  
(D) inviting . . . stimulates

## 20. CLOZE TEST:

The Cloze Test consists of a paragraph in which some of the words are replaced by a numbered blank. Four answer choices are given for each blank and you have to select the word that is the most appropriate in the context.

This question type was introduced in CAT2002, where the options were very close, sometimes synonyms. It was not given in CAT. Nov. 03 or Feb 04 but in CAT 2004 (November) there were ten questions – spread over two paragraph – carrying half-mark each. CAT 2005 did not have this question-type

The first step in solving this question is to read the entire paragraph since what is said at the end may decide what the word in the earlier blank should be. Comprehend what the author is saying what his tone is (optimistic, pessimistic, neutral, biased etc), what his style is (informal, official, stilted, colloquial, racy verbose etc); since all these can lead you to the right word. Let us consider a paragraph here.

According to checklists on the internet, based on Israeli experience, one way of spotting a suicide bomber on public transport is to look out for passengers who seem sweaty or (1) or who are mouthing silent prayers. But the (2) in this technique is that almost everyone

I saw on tubes or buses on Friday morning's rush hour was (3) with apprehensive perspiration, while several seemed to be muttering secret deals with some deity. And yet none of these people wanted to kill me; they were trying to stay alive. So the eventual effect of Islamist terror is to make the threatening and the (4) indistinguishable. As the rush hour began, it was the sound track that struck you first. It is always a sign of bad times when the noise of sirens becomes as (5) and unremarkable as bird song.

1. (A) weary (B) anxious  
(C) pallid (D) livid
2. (A) paradox (B) jinx  
(C) flaw (D) impediment
3. (A) seething (B) glowing  
(C) glistening (D) soaking
4. (A) threatened (B) tormented  
(C) agonized (D) wretched
5. (A) raucous (B) mellifluous  
(C) constant (D) dulcet

Reading the full paragraph gives one an idea of what the author is talking about – he is talking about the effect of recent acts of terrorism on the people. The word in the first blank is used to describe people who have been referred to in the sentence as 'sweaty', 'mouthing silent prayers'. Obviously we are talking about people who are anxious. A person who is 'weary' or 'pallid' (pale from sickness) or 'livid' (angry) would not be mouthing silent prayers. 'Suicide bombers' is also a clue that leads us to 'anxious'. The second word can be decided only by reading the whole paragraph. That several people are 'muttering secret deals with some deity,' 'yet none of these people wanted to kill me' suggests that the checklist to zero in on terrorist is not right. So there is a 'flaw' in the technique. The action verb in the third blank is linked to 'apprehensive perspiration'. One does not 'seeth' (filled with intense anger) in this context. While 'glowing' has a positive connotation, 'soaking' would not go with 'perspiration' (it is more likely to be sweat in such a case). Hence 'glistening' which suggests wet and greasy surface. The clue for the word in the fourth blank lies in the sentence – Islamic terror has divided the world into two. The two halves are contrasted – the threatening and the threatened. The word in the last blank is linked to 'unremarkable'. What is unremarkable is neither 'raucous' nor 'mellifluous' or 'dulcet'. It can only be 'constant'.

So a careful reading of the passage, its actual and implied meaning leads you to the right word.

Try and solve the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 15:** In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, four words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case.

Mumbai's (1) gives people a sense of freedom which people in other cities almost lack. Small town attitudes are automatically (2). There is comparatively less time and energy to (3) on other people's business, and therefore, they don't have to seek refuge in the Himalayas to find (4). The privacy and (5) people feel in the jam-packed local trains of Mumbai are unique.

1. (A) animosity (B) anonymity  
(C) anomaly (D) vicissitude
2. (A) exacerbated (B) camouflaged  
(C) jettisoned (D) permeated
3. (A) endure (B) dwell  
(C) invest (D) spurn
4. (A) solitude (B) oblivion  
(C) transition (D) solace
5. (A) trepidation (B) quietude  
(C) pugnacity (D) subtlety

In the heart of some of the most prosperous pockets of the country, there is a darkness that has (6) itself in some of the most depressing statistics to emerge from the 2001 census. As independent India has moved ahead, its attitude towards the girl child has (7) to the dark ages. The sex ratio has fallen below the 900 mark for the first time. What is more revealing is that the imbalance is most (8) in some of India's wealthiest parts. Clearly the Indian (9) for the male child remains deep-rooted and dangerous. Every year an increasing number of girls are being killed before they are born. Despite being illegal, the sex determination industry has become more (10) in its operation, more sophisticated in its techniques and more commonly available.

6. (A) declared (B) authenticated  
(C) manifested (D) substantiated
7. (A) regressed (B) denigrated  
(C) reneged (D) detracted
8. (A) prophetic (B) propitious  
(C) protracted (D) pronounced
9. (A) fuss (B) preference  
(C) fervour (D) selection
10. (A) troublesome (B) reserved  
(C) insolent (D) brazen

Save the mighty elephant! Who could argue? Well, the (11) might. In 1989, with the elephant facing the threat of extinction, the nations of the world agreed to (12) trade in elephant ivory. Now ivory hunters who once shot elephants for their tusks are shooting hippos for their (13). If nothing is done, experts say, the hippo may be wiped out in some areas of Africa. The hippo, (14) Dr. Simon Lyster of the World Wide Fund for Nature, "is the forgotten beast". Unfortunately for hippos, they're easy targets. They like to gather in herds at muddy pools and just sit there, virtually motionless. Hunters simply shoot the hippos in the water. The carcasses soon (15) with gas and literally explode.

11. (A) conservationist (B) hunter  
(C) hippopotamus (D) merchant
12. (A) stop (B) ban  
(C) sanction (D) embargo
13. (A) teeth (B) horn  
(C) antlers (D) mane
14. (A) observes (B) laments  
(C) remarks (D) affirms
15. (A) decay (B) pollute  
(C) expand (D) decompose

## 21. MEANING AND USAGE TABLE:

This question variety was given in CAT 2001 and CAT 2000. You must have a good vocabulary, which includes knowledge of idiomatic phrases, connotational usages and the secondary shades of meaning of words. A word is given at the top of a table, which is divided into two columns. On the left hand side we have four different meanings of the word labelled A, B, C, D and on the right hand side we have sentences labelled E, F, G, H which uses the word in different ways. You must match the meanings in A – D with the usage in E – H and pick the option where the two are correctly matched.

Solve the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 10:** For the word given on the top of the table, match the dictionary definitions given in the left hand columns (a, b, c, d) with their corresponding usage given in the right hand column (e, f, g, h). Out of the four choices given in the boxes below the table, identify the one that has all meanings and usages correctly matched.

### 1. FOUL

a.	unpleasant smell or taste	e.	The water in the river is foul with carcasses and other objects.
b.	in a very bad temper	f.	By fair means or foul, I want this work done.
c.	very dirty	g.	I chewed some sugar candy to get the foul taste out of my mouth.
d.	evil or cruel	h.	She is in a foul mood today, isn't she?

(A)

a	g
b	h
c	e
d	f

(B)

a	e
b	h
c	g
d	f

(C)

a	e
b	h
c	f
d	g

(D)

a	g
b	h
c	f
d	e

### 2. GRIND

a.	to break something such as corn or coffee beans into small pieces or powder, either in a machine or between two hard surfaces	e.	I find the journey to work a real grind since my workplace is nearly twenty km away from home.
b.	something that is hard work and physically or mentally tiring	f.	These lenses are ground to a very high standard of precision.
c.	to make something smooth or sharp by rubbing it on a hard surface or by using a machine	g.	I love the aroma of freshly ground coffee.
d.	to continue for an unpleasantly long time	h.	Summer here grinds on till nearly the end of June.

(A)

a	g
b	e
c	h
d	f

(B)

a	g
b	e
c	f
d	h

(C)

a	g
b	f
c	e
d	h

(D)

a	g
b	h
c	f
d	e

### 3. GRIP

a.	the way you hold something tightly or your ability to do this	e.	Our state is in the grip of a heat wave.
b.	power and control over someone or something	f.	He doesn't seem to have a firm grip on his family.
c.	to be experiencing a very unpleasant situation that cannot be controlled or stopped	g.	Get a grip on yourself and don't create a scene in public.
d.	to start controlling your emotions when you have been very upset	h.	Don't loosen your grip on the rope.

(A)

a	f
b	h
c	g
d	e

(B)

a	f
b	h
c	e
d	g

(C)

a	h
b	f
c	g
d	e

(D)

a	h
b	f
c	e
d	g

#### 4. FLASH

a.	a quick look; glimpse	e.	We were blinded by the flash that went off as soon as we entered.
b.	the act of shining a light as a signal	f.	He caught a flash of her and then she was gone.
c.	a special bright light used when taking photographs indoors or when there is not much light	g.	In a flash of a moment he had snatched the chain.
d.	happening very quickly or suddenly and lasting for only a short time	h.	Three flashes mean danger; two flashes mean all clear.

(A)

a	e
b	h
c	f
d	g

(B)

a	f
b	h
c	e
d	g

(C)

a	f
b	h
c	g
d	e

(D)

a	e
b	f
c	g
d	h

#### 5. CLIMB

a.	to move up, down or across something, especially something tall or steep, using your feet and hands	e.	He climbed the ladder of the corporate world very rapidly.
b.	to grow up a wall or other structure	f.	People climbed on roofs and trees to get a better view.
c.	to move gradually to a higher social position or professional life	g.	After a steady climb, petrol prices stabilized at around ₹40 a litre.
d.	an increase in value or amount	h.	It is a very beautiful building with ivy climbing up the façade.

(A)

a	e
b	f
c	h
d	g

(B)

a	f
b	h
c	e
d	g

(C)

a	f
b	h
c	g
d	e

(D)

a	e
b	f
c	g
d	h

#### 6. ACT

a.	A deed or an action	e.	Why are you acting so strangely?
b.	To behave in a particular way	f.	In Macbeth, the three witches are introduced in Act I, Scene I.
c.	One of the main parts into which a stage play is divided	g.	His acts of kindness endeared him to one and all.
d.	To represent someone	h.	He is acting on behalf of his client.

(A)

a	e
b	g
c	f
d	h

(B)

a	g
b	e
c	f
d	h

(C)

a	g
b	h
c	f
d	e

(D)

a	h
b	e
c	f
d	g

#### 7. STRAIGHT

a.	Honest, truthful	e.	Go straight home and tell your father.
b.	Immediately	f.	I like my scotch straight.
c.	Something that goes in one direction and does not bend or curve	g.	Go straight for one kilometre and then turn left.
d.	A drink to which no ice or water are added	h.	He is always straight with me.

(A)

a	h
b	e
c	g
d	f

(B)

a	e
b	h
c	g
d	f

(C)

a	g
b	h
c	e
d	f

(D)

a	h
b	g
c	e
d	f



## 8. MEND

a.	Getting better after a long illness	e.	I advise you to mend your ways.
b.	To repair	f.	I have tried to mend matters between us but he is still very angry.
c.	To change and improve the way you behave after behaving badly for a long time	g.	I have had flu, but I am on the mend.
d.	To end a quarrel	h.	Did you mend your shoes?

(A)

a	g
b	h
c	f
d	e

(B)

a	g
b	h
c	e
d	f

(C)

a	g
b	f
c	e
d	h

(D)

a	g
b	e
c	f
d	h

## 9. COMMON

a.	Happening often and in many places	e.	What will the common people get from these reforms?
b.	Aims, beliefs, ideas shared by several people	f.	Heart attacks are quite common nowadays.
c.	Ordinary	g.	She and I have nothing in common.
d.	Not unusual or special	h.	It is only common courtesy to thank them for their hospitality.

(A)

a	f
b	h
c	e
d	g

(B)

a	g
b	f
c	e
d	h

(C)

a	f
b	g
c	e
d	h

(D)

a	g
b	h
c	e
d	f

## 10. DOWN

a.	Not working (about a machine)	e.	She has been feeling down lately.
b.	From above towards a lower position	f.	Our computer is down today.
c.	Feeling sad and discouraged	g.	He downed two bottles of beer.
d.	To eat or drink something quickly	h.	I bent down and tied my shoelace.

(A)

a	h
b	e
c	f
d	g

(B)

a	e
b	f
c	h
d	g

(C)

a	f
b	e
c	h
d	g

(D)

a	f
b	h
c	e
d	g

## 22. INCORRECT / INAPPROPRIATE USAGE

This question type was introduced in CAT2003 and was given in CAT 2003 (retest) and then in CAT 2004. Here a word is given, followed by 4 sentences in which the word is used in different ways. One of the sentences uses the word in an incorrect matter. You must identify the sentence in which the usage of the word is incorrect, and mark that as your answer. You must have not only a good vocabulary but a knowledge of idiomatic phrases and expressions, usage and phrasal verbs.

Attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 10:** In each question, the word at the top of the table is used in four different ways, A to D. Choose the option in which the usage of the word is INCORRECT or INAPPROPRIATE.

### 1. TOUCH

(A)	I would like to keep in touch with you.
(B)	You can't miss the touch of irony in his writings.
(C)	The dress was touch too loud for my taste.
(D)	The Prime Minister was hesitant to touch on those delicate issues in his speech.

## 2. COURSE

(A)	We could not change course midway.
(B)	In course of time, things will fall in place.
(C)	She is keen on pursuing a course in interior decoration.
(D)	If you follow the course of the river, you can reach fast.

## 3. SCHOOL

(A)	It was a delight to see a school for dolphins.
(B)	We decided to school him early.
(C)	My school begins at 8.30 a.m.
(D)	We passed out of school the same year.

## 4. READ

(A)	Learn to read between the lines.
(B)	Read the expression on his face and then speak to him.
(C)	Please read up this report and ensure that it is free of errors.
(D)	Can you read my handwriting?

## 5. DUE

(A)	After due thought, the plan has been approved.
(B)	The film is due to release next month.
(C)	We cleared the dues before we left the place.
(D)	With all due respects, this explanation is not satisfactory.

## 6. HEAVE

(A)	The peon was ordered to heave all the tables back into place.
(B)	The sea waters heave up and down like a swan on a lake.
(C)	You must know what to accept and what to reject, when events heave to you.
(D)	No sooner had the question paper been given, the student began to heave a sigh of relief.

## 7. INNER

(A)	Do not simply look at the success of the star; look into his inner life.
(B)	We used to live in inner Paris, before we came to India.
(C)	The entry is restricted to the inner circle of the club chairman.
(D)	To be successful in such top-level examinations, you need to make inner efforts.

## 8. PLASTIC

(A)	As a sales executive, I would to flash a plastic smile to our clients.
(B)	Don't you think the news on war and scams, have a deep impact on the plastic minds of our children?
(C)	I like Ooty particularly for its plastic climatic conditions.
(D)	Do not be too hasty to brand our manager as a task master; he is plastic on the other side.

## 9. PITCH

(A)	I have no time for your sales pitch; in fact I don't need the product.
(B)	It is only during the time of elections that politicians make a pitch for public support.
(C)	With the exhibition around the corner, each firm is now busy reserving its pitch.
(D)	It is not pure gold, it is only coated with a pitch of gold.

## 10. MEAN

(A)	Men of mean will never remain so forever.
(B)	I would appreciate if you can find a mean between humility and arrogance.
(C)	His smile does not mean acceptance.
(D)	I agree he hit many centuries; but on the mean, he rarely crossed seventy runs per innings.

## GRAMMAR-BASED QUESTIONS

Grammar questions can be broadly subdivided into:

1. **Error identification questions** – Questions that require the test taker to identify the grammatical error in a sentence.
2. **Error correction questions** – Questions that require the test taker to identify the error and correct it.

The errors may be grammatical, syntactical or semantic. The following are some of the test areas:

1. Subject verb agreement
2. Parallel construction
3. Redundancy
4. Misplaced modifiers
5. Awkward construction
6. Positioning of the adverb
7. Use of the articles
8. Comparisons

You must have a strong foundation in grammar and knowledge of rules as well as the exceptions to rules. Given below are some of the varieties of grammar-based questions.

### 23. SENTENCE WITH AN ERROR:

This is an error-identification question. A sentence is given divided into four parts. These divisions may be indicated either with a slash symbol (/) or they may be underlined. Each part is labelled 1 through 4. One of the part has an error. You have to identify the error and mark the number of that part as the answer. The question may be structured differently by the parts appearing in 4 lines eg:

- (1) Had I been
- (2) in you place
- (3) I would have grabbed
- (4) at the opportunity

Now attempt the following questions:

**Directions for questions 1 to 17:** Each of the given sentences has been divided into four parts. One of them has a mistake. Mark the letter corresponding with the wrong part as the answer.

1. The heavy rains which lashed the city / for the  
(A) (B)  
past days / gave the people a much needed  
(C)  
respite / with the scorching summer heat.  
(D)
2. The watch that he is wearing/ is different than  
(A) (B)  
the one / that we had seen / in the showroom.  
(C) (D)
3. Mina's hair / is not / as long / as her sister.  
(A) (B) (C) (D)
4. The level of water / in all the reservoirs / has  
(A) (B)  
raised considerably/ after the monsoons.  
(C) (D)
5. He has been selected for a job/ which pays him/  
(A) (B)  
as much twice that what/ he is earning now.  
(C) (D)
6. One can see the ice breaking / because after  
(A)  
years convention taboos / and inhibitions are  
(B) (C)  
being shed / to keep up with the changing times.  
(D)
7. The adolescent's mind today / is more like a  
(A)  
blotted paper / with the capacity to absorb /  
(B) (C)  
knowledge at a rapid rate.  
(D)
8. Psychiatrists feel that having a knowledge of /  
(A)  
the physical and mental changes that occurs in  
(B)  
one's body / and the reasons behind them /  
(C)  
have become essential for all teenagers.  
(D)
9. Niloufer's collection of exquisite jewellery /  
(A)  
incorporates a variety of / traditional but also /  
(B) (C)  
unconventional designs.  
(D)
10. When an issue is close / to the heart of a person  
(A) (B)  
the faculty of judgement / gets engulfed with a /  
(C)  
turbulent sea of strong emotions.  
(D)
11. For all ills / of body and mind, / there is a  
(A) (B) (C)  
infallible / remedy in walking.  
(D)
12. The elephant population / all over the world /  
(A) (B)  
are steadily / decreasing.  
(C) (D)
13. The function of the lungs / is not only /  
(A) (B)  
to absorb carbondioxide / but also to discharging  
(C) (D)  
carbondioxide.
14. Although the two brothers / bear a lot of  
(A) (B)  
resemblance with each other, / they are  
(C)  
poles apart / in their character and behaviour.  
(D)
15. While I had been to the U.S. / on a tourist  
(A) (B)  
visa last year, / I stayed with my brother /  
(C)  
he lives in Florida.  
(D)
16. Although I am living in this city / for the past  
(A)  
several years, / I am still not familiar / with many areas.  
(B) (C) (D)

17. He is so involved / in his profession / that he  
(A) (B)  
has a few time to spare / for his family.  
(C) (D)

#### 24. GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT STATEMENT:

Here 4 sentences are given. Only one sentence is grammatically correct. You must identify the correct statement and mark the letter corresponding with it as the answer.

Attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 5:** A sentence is given in four different forms. Only one of them is grammatically correct. Mark the letter corresponding with the correct one as the answer.

1. (A) My friend has entrusted this work upon me.  
(B) My friend has trusted this work upon me.  
(C) My friend has entrusted this work on me.  
(D) My friend has entrusted this work to me.
  2. (A) We watched the proceedings from the beginning to the end.  
(B) We watched proceedings from beginning to the end.  
(C) We watched the proceedings from beginning to end.  
(D) We watched proceeding from the beginning to the end.
  3. (A) He entered an agreement with his landlord.  
(B) He entered on an agreement with his landlord.  
(C) He entered about an agreement with his landlord.  
(D) He entered into an agreement with his landlord.
  4. (A) She has never spoken to him or his brother.  
(B) She has never spoken to him nor his brother.  
(C) She has never either spoken to him nor his brother.  
(D) She has neither spoken to him or his brother.
  5. (A) I doubt that he will succeed.  
(B) I doubt that he will succeed or not.  
(C) I doubt whether he will succeed.  
(D) I doubt if he will succeed.
- #### 25. REPLACING THE UNDERLINED PART:
- A sentence is given with a part of it underlined. Four different ways of rephrasing the underlined part are given as answer choices. You must pick the option that has the same meaning as the underlined part in the sentence.
- Directions for questions 1 to 10:** In each of the following sentences, a part of the sentence is underlined. Beneath each sentence, four different ways of phrasing the underlined part are indicated. Choose the best alternative among the four.
1. What struck me particularly was the ease with which he got through his work.  
(A) how easy his work was.  
(B) how he seemed to do the work effortlessly.  
(C) the lack of intelligence in his work.  
(D) the indifferent manner of his working.
2. It often happens that people with good eyesight fail to see what is right in front of them.  
(A) cannot see what the blind can perceive.  
(B) do not have inner visions.  
(C) do not notice the things before them.  
(D) are incapable of deep philosophical insights.
  3. Promise me you will extend your protection to the wild things of forest and plain.  
(A) to the wild fruits of forest and villages.  
(B) to maintain the forest in its wild condition.  
(C) to the rare medicinal plants in the forest.  
(D) to wild as well as domestic animals.
  4. I believe you have it in you to be a fine class.  
(A) you are not capable  
(B) you have the potential  
(C) the class has no funds  
(D) all of you have money
  5. If I am haughty and boorish, there is no penalty to pay except the penalty of being written down an ill-mannered fellow.  
(A) being considered a rude person.  
(B) the fine imposed on rude people.  
(C) the fine for writing down about manners.  
(D) the punishment suffered by strange fellows.
  6. His present state of misery is entirely his own doing.  
(A) is entirely did by him.  
(B) is caused by himself.  
(C) is entirely what he is doing.  
(D) is what he has been doing.
  7. I could not lend her any money because I was hard-pressed myself.  
(A) I could not press myself hard.  
(B) I was pressurized  
(C) I was pressed hard  
(D) I was short of money myself
  8. Despite the severe hardships that he had to face, he left no stone unturned in achieving his goal and eventually emerged successful.  
(A) he made every possible attempt.  
(B) he collected stones  
(C) he pelted several stones  
(D) he threw money like stones.
  9. He is so meek a person, that he cannot put his foot down firmly.  
(A) He is such a coward  
(B) He is too simple  
(C) He is too meek a person  
(D) He is so mute a person
  10. Being a very clever girl she could easily see through his evil game.  
(A) She participated in his evil game.  
(B) She understood his evil intentions.  
(C) She fell a prey to his tricks  
(D) She witnessed his evil intentions.
- #### 26. ERROR IDENTIFICATION: DOUBLE SENTENCE TYPE:
- Here two sentences are given labelled I and II. After reading the question, you must decide whether either of the sentences, or both, or neither have an error. Mark  
(1) If only sentence I has an error.

- (2) If only sentence II has an error.
- (3) If both sentences have errors.
- (4) If neither of the sentences has an error.

Now attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 5:** In the following questions, two sentences are given. There may be errors in the sentence(s). Mark your answer as

- (A) if there is an error only in the first sentence;
  - (B) if there is an error only in the second sentence;
  - (C) if there are errors in both sentences; and
  - (D) if there is no error in either of the sentences.
1. I. There are at least 5000 paintings by members of the Tagore family that you won't get to see on a tour of the Rabindra Bharati Museum.  
II. Because these are kept under lock and key in the strong room by the Rabindra Bharati Society.
  2. I. This order is illegal and cannot stand in the court of law.  
II. If challenged, it can be struck off within seconds because any girl above 18 and any boy above 21 has the right to get married.
  3. I. The proposal to reduce the cut-off mark was made largely to ensure that no seats are left vacant in engineering colleges.  
II. Last year nearly 18,000 seats were not filled.
  4. I. The extraneous pressures notwithstanding, Sourav Ganguly is unfazed.  
II. He is certain that he will be back at the helm after the storm over his six match ban blows over.
  5. I. Panic gripped passers-by on the Ashok Rajpath area in Patna when three bombs were exploded near an electronics shop, injuring three persons.  
II. One of the three persons sustained serious injuries.

## 27. FILL IN THE BLANK

A sentence is given with a blank. It is followed by four answer choices, each with a group of words. You must pick the answer that completes the sentence correctly.

Attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 25:** Select, from the choices, the correct words that complete a given sentence and mark its number as your answer. Please note that more than one choice may fit in syntactically but select the choice that is logical in the context of the sentence.

1. If I were in Chandra Babu Naidu's shoes, I \_\_\_\_\_ undying loyalty to the BJP.  
(A) would be swearing (B) would have sworn  
(C) would swear (D) should have sworn
2. Five years \_\_\_\_\_ yet command a deep respect.  
(A) ago she got married to a friend against her parents wishes  
(B) of pain and torture has hardened her  
(C) is a long time for a company to survive without turning a profit  
(D) is not enough for survival of the fittest

3. My father has \_\_\_\_\_ about saving electricity.  
(A) a fly in his hat (B) a feather in his cap  
(C) a Penelope's web (D) a bee in his bonnet
4. My friend Rajesh met \_\_\_\_\_ at the hands of the person he had deceived ten years ago.  
(A) his godsend  
(B) a nervous breakdown  
(C) his nemesis  
(D) with an accident
5. In my opinion, corruption in India is no big deal; Tehelka.com \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) got a dose of its own medicine.  
(B) has made a mountain out of a molehill.  
(C) made a song and dance about it.  
(D) let bygones be bygones.
6. The Prime Minister asked the intellectuals of the country \_\_\_\_\_ conducive for national integration.  
(A) to ponder whether vivisection of India into smaller states in the name of development of backward areas was  
(B) to ponder if vivisection of India into smaller states in the name of development of backward areas is  
(C) to ponder whether vivisection of India to smaller states in the name of developing backwardness was  
(D) to ponder if vivisection of India into smaller states for the sake of development of backward areas was
7. \_\_\_\_\_ to remain in the city, and efforts to evacuate them were still underway.  
(A) As the bulk of the population of New Orleans had been evacuated before the storm struck, tens of thousands of people chose  
(B) While the bulk of the population of New Orleans had been evacuated before the storm struck, tens of thousands of people chose  
(C) Even as the bulk of the population of New Orleans evacuated before the storm struck, tens of thousands of people chose  
(D) While the bulk of the population of New Orleans had been evacuated before the storm struck, tens of thousands of people chose
8. Amidst growing concern and \_\_\_\_\_ known popularly as the Kyoto protocol.  
(A) increasing awareness on the need for pollution control as part of an international agreement, the concept of carbon credit came into vogue,  
(B) increased awareness on the need for pollution control the concept of carbon credit came into vogue as part of an international agreement,  
(C) increasing awareness on the need for pollution control, the concept of carbon credit came into vogue as part of an international agreement,  
(D) increasing awareness on carbon credit for pollution control, the concept came into vogue as part of an international agreement,
9. An overflowing Brahmaputra with its tributaries \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) in the Barak Valley floods all neighbouring landlocked states, blocks the flow of essential commodities and pushes up prices  
(B) in the Barak Valley flood all neighbouring landlocked states, blocking the flow of essential commodities and pushes up prices

- (C) in the Barak Valley flood all neighbouring landlocked states, blocking the flow of essential commodities and pushing up prices
- (D) in the Barak Valley flooding all neighbouring landlocked states, blocking the flow of essential commodities and pushing up prices
10. Malaysia too has realised the spin-offs from shopping \_\_\_\_\_ that offer the widest range of bargains.
- (A) and now positions itself as a shopping paradise hosting month-long mega sales carnivals thrice a year
- (B) and has positioned itself as a shopping paradise hosting long, mega sales carnivals thrice a month
- (C) and now hosts month-long mega sales carnivals thrice year and positions shopping paradises
- (D) and positions itself as a shopping paradise now hosting month-long mega sales carnivals thrice a year
11. Gandhi's strength made him realise \_\_\_\_\_ his hold was equally strong over both, and so he achieved his end, without war.
- (A) very early that both peasant and intellectual together must be won to work for their country;
- (B) very early that both peasant and intellectual must be won to work together for their country;
- (C) very early that both peasant and intellectual must be won to work together for his country;
- (D) very early that both peasant and intellectual must have won to work together for their country;
12. A list of articles lost by railway travellers and now on sale at a station in London \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) has been published, and many people who read it have been astonished at the absent-mindedness of their fellows
- (B) have been published and many people who read them have been astonished at the absent-mindedness of their fellows
- (C) has been published and many people who read it are being astonished at the absent-mindedness of their fellows
- (D) are being published and many people who read it have been astonished at the absent-mindedness of their fellows
13. A person able to renounce personal benefit \_\_\_\_\_ high-minded, therefore also trustworthy.
- (A) for the sake of idealistic end is by that very fact also honest,
- (B) for the sake of an idealistic end by that very fact also, honest, also
- (C) for the sake of an idealistic end is also by that fact very honest, also
- (D) for the sake of an idealistic end is by that very fact also honest, also
14. \_\_\_\_\_ now mentioned by international security analysts as a haven for Islamic terrorism.
- (A) Of added concern is the frequency with which Bangladesh is
- (B) The frequency with which Bangladesh is causing concern is
- (C) Causing concern is Bangladesh's frequency
- (D) Of added concern was the frequency with which Bangladesh is
15. Nearly 100 heritage sites in \_\_\_\_\_ a ₹40 crore cash injection for their renovation.
- (A) the state, which are languished for years, look set to regain their lost sheen, thanks to
- (B) a state, languishing for years, look set to regain their lost sheen, thanks for
- (C) the state, languishing for years, look set to regain their lost sheen, thanks to
- (D) the state languishing, for years look set to regain their lost sheen, thanks to
16. \_\_\_\_\_ only 4.5 million tonnes was imported in 2004 – 05 owing to high international prices.
- (A) For the planned importing of ten million tonnes of coal for power generation,
- (B) Under the planned import of ten million tonnes of coal for power generation,
- (C) Against the planned imports of ten million tonnes of coal for power generation,
- (D) For the planned import of ten million tonnes of coal for power generation,
17. It is no surprise that \_\_\_\_\_ of the cinematic imagination.
- (A) a feature film on his life has been served as a large slice of folklore and a generous helping
- (B) a feature film on his life has been served up with a large slice of folklore and a generous helping
- (C) a film on his life has been featured with a large slice of folklore and a generous help
- (D) a film on his life has been featured with large slices of folklore and served up with the generous help
18. Reconciliation is a morally sound and defensible \_\_\_\_\_ the arrogant and the powerful.
- (A) proposition, but it cannot mean a meek surrender by the wronged before
- (B) proposition, but it cannot mean a meek surrender by the wrong,
- (C) proposition, but it cannot mean meek surrender by the wrong,
- (D) proposition, only it cannot mean a meek surrender by the wronged before
19. The past is not dead and static, it \_\_\_\_\_ prospects of our future.
- (A) being alive and dynamic can involve itself in determining the quality our present and the
- (B) being alive and dynamic can be involved in determining the quality of the present and
- (C) is alive and dynamic and is involving in determining the quality of our present and the
- (D) is alive and dynamic and will involve in determining the quality of our present and the
20. \_\_\_\_\_ of retelling Bapuji's life on the screen became Attenborough's single biggest obsession.
- (A) Since 1962 when he read Gandhi's autobiography, for 20 years, the project
- (B) From 1962 for 20 years he read Gandhi's autobiography and the project
- (C) For 20 years – ever since he read Gandhi's autobiography in 1962 – the project
- (D) For 20 years since 1962, when he read Gandhi's autobiography the project of

21. Half an hour had already passed without any change in the situation \_\_\_\_\_ into a violently bright light.  
 (A) while the darkness surrounding us was suddenly changed  
 (B) when the darkness surrounding us was suddenly changed  
 (C) and meanwhile the darkness surrounding us was suddenly changed  
 (D) even when the darkness surrounding us was suddenly transformed
22. The man was proud \_\_\_\_\_ reflected lofty thoughts.  
 (A) and his firm, calm but frantic gaze  
 (B) and his firm but calm gaze  
 (C) although his firm and calm gaze  
 (D) and his firm and calm gaze
23. The insurance market in India today \_\_\_\_\_  
 (A) have most customers with a life insurance policy with additional benefits.  
 (B) have risks which are disproportionate to returns.  
 (C) bears comparison with the car market prior to its opening up.  
 (D) are focused on term insurance.
24. In July 2000, China started \_\_\_\_\_  
 (A) implementing their one child syndrome.  
 (B) negotiating its re-entry into the World Trade Organisation.  
 (C) implementing its one child problem.  
 (D) the application of bilateral agreements among 35 trading partners including India.
25. Walk through the corridors of any infotech biggie, eavesdrop on any canteen gossip and \_\_\_\_\_  
 (A) you might have surely got a more than passing reference to the stock market crash.  
 (B) you will be excited while you are told that your ESOP is worth ₹65 lakhs.  
 (C) you will be excited when you are told that your ESOP will be worth ₹65 lakhs.  
 (D) it is more than probable that you will hear words spoken of gloom.
- 28. IDENTIFY THE INCORRECT SENTENCES:**  
 This was given in CAT 2000. In this question type four short sentences marked A, B, C and D are given. This is followed by four answer choices that have a combination of those letters. You should select the option that lists all the sentences that have errors. The errors may be grammatical, syntactical or semantic.  
 Attempt the following questions.
- Directions for questions 1 to 10:** Identify the incorrect sentence or sentences.
1. a. Expectedly, we had to climb over bags and even gunny sacks to reach our seat.  
 b. Despite being crammed on an upper berth, a group of little children were cheerful.  
 c. An old man named Mohammed seemed pensive.  
 d. He was travelling to meet his deceased brother.  
 (A) a and d (B) b and d  
 (C) b and c (D) a, b and d
2. a. The recent media onslaught would have unnerved any youngster.  
 b. But Sumita is made of stern stuff.  
 c. Whatever happened hasn't affected her at all.  
 d. Her attitude is what sets her apart from the others.  
 (A) b and c (B) a, b and c  
 (C) Only b (D) a and c
3. a. Clothes need not be very expensive.  
 b. A simple and sober dress too adds to ones' personality.  
 c. A particular dress may suit one person but not the other.  
 d. Make sure you get your money's worth when you buy expensive clothes.  
 (A) b and d (B) b and c  
 (C) Only b (D) Only d
4. a. Mikali was a young victim in a political turmoil.  
 b. He had lost both his parents and had to fend for himself.  
 c. He did not know how to manage the situation.  
 d. He decided to flee from his country.  
 (A) Only d (B) a and d  
 (C) a, c and d (D) a, b, c and d
5. a. Bootlegging in contemporary English refers to the illegal sale of liquor or other commodities.  
 b. The term was first coined in Nebraska in 1889.  
 c. Prohibition of liquor sale gave a huge boost.  
 d. The supply of liquor was done by concealing liquor in the high boots of bootlegger.  
 (A) b, c and d (B) Only c  
 (C) b and d (D) c and d
6. a. I had to catch the train to Ajmer that morning.  
 b. As soon as I entered the platform, I saw a large crowd carrying banners.  
 c. I had to wade through the crowd and reach my compartment.  
 d. It was not easy carrying two heavy suitcases.  
 (A) Only b (B) Only c  
 (C) b and c (D) None of the above
7. a. Kamlesh has a problem which is weird.  
 b. He is a technophobe.  
 c. He just can't figure out how to use a mobile phone or a laptop.  
 d. He fears both will invade into his privacy and alter his life.  
 (A) a and c (B) c and d  
 (C) b and c (D) Only d
8. a. Thailand is a predominant Buddhist country.  
 b. The yellow-robed monks are bound by oath to live modest and celibate life.  
 c. However, in recent times a number of monks are charged with murder, drug trafficking and other crimes.  
 d. Old-timers are expressing concern over the decline in values.  
 (A) a, b and c (B) b and c  
 (C) b and d (D) a and c
9. a. There was a sand storm yesterday.  
 b. People shut all the doors and windows of their houses to avoid sand getting into their houses.  
 c. Birds hurried to their nests.  
 d. People in the streets rushed towards shops and homes to seek shelter.  
 (A) a and d (B) Only d  
 (C) b and d (D) Only b

10. a. Rajasthan is a tourists' paradise.  
 b. The state has everything that a tourist looks for.  
 c. Forts and castles are architectural marvels that reminds one of the glorious past.  
 d. Rajasthani food offers variety and is a big draw.  
 (A) Only a (B) a and c  
 (C) Only c (D) None of the above

## 29. IDENTIFY THE CORRECT SENTENCES:

A variation of the above, this question was given in CAT 2005. Four sentences are given marked – A, B, C and D. The sentences are longer than in the previous question. This is followed by four answer choices that have a combination of those letters. You should select the option that lists all the sentences that are free of errors. The errors may be grammatical, syntactical or semantic.

Attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 5:** Each question consists of four sentences on a topic. Some sentences are grammatically incorrect or inappropriate. Select the option that indicates the grammatically correct and appropriate sentence(s).

1. a. Surviving and thriving in a turbulent environment calls for a particular skill set, one that is not taught in university courses.  
 b. These skills are more than certain philosophical bent, or a quirk of personality.  
 c. They are actual methods, tools, way of seeing that work in turbulent environments.  
 d. They are the skills of the surfer and the martial artist, the skills of playing soccer rather than baseball.  
 (A) Only a (B) b and c  
 (C) a and d (D) a, c and d
2. a. The UN considers itself above law of mere nations and it answers to no one.  
 b. There is no vote on UN leaders (other than by the culprits themselves) and there is no international referendum on its policies.  
 c. The UN sets its own standard of conduct and it controls its own judge and jury.  
 d. These, of course, are the very reasons why many have opposed US membership in the UN.  
 (A) Only b (B) Only c  
 (C) a and c (D) b and d
3. a. On July 2, the World Meteorological Organization issued a statement saying that the number and intensity of weather extremes experienced around the world this year are evidence that global climate change is under way actually.  
 b. Few people disagree that the Earth's surface has warmed over the past few decades.  
 c. But the arguments and accusations start flying when the discussion turns whether or not the warming is an anomalous result of human activity.  
 d. The most recent fray took place in the journals, with the publication of articles by Willie Soon and Sallie Baliunas.  
 (A) Only a (B) b and d  
 (C) Only c (D) a and b

4. a. The relationship between Islam and democracy in the contemporary world is complex.  
 b. The Muslim world is not ideologically monolithic.  
 c. It presents broad spectrum of perspectives ranging from the extremes of those who deny a connection between Islam and democracy to those who argue that Islam requires a democratic system.  
 d. In between the extremes, a number of countries where Muslims are a majority, many Muslims believe that Islam is a support for democracy.  
 (A) a and b (B) c and d  
 (C) Only a (D) Only c
5. a. We have been getting most of our revenue from income taxes – personal income taxes and corporate income taxes.  
 b. But we should be encouraging people to work and save and discouraging environmentally destructive activities.  
 c. Those are the things we should be taxing – carbon dioxide emissions, generation of toxic wastes, the use of virgin raw materials instead of recycled materials.  
 d. Putting a tax on the use of virgin raw materials would do more for recycling instead of probably anything we can think of.  
 (A) Only a (B) b and d  
 (C) Only d (D) a and c

## 30. RESTATING A SENTENCE:

A grammatically correct sentence is given followed by four answer choices. Only one of the four choices restates the given sentence in a grammatically correct manner, with out omitting any detail of relevance or importance. You must identify this option.

Attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 10:** Each question below has a sentence. From the choices provided, identify the one which best restates the given sentence and mark its corresponding letter as the answer.

1. All good writing is essentially an outpouring of the heart, a great confluence of thoughts pouring out to stir the readers with its poignant feelings.  
 (A) Good writing is essentially thoughts emanating from the heart and potent enough to stir the reader's feelings.  
 (B) Thoughts which gush out of the whirlpool of the writer's heart can be deemed to be good writing if it creates the same emotion in the reader's heart.  
 (C) In all good writings the author is able to strike a chord with the reader.  
 (D) All good writings emanate from the depths of the heart of a writer who manages to vibrate with the audience by the help of his powerful pen.
2. In my letters to my cousins, I enjoyed adding spice to everyday happenings and coating them with massive doses of fiction for effect, with just one aim in mind and that was to entertain them through my writings.  
 (A) When I wrote letters to my cousins, I would add fiction to my writings about mundane activities, with the basic intent of entertaining them.  
 (B) With the sole intention of entertaining, I would write letters to my cousins, using fiction generously.



- (C) Fiction too was predominant in the letters which I wrote to my cousins for the sake of giving them simple pleasure.
- (D) Simple pleasure was what my cousins got when I wrote to them using fiction liberally.
3. The sort of woman that most men would admire is not the sort that they would ever marry.
- (A) Men will not marry the sort of women who would otherwise excel or are progressive in their thoughts.
- (B) Men do not admire the women they marry.
- (C) Most men marry women who are different from the ones they admire.
- (D) Plenty of men marry a different set of women and think of a different set altogether.
4. All is fair in love, war and competitive examinations.
- (A) Fairness is a fantastically romantic concept whose utility is of doubtful origin.
- (B) A competitive examination is like a battle and so is love.
- (C) Competitive examination is a war which we cannot afford to love.
- (D) In love, war and competitive examinations only the end result matters.
5. Gentlemanliness should be a philosophy adopted as a matter of conscious choice, and not because one lacks the courage to call a spade a spade.
- (A) Courage is something which all gentlemen lack and therefore, they put on an act.
- (B) If one is timid we cannot say that he is a gentleman.
- (C) A person who can be assertive if required, but has consciously adopted the principle of gentlemanliness is a true gentleman.
- (D) Gentlemanliness is a garb put on by most faint-hearted souls.
6. Don't wait any longer than ten minutes before you remove the test tube from the Bunsen flame.
- (A) If possible, the test tube should remain on the Bunsen flame longer than ten minutes.
- (B) Ten minutes is as long as you should wait before removing the test tube from the Bunsen flame.
- (C) Removing the test tube from the Bunsen flame for ten minutes is what you should do.
- (D) You should wait ten minutes to put the test tube on the Bunsen flame.
7. More money was allocated for agricultural sector than for any other item in this year's budget.
- (A) This year we allocated more money for other items in the budget than for agricultural sector.
- (B) All of the items in the budget were allocated more money this year.
- (C) We allocated more money for agricultural sector than we did for the other items in the budget this year.
- (D) The allocation of less money for research than for agricultural items occurred in this year's budget.
8. Less is known about the cause of the common cold than about the causes of many more serious diseases.
- (A) The causes of less serious diseases than the common cold are better known than that it is.
- (B) We know less than we should about the causes of the cold and more serious diseases.
- (C) The cause of the common cold is better known than the causes of more serious diseases.
- (D) We know less about the cause of common cold than we do about the causes of more serious diseases.
9. As a conductor of heat and electricity, aluminium exceeds all other metals except silver, copper and gold.
- (A) With the exception of aluminium, silver, copper and gold are better than any other metal as conductors of heat and electricity.
- (B) Aluminium is a better conductor of heat and electricity than silver, copper and gold.
- (C) Silver, copper and gold are the only metals that are better conductors of heat and electricity than aluminium.
- (D) Silver, copper, and gold are exceeded only by aluminium as conductors of heat and electricity.
10. The interest rate on a minimum balance savings account is a little higher than the interest rate on a regular savings account.
- (A) A savings account in which a minimum balance is maintained draws higher interest rate than a regular savings account.
- (B) The interest rate is lower for a minimum balance savings account than for a regular account.
- (C) A regular savings account draws higher interest rate than an account which has a minimum balance.
- (D) A minimum interest rate, lower than a regular rate, is drawn on a balanced savings account.

#### QUESTIONS ON STYLES OF WRITING:

These questions are used to check your familiarity with the conventions of standard written British English. The questions test your ability to identify clear and concise expression and conversely, to identify texts that are verbose and lack clarity.

Some of the question types based on styles of writing are:

#### 31. Concise Expression or Best Way of Writing or Conforms to Standard English Usage:

A statement is written in 4 different ways. All of them may be grammatically correct. However only one statement expresses the idea in a concise manner. You must pick this. Please note that 'concise' does not mean the shortest. It refers to the briefest way of writing the sentence, incorporating all the relevant points.

Answer the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 5:** In the following questions, four sentences conveying the same idea are given. Select the one which expresses the idea in the most concise manner and mark its corresponding letter as the answer. Please note that all of them may be grammatically correct and mean the same but you have to select the most concise way of expressing the idea.

1. (A) Sticks and stones may break my bones but words can never do me any harm, whatsoever.
- (B) Sticks and stones may break my bones but words can do me no harm.
- (C) Either sticks or stones, whichever you prefer, could break my bones, but frankly, even very many words, used frivolously, can in no way harm me.
- (D) Sticks or stones could break bones but words don't harm.

2. (A) Some of us who are (unfortunately) slaves of pre-conceived notions and prejudices, sour the very sweetness of life by being highly eccentric and unbending in our viewpoints.  
(B) By being very unbending in our views and very eccentric in our day-to-day life, some of us biased individuals tend to sour the sweetness of life itself.  
(C) Our rigid views, biases and eccentricities could sour life.  
(D) Our eccentricities coupled with dogmatism and rigidity could take out the sweetness of life.
3. (A) The 1980s constituted a decade when the Indian state sought in vain to square the circle of an unchanged distribution of productive assets, a system which spared the rich while the poor made unceasing demands for reasonable economic opportunities.  
(B) In the 1980s, the world witnessed the Indian government trying to make a vain attempt to set right the anomaly of iniquitous distribution of wealth amidst a backdrop of a fiscal apparatus that favoured the 'haves' while the 'have nots' clamoured for a bigger share of the pie.  
(C) During the 1980s, it was obvious that the Indian government was making a futile attempt to set right a socio-economic inequality wherein the rich were being favoured when the poor were also demanding reasonable economic opportunity.  
(D) The nugatory attempt of the Indian government could be seen by all and sundry wherein it tried to set right the contradictory requirements of the rich and the poor, when the system actually favoured the rich.
4. (A) Although much has been written about the emergency which followed a year later, very little attention has been accorded to the Indian Railways workers strike of 1974.  
(B) Though much has been written about the emergency which was imposed in 1975, labour historians have comparatively ignored the most widespread revolt by the working class in independent India, which took place in 1974.  
(C) Much has been written about the terror unleashed during emergency, which was imposed upon the people of India in the year 1975, but we come across relatively less reading material about the heroic revolt of the ordinary railway workers, their families who supported them against the collective might of the Indian state, just a year earlier.  
(D) Not much has been said, stated or written by any one of eminence about the unparalleled strike by the Indian Railway men, in the year 1974, which was duly supported by their friends and families, while we see a plethora of material written about the emergency imposed in 1975, just a year later.
5. (A) On August 9, 2001 President George Bush made public his decision to allow only limited research on embryonic stem (E.S) cells with federal funding.  
(B) In August 2001, President Bush announced that state funds could be used only for limited research on embryonic stem cells.  
(C) A presidential fiat, prohibiting research on E.S. was announced on August 9.  
(D) On the 9th of August, 2001 it was declared by President George W. Bush himself that hence forth federal funds could be used only for some specific research work related to the study of the embryonic stem (E.S.) cells

**Directions for questions 6 to 10:** In each of the questions, four different ways of presenting an idea are given. Choose the one that conforms most closely to standard English language.

6. (A) As world oil prices continued to reign on the higher side with a wide band of uncertainty, an upward revision of fuel prices in India has become inescapable.  
(B) With world oil prices continuing to reign in the higher side with a wide band of uncertainty, an upward revision of fuel prices in India has become inescapable.  
(C) As world oil prices continue to reign on the higher side, with a wide band of uncertainty, an upward revision of fuel prices in India has become inescapable.  
(D) With world oil prices continuing to reign on the higher side over a wide band of uncertainty, an upward revision of fuel prices in India, has become inescapable.
7. (A) The discussions that followed, brought up issues of India's position in the global fashion market, definition of Indian fashion and the way to stay ahead and carving a niche in the world scenario.  
(B) The discussion that followed, brought up issues of India's position in the global fashion market, definition of India's fashion, and the way to stay ahead and carve a niche in the world scenario.  
(C) The discussion that followed, brought about issues like definition of Indian fashion, India's position in the global market, strategies of staying ahead and carving a niche in the world scenario.  
(D) The discussions that followed, brought up issues like definition of Indian fashion, India's position in the global market, strategies of carving a niche in the world scenario and staying ahead.
8. (A) Alternately illuminating and frustrating, this book nonetheless does more than solve a mystery.  
(B) Alternatively illuminating and frustrating, this book nonetheless does more than solve a mystery.  
(C) Alternately, illuminating and frustrating this book nevertheless does more than solve a mystery.  
(D) Alternatively illuminating and frustrating, this book does nothing more than solve a mystery.
9. (A) He allegedly had a major role in the disappearance of tigers in the national parks, including Sariska.  
(B) He had a major role allegedly in the disappearance of tigers in the national park, including Sariska.  
(C) He had a major role in the alleged disappearance of tigers in the national parks, including Sariska.  
(D) He allegedly had a major role in the absconding of tigers in the national parks, including Sariska.

10. (A) That the MoU for the country's biggest ever FDI deal has been inked in a relatively backward Orissa must rank as by far the most gratifying piece of news to come out of the state in recent years.  
 (B) That the MoU for the country's biggest ever FDI deal has been inked in relatively backward Orissa must rank by far as the most gratifying piece of news to come out of the state in recent years.  
 (C) That the MoU for the country's biggest ever FDI deal was signed in relatively backward Orissa must be ranked as by far the most gratifying piece of news to come out of the state in recent years.  
 (D) That the MoU for the country's biggest ever FDI deal has been inked in relatively backward Orissa must rank as by far the most gratifying piece of news to come out of the state in recent years.

**Directions for questions 11 to 15:** A sentence is given in four different forms. Only one of them is grammatically correct. Mark the letter corresponding with the correct sentence as the answer.

11. (A) Neither George nor Dick intends to attending the party.  
 (B) Neither George nor Dick intend in attending the party.  
 (C) Neither George nor Dick intends to attend the party.  
 (D) Neither George nor Dick intend attending the party.
12. (A) Despite of severe opposition from all quarters, she was firm in her conviction and emerged successfully.  
 (B) Despite of severe opposition from all quarters, she was firm in her conviction and emerged successful.  
 (C) Inspite severe opposition from all quarters, she was firm in her conviction and emerged successful.  
 (D) Inspite of severe opposition from all quarters, she was firm in her conviction and emerged successful.
13. (A) It is reported that several of the people were grievously injured in the accident.  
 (B) It is reported that several people were grievously injured in the accident.  
 (C) It is reported that several people was grievously injured in the accident.  
 (D) It is reported that several of the people was grievously injured in the accident.
14. (A) The colour of the watch that he is wearing is similar to that of yours.  
 (B) The colour of the watch that he is wearing is similar to that of you.  
 (C) The colour of the watch that he is wearing is similar to yours.  
 (D) The colour of the watch that he is wearing is similar with that of yours.
15. (A) He is well versed in both French as well as Spanish.  
 (B) He is well versed in both French also Spanish.  
 (C) He is well versed in French and also Spanish.  
 (D) He is well versed in both French and Spanish.

## VERBAL REASONING:

These questions types are designed to test the candidate's ability to identify relationships between words sentences, ideas etc.

In recent years many of the questions in the verbal ability section have been lengthy, reasoning based questions – so this section is gaining in importance. Given below are details of some of the varieties of verbal reasoning questions:

### 32. SENTENCE ANAGRAM:

In this question type, a sentence is broken into four fragments jumbled up and labelled A to D. You must identify the option that gives the right sequence to make a logical and coherent sentence.

Answer the following questions

**Directions for questions 1 to 15:** In each of the following questions, a sentence is split into four parts and labelled a, b, c and d. Rearrange the parts to form the original sentence and select the correct order from among the four choices given below and mark its corresponding letter as your answer.

1. a. with no less than 2300 miles of cable  
 b. when the Atlantic Telegraph company was formed in 1856 a serious  
 c. to join Europe to America  
 d. attempt was made  
 (A) dcab (B) cbda (C) bdca (D) bdac
2. a. liver and two kidneys  
 b. to give them a fresh lease of life  
 c. of her husband to four patients  
 d. a team of doctors transplanted the heart  
 (A) bdac (B) dacb (C) badc (D) dcba
3. a. to form a kind of cycle  
 b. several little plays could be combined  
 c. the full length drama was a natural process  
 d. and from this the development of  
 (A) cadb (B) bcad (C) badc (D) cdab
4. a. when our action is guided  
 b. either by raw emotion or political  
 c. these results are quite typical of those obtained  
 d. dogma rather than by scientific thought  
 (A) acbd (B) bdca (C) cadb (D) cabd
5. a. when or where he had seen her before  
 b. that she looked familiar  
 c. yet he could not remember  
 d. with an inexplicable start he realised  
 (A) adbc (B) cadb (C) acbd (D) dbca
6. a. of all intellectual powers and mankind's tragedy lies in the fact.  
 b. by means of the best within them.  
 c. that the vicious moral code men have accepted destroys them.  
 d. the power of morality is the greatest.  
 (A) acbd (B) bacd (C) cbda (D) dacb
7. a. on the adult level, the primary process of man's method of cognition:  
 b. music offers man the singular opportunity to re-enact.  
 c. the automatic integration of sense data into  
 d. an intelligible, meaningful entity.  
 (A) acdb (B) dbac (C) abcd (D) bacd

8. a. today's competitiveness has reached.  
b. especially in the services sector.  
c. a peak with more significance being attached.  
d. to practical experience and field study.  
(A) bcda (B) acdb (C) cdba (D) dcba
9. a. as sponsors of sports events and encouraging their initiatives.  
b. the presence of prominent corporate bodies.  
c. demonstrates the enormous potential lying in sports.  
d. in extending training facilities to sports persons.  
(A) dcba (B) bcda (C) abdc (D) badc
10. a. to allow traditional farming.  
b. of the poorer three quarters of the world's population and would permit growing.  
c. a biotech revolution could improve the caloric intake and the living standards.  
d. in areas of the developing world where the soil is too dry, too shallow or too high in chemical residues like salt.  
(A) adbc (B) cbda (C) bdac (D) dcab
11. a. for the improvement of civic amenities  
b. for commercially viable projects and schemes and  
c. India's first urban infrastructure fund is being set up  
d. in Tamilnadu with World Bank aid to lend money to municipalities  
(A) badc (B) cdab (C) cdba (D) bacd
12. a. set up by Securities and Exchange Board of India to study  
b. that acquisitions of companies are not necessarily bad  
c. the P N Bhagawati Committee  
d. the takeover has concluded  
(A) cabd (B) acdb (C) cadb (D) adbc
13. a. the members of parliament were so busy  
b. that they had no time to deliberate  
c. shouting and demonstrating in the last three sessions  
d. on the outcome of the Uruguay round  
(A) abcd (B) abdc (C) acdb (D) acbd
14. a. never enter into an alliance with a foreign agency again  
b. the Delhi based agency's M C Reetu Singh Ahluwalia swore he would  
c. when the \$ 3 billion US based ad agency Bozell  
d. decided to call off its tie-up with Arms Communication in 1993  
(A) bacd (B) cdba (C) badc (D) cdab
15. a. alarmingly high levels of pollution in the area  
b. when 10 month old Revati from the Mumbai suburb of Chembur  
c. people suspected it was the result of the  
d. died of respiratory ailment in March this year  
(A) bdca (B) bacd (C) bcad (D) bdac

### 33. PARAGRAPH ANAGRAM (Type – I):

The Para Forming Question is one type of question in verbal ability that has been appearing every year since it was introduced in CAT 1991. XAT and FMS papers have also been giving this question-type off and on.

In this question, the sentences of a paragraph – 4, 5 or 6 – are jumbled up and given. Each sentence is denoted by a letter of the alphabet and the four answer choices give different ways of arranging these sentences. You have to select the option where the sentences are arranged in the most logical manner to form a coherent paragraph.

There are two approaches to solving this question.

- (1) Read the sentences, as given, quickly. Comprehend the content. Look for the sentence that is likely to be the first sentence (one that introduces a subject, states the topic or is a generalized observation) or the last sentence (conclusive in nature, winding up an argument: having words like 'Hence', 'Therefore', 'Thus' which are likely to occur at the end of a paragraph). Look for links between sentences. (When there are pronouns, decipher what they could be referring to and in which sentence). Are there any pair of sentences that definitely go together (like cause and effect)? Is there any time sequence that could help to arrange things in a chronological order (words like, 'when', 'then' 'since' etc)? Clues to chronology may also be in the tense form of the verbs (past perfect referring to an earlier action), in words like 'here', 'there' referring to places mentioned in another sentence. The flow in a paragraph is generally from the generalized to the more specific.
- (2) Work from the options: Instead of reading the sentences in the sequence given, look at the answer choices. See which the sentences given as possible opening sentence. Which is the best way to begin the para? Quickly scan that option – reading the para in that order. Is there something jarring, erratic? Does it flow naturally and easily? Is there another option very close to this (with only one pair of sentences interchanged or one sentence moved from end to beginning or vice versa – the others being identical)? Check the two options. Which one sounds better? Why? Sometimes identifying the concluding line may help to zero in on the right answer.

Let's look at two questions to see how it can be solved and what pitfalls are to be avoided.

1. a. Rising population densities and rising sea levels caused by global warming are dual risk factors pointing to a vast human disaster in the Bangladesh region by 2025.  
b. There are 116 million people who live at the convergence of the three great river – the Ganges, the Brahmaputra and the Meghna.  
c. The low-lying landscape of Bangladesh is a prime example: permanently at risk of catastrophic flood as a result of annual monsoon rains, a risk made worse by recent changes in the use of land.  
d. Much of the land is less than 15 metres above sea level.  
e. The larger the world population, the more spectacular the scale of human disasters, as more and more people are packed into more and more hazardous areas.  
(A) abcde (B) bdeca  
(C) eabcd (D) ecdba

As per the answer choice a, b or e can be the first sentence and all three are general statements that can begin a paragraph. But between the three, e is the most generalized. It is an observation about people and world whereas a is about Bangladesh and b about a part of Bangladesh. If E is the first sentence then which of the two – a or c – follows it more logically? The words '..... Bangladesh is a prime example .....' in c makes it the better statement to follow e. So we check out choice D. From 'low-lying landscape' in c we come to '116 million people who live at the convergence of the river' (which in other words is the 'low-lying landscape' presented in a different manner) in b. From this we go onto 'the land' in d which refers to the land mentioned in b, and to an observation that is conclusive in nature (pointing out to what may happen in the future) in a. So choice D appears to be a logical paragraph. In choice C both e and a are general observations without any link between them and d does not conclude the paragraph but leaves it hanging.

Now attempt the following questions bearing in mind what has been discussed.

**Directions for questions 1 to 31:** Each of the questions below consists of a group of sentences followed by suggested sequential arrangements. Select the best sequence.

1. a. It has been a perennial matter of concern for all the South Asian Countries.  
b. Fresh water, 'blue gold' is this century's most urgent environmental issue.  
c. Now, Bangladesh has raised questions over India's much hyped interlinking river project.  
d. In February this year, Pakistan opposed the Indian sponsored basic design of the 450 MW Baglihar hydroelectric power project in Kashmir on the Chenab river which could deprive Pakistan of 6,000 to 7,000 cusecs of water per day.  
(A) dbac (B) acdb (C) cadb (D) badc
2. a. Conservation is a new profession in India and not too well understood.  
b. They are the ones equipped with the requisite theoretical knowledge, practical experience and related ethics that are implicit in every profession.  
c. But the work and the ultimate decisions on strategy and policy are done by the conservators.  
d. There are other professions like archaeology, engineering, architecture, photography, museum curatorship and out-promotion that are affiliated to conservation because of the assistance and information that they provide.  
(A) dcba (B) adcb (C) abdc (D) dabc
3. a. Today, unfortunately, stress is the rapidly widening whirlpool in which most of us struggle to swim - the school boy pressured to get that high percentage which will be the passport to that prestigious college, the housewife multitasking and juggling at the same time, the teenager feeling the pressure to look, dress, behave 'hip' and 'cool'.  
b. The price paid by people racing down the fast lane of success.  
c. Once upon a time, stress was a fashionable disease of a select few.  
d. We never seem to be satisfied with what life has served up and this is the main reason for us being frequently stressed out.  
(A) dbac (B) cbda (C) adcb (D) cbad
4. a. There are rural households with little financial means to buy drugs off the shelf and for most, medical care is miles away.  
b. Its economic importance makes conservation of medicinal plants vital.  
c. The home herbal garden package is the first response to simple ailments.  
d. The growing demand for herbal products in the domestic and global market also makes the use of ecosystem-specific medicinal plants a livelihood strategy.  
e. In India, 4,635 ethnic communities, including one million folk healers use around 8,000 species of medicinal plants.  
(A) edabc (B) bcdae (C) eacbd (D) daebc
5. a. Later that year, when the jowar crop in all the adjoining areas failed, irate farmers demanded that the bats be replaced.  
b. Five years ago, the Archaeological Survey of India decided that the Ajanta and Ellora Caves needed to be 'cleaned up' for tourists.  
c. But, this will take decades, as bats are the slowest breeding animals of their size with only one baby a year and a 60 percent mortality rate.  
d. In response, the same department is spending money to bring the winged mammals back and re-establish a colony.  
e. Millions of bats were exterminated by fumigation.  
(A) beacd (B) beadc (C) badec (D) bcada
6. a. Moral depression has been found to be one of its consequences.  
b. This is a sign of degeneration of values among the youth.  
c. Society should take immediate measures to curb the situation.  
d. Ragging has become a norm in colleges nowadays.  
(A) abcd (B) dbca (C) abcd (D) dbac
7. a. It is vital for children to learn the uses of language.  
b. Mime can be used as an effective method to teach language-use at the school level.  
c. By taking to this method, learning can be made easier and more spontaneous.  
d. A lot of language-activities are produced as a result.  
(A) adbc (B) badc (C) abcd (D) abdc
8. a. Tilak emerged as the most outstanding representative of this school of thought.  
b. People like Aurobindo Ghosh, Bipin Chandra Pal, Bal Gangadhar Tilak were the exponents of such an approach.  
c. They advocated a more militant approach to political work.  
d. By the dawn of the 20th century, some nationalist thinkers emerged with radical ideas.  
(A) dcab (B) dbca (C) dcba (D) dabc

9. a. We must also keep in mind that in the past, hockey did our country proud.  
b. However, it should not be viewed only from the point of the excitement that it gives.  
c. Cricket has become the most sensational game in India.  
d. Is the current demand to change our national game from hockey to cricket legitimate?  
(A) abcd (B) dcab (C) badc (D) dcba
10. a. So they cling to the thieving profession to survive.  
b. Independence could not remove the social stigma of the uchalyas.  
c. There are categories, classifications and techniques in stealing, which seems to reach the form of an art, if one can use the word.  
d. Laxman Gaikwad in his book "The Branded: Uchalya" describes the woes of this tribe.  
(A) abdc (B) bacd (C) bdac (D) abcd
11. a. The religious complex of Jokhang, 15 minutes' walk away, was not so lucky, and its priceless collections of statues and other forms of religious art was almost entirely desecrated.  
b. The Potala Palace escaped major destruction, presumably because the then premier Zhou Enlai posted troops around it.  
c. "May be they left the statue untouched because it was from China", said a Jokhang monk.  
d. During the cultural revolution from 1966 to 1976, crazy masses of mostly young people known as the Red Guards attacked monasteries and other symbols of Tibet's past, eroding much of the country's cultural heritage.  
e. The only thing left standing was the main building and a more than 2000-year old Buddha statue originally brought to Tibet by a Chinese princess.  
(A) decba (B) baecd (C) dbeca (D) dbaec
12. a. The intermediaries between the two sides – legislators in constant need of election campaign funds and business interests trying to influence them – are the lobbyists.  
b. The basic trade-off is simple.  
c. And the more people a lobbyist knows on Capitol Hill, the more effective he or she is.  
d. Corporate and other donors provide money in a bid to secure a piece of legislation they want, with desired exemptions, loopholes and financial breaks.  
e. Ever increasing numbers of them are former legislators.  
(A) daecb (B) bdace (C) bdeac (D) bdaec
13. a. This was in keeping with their philosophy that anything that upset the normal harmony of the person was harmful.  
b. The remedies prescribed tended to be herbal.  
c. Apart from treating man as a whole, the ancients stressed the need not only for a stable internal environment, but also for a harmonious relationship between the internal and the external.  
d. Mild doses were given at the beginning and surgery was the last resort.  
e. Thus climatic changes, the individual's behaviour patterns, dietary habits, emotional life were all considered before a diagnosis was made.  
(A) cabde (B) cbdae (C) cebda (D) cbeda
14. a. There are three main sleep difficulties in children: falling asleep, staying asleep and being too sleepy in the day time.  
b. Unfortunately, changes in life styles have made us treat disturbed nights as almost normal and we fail to appreciate just how important sleep is for our children's health.  
c. By the age of two, children have spent 13 months of their lives asleep.  
d. Every parent experiences at least one of them at some point or the other.  
e. Sleep, as every parent knows, is central to a child's well-being.  
(A) ceadb (B) ecdab (C) ecabd (D) cdbae
15. a. When it rains, he runs out into the streets shouting with joy and lets himself be soaked to the skin.  
b. The European looks and if there is no silver lining edging the clouds his depression deepens.  
c. For him, his beloved is like the sunshine and her smile is a sunny smile.  
d. An Indian's attitude to clouds and rain is fundamentally different from that of a European.  
e. The Indian scans the heavens and if the cumulus clouds blot out the sun his heart fills with joy.  
(A) decab (B) ecabd (C) dbeac (D) deabc
16. a. But recent discoveries have established that it extends over a vast area including Rajasthan and Gujarat.  
b. Originally it was thought to have been confined to the Indus Valley alone.  
c. The Indus Valley Civilization is one of the oldest civilizations like those of Egypt, Mesopotamia and China.  
d. There is no unanimity among scholars regarding the extent and date of this civilization.  
(A) abcd (B) cdab (C) cdab (D) bcad
17. a. They appear to be two opposite poles of man's consciousness.  
b. Science and religion – the two terms have come to signify a mutual antagonism.  
c. Of these, science is basically concerned with the material world.  
d. Its efforts are directed towards unravelling the 'how' of reality.  
(A) cbad (B) bdca (C) acdb (D) bacd
18. a. The term 'emotional intelligence' was coined in 1990 by Peter Salovey.  
b. It refers to the ability to set a goal in life, work towards achieving it, negotiate it and feel empathetic towards a fellow being.  
c. Moreover, it explains why the smartest people are not always wealthy.  
d. Finally, it should be noted that this concept matters more than one question.  
(A) cdab (B) bcad (C) abcd (D) acdb
19. a. Social scientists analyse the various situations that prevail, to suggest solutions to social, business, personal, governmental, and environmental problems.  
b. It provides insight into matters which help us understand the different ways in which individuals and groups in a society take decisions.

- c. Social science is the study of the various aspects of human society; from the optimal distribution of goods and services to human behaviour and relationships between the various groups.
- d. Most of them have regular working hours in research and training positions.
- (A) adbc (B) cbad (C) dcba (D) abcd
20. a. He is subject to certain natural forces and events.
- b. He also acts as the dominant force in many of the Earth's physical and biological systems.
- c. However, the relation has changed with time.
- d. Man's relation with his natural environment is a complex one.
- (A) abcd (B) dcba (C) bcad (D) dabc
21. a. Besides this, the other cause for concern is the mediocre talent the three forces are attracting.
- b. There are rarely any surprises in the lengthy documents submitted by various government departments to pay-commissions.
- c. Yet what was startling and surprising about the submission made by the armed forces was its assessment of the morale of the armed forces.
- d. All of them contain the same message: give us more.
- (A) bdac (B) bcda (C) bdca (D) bcad
22. a. The capitulation of the Indian batsmen in the first two tests in South Africa raises questions about the wisdom of making turning pitches.
- b. When Ganguly and Dravid fail, how can selectors be blamed?
- c. They have been brought up on slow pitches; they are finding it difficult to cope up with the pace and bounce of South African pitches.
- d. Hence, something should be done about Indian pitches.
- (A) bcda (B) abcd (C) acdb (D) bcad
23. a. So, the recent rupee ruckus should not have generated the amount of shock it eventually did.
- b. Yet this is the first time the rupee has gyrated so severely.
- c. Once a currency is let afloat in the foreign exchange market, it tends to lead a manic existence.
- d. Within six hectic months, the rupee fell by some 20% and then quickly regained most of the ground it had lost.
- (A) dcab (B) cbda (C) cadb (D) cabd
24. a. Even a large number of professionally run companies do so.
- b. Yet companies continue to pour good money after bad, trying to rescue brands and products that never had much of a chance in the first place.
- c. In the market place, however, this is a recipe for disaster.
- d. Proverbial wisdom has it that if you fail once, you should try again and again.
- (A) dbac (B) dcba (C) dacb (D) dcab
25. a. However, this can provide the contrarian with outstanding opportunities.
- b. With stock markets reflecting expectations of the future, we are often caught between the short and long-term outlook.
- c. The short-term outlook is clouded by volatility in raw material prices and exchange rates.
- d. When these two views are divergent, making a correct call is dicey.
- (A) bcda (B) bdca (C) bcad (D) bdac
- Directions for questions 26 to 31:** A number of sentences are given below which, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Choose the most logical order of sentences from among the four choices given to construct a coherent paragraph.
26. a. The legend says that in the current century, a lama would be able to open the door of Shangri-La.
- b. And Yuksoon is where the Shangri-La is.
- c. People of Yuksoon are on a perpetual spiritual sojourn – the sojourn to the fabled Shangri-La, the gateway to heaven.
- d. So the whole Yuksoon region – starting from Yuksoon to the peak of Mount. Khangchandangzong – is the most sacred place for Buddhists.
- (A) cbda (B) abdc (C) bcad (D) adbc
27. a. A study by scientists at Harvard University has found that the tell-tale signature of global warming is significantly stronger in Africa than in other continents such as Europe and America.
- b. But because Africa is not as industrialised as most other continents, it does not produce pollutants such as aerosol particles that can help shield against the sun.
- c. The researchers believe that industrial pollution which emits the carbon dioxide that exacerbates the greenhouse effect, also offers some localised protection against climate warming.
- d. Global warming is affecting Africa more than other continents such as Europe and America.
- (A) adbc (B) dabc (C) dacb (D) acdb
28. a. The study of 105 big cities by the World Bank and the World Wide Fund for Nature showed that one-third of them, including New York, Tokyo, Barcelona and Melbourne, get much of their water via protected forests.
- b. Major cities should focus efforts and funds on conserving forests that naturally purify their drinking water, saving them from spending billions of dollars on water treatment facilities, a new study shows.
- c. For many cities time is running out; protecting forests around water catchment is no longer a luxury but a necessity.
- d. Preserving these forests – which reduce soil erosion and prevent sedimentation – improves water purity by filtering pollutants, and in some cases captures and stores water in a cost-effective way to provide clean drinking water.
- (A) cdba (B) badc (C) acbd (D) abdc
29. a. While there are 60 million tonnes of surplus foodgrain in the country, numerous starvation deaths take place and 320 million Indians live in hunger.
- b. Hunger is the biggest killer in the world and every year seven million children fall victim to the scourge.

- c. The reason for this painful paradox is lack of access to food.
- d. More than 80 percent of the rural population of Assam, Maharashtra and Bihar consume less than the minimum daily requirement of calories and 50 percent of those in rural Gujarat and Tamil Nadu receive less than the minimum.
- e. The answer is the eradication of poverty as people do not have the money to buy grain.
- (A) badce (B) baedc (C) badec (D) bacde
30. a. But, if we take a closer look at the present-day world, we can easily conclude that man is not in his true senses.
- b. There are three levels of life a man can lead – human level, superhuman level and subhuman level.
- c. Desire, discontentment, greed and other vices rule the world and man has no qualms about going to any extreme.
- d. That means, he should not stoop down to the subhuman level at any point of time in his life.
- e. One is truly blessed if one remains at the human level.
- (A) cdeab (B) edcba (C) bedac (D) beadc
31. a. Awareness about these influences can help us develop clarity of thought and perception.
- b. As a result, we develop attitudes and mindsets that can either limit us or help us soar to dizzying heights.
- c. Our surroundings and the environment we grow up in, shape our views on life and how we react to stressful circumstances and events.
- d. They can become tools, which effectively propel us forward in our careers.
- e. Some of these experiences have an uncanny way of influencing our adulthood.
- (A) cbada (B) cbead (C) caedb (D) adecb

### 34. PARAGRAPH ANAGRAM – (TYPE –II)

A variation of this question type is where the first and the last sentences are identified and marked 1 and 6 respectively. The four sentences that come in between the two are labelled A, B, C and D. The options give different ways of arranging these four statements. You have to select the order which together with the first and the last sentences, forms a logically coherent paragraph.

This format where the first and the last sentences are specified is easier in that you get some idea of the flow of thought – where it begins and how it ends. You can also establish links to the given sentences such as which sentence can best follow the first or precede the last.

Let us look at a question.

- Popes, poets, psychiatrists, philosophers, and pundits all agree: only the human race works, and work is the mark of humankind.
  - More than 129 million people constitute the American workforce and this vast army of workers labours at approximately by 25,000 different full-time occupations.
  - None of us is completely neutral about work.
  - Work forms and shapes our private lives and character as well as our collective history and physical accomplishments.
  - Work is always a four-letter word, and, for all of us, our work is the primary means by which we are perceived, evaluated, and accorded social status.
  - Although many of these occupations share similar income ranges, education, living standards, and life styles, class designation has conventionally been based on job description.
- (A) bacd (B) dacb (C) abcd (D) cbda
- In this question the first statement talks about work and says 'work is the mark of humankind'. Now all the four sentences A, B, C, D are about work and any of this can follow. All the four sentences are also quite general in nature with no overt link. So we look at the concluding line for a clue. It talks about 'many of these occupations' which makes it clear that A (which talks about '25,000 different full time occupations') must precede 6. Only choice 4 has A at the end so we check out this option. Sentence C says 'Work forms our private lives and characters .....' is apt to follow 1 since it explains how 'work is a mark of humankind' (in 1). BD go together – D with 'work is always a four-letter word .....' explains why 'None of us is completely neutral about work' (B). A, as we have seen, rightly precedes 6. Hence choice 4 is the right answer.
- Now attempt the following questions.
- Directions for questions 1 to 22:** In each of the following questions, statements 1 and 6 are respectively, the first and last sentences of a paragraph. Statements a, b, c and d come in between them. Rearrange a, b, c and d in such a manner that they make a coherent paragraph together with statements 1 and 6. Select the correct order from the given choices and mark its corresponding letter as your answer.
1. Lithography is the art or process of printing from a flat stone or metal plate by a method based on the repulsion between grease and water.
    - So the plate areas covered with ink only attract ink or other oily substances and repel water.
    - The stone slab was first ground and polished and an image was drawn with greasy ink or crayons.
    - For quite a long time, lime stones were used solely for Litho printing.
    - After polishing, it was etched with mild nitric acid and coated with gum Arabic or other organic compounds to make the non-etched areas more water-receptive.

6. Before actual printing, the plate is moistened first with water and then with ink.

(A) abcd (B) cadb (C) adbc (D) cbda
  2. The period between 1206 A.D. and 1526 A.D. in Indian history is popularly known as Delhi Sultanate.
    - These dynasties were the Slave Dynasty, the Khilji Dynasty, the Tughlaq Dynasty, the Sayyid Dynasty and the Lodi Dynasty.
    - During this period of 320 years, five dynasties ruled Delhi.
    - Out of these five dynasties, three were Turks, while the last two were non-Turks.
    - Naturally, during the period of the first three dynasties the Turk-Persian influence on administration was dominant.

6. But administration under the last two dynasties possessed dominant Afghan and Pathan features.

(A) abcd (B) bacd (C) dcba (D) dbac



3. 1. Gandhi professed no knowledge of art, nor did he propound any theory of art.  
 a. His indifference to art made both Herbert Read and Aldous Huxley complain bitterly of him.  
 b. However, he regarded beauty as a manifestation of truth and believed that truth had to be lived rather than merely intellectually accepted.  
 c. It is here that he left the Greek philosophers far behind in his quest for beauty.  
 d. Such a quest was doubtlessly artistic in content and character.  
 6. It proved that Gandhi was an artist in action.  
 (A) abcd (B) dcba (C) badc (D) adcb
4. 1. Among all the technologies which have emerged in the 20th century, the computer has the most profound and pervasive effect.  
 a. This led to the invention of Abacus about 5000 years ago in Asia Minor.  
 b. A similar device for counting was invented in 1692 by Blaise Pascal.  
 c. Once humans began counting, attempts were made to make the process easier and faster.  
 d. Abacus allows users to compute using a system of sliding beads arranged on a series of tracks.  
 6. Pascal's invention was called Pascative after his name.  
 (A) abcd (B) cadb (C) bdca (D) adcb
5. 1. Gandhi's entire philosophy was based on his concept of non-violence.  
 a. For Gandhi, non-violence was the greatest force at the disposal of mankind.  
 b. On yet another occasion, he said that non-violence is supposed to be all-pervasive.  
 c. On one occasion he expressed that it is mightier than the mightiest weapon of destruction devised by man's ingenuity.  
 d. Here, all-pervasiveness refers to one's being non-violent about one of his activities and violent about others.  
 6. Indeed, non-violence was a cardinal virtue around which Gandhi's life revolved.  
 (A) cbda (B) abcd (C) bcad (D) acbd
6. 1. When one has a limited budget, one has to be budget-conscious.  
 a. I have all that planning, ingenuity and oriental cunning.  
 b. One has to be proficient at the gentle art of sponging on friends and strangers.  
 c. One needs a bit of ingenuity.  
 d. One needs to plan ahead very carefully.  
 6. I am armed with a dozen folders: The map of the city, its subway system and bus routes; I have all the information about museums, theatres, cinemas – and what have you.  
 (A) cbda (B) dbca (C) dcba (D) cdba
7. 1. I go into a bar and order myself a scotch and soda.  
 a. I go into a large hall, which has a variety of pinball machines.  
 b. But I come out in higher spirits.  
 c. Times Square looks like a vast funfair glittering with myriad coloured lights and sounds of laughter.  
 d. I lose another \$50.  
 6. For ten cents I have three shots at a white sheriff.  
 (A) abdc (B) adbc (C) dbca (D) dbac
8. 1. In the street it is windy and very cold.  
 a. I arrive in the theatre half-an-hour before opening time.  
 b. I start with "Hello Dolly".  
 c. I could have done with a pair of gloves or a muffler.  
 d. But I have to settle instead for a brisk walk - it is healthier and cheaper.  
 6. It's been running for six years and a ticket for a matinee should be no problem.  
 (A) abcd (B) cdba (C) cadb (D) cdab
9. 1. It has been said that thoughts are things; that they actually possess dynamic power.  
 a. Think one way and you attract the conditions, which that type of thinking indicates.  
 b. You can actually think yourself into or out of situations.  
 c. Judged by the power they exercise, one could readily accept such an appraisal.  
 d. You can make yourself ill with your thoughts; by the same token you can make yourself well by the use of a different and healing type of thought.  
 6. Think another way and you can create an entirely different set of conditions.  
 (A) cbda (B) dbac (C) bdca (D) cdba
10. 1. We step in the restaurant.  
 a. We sit and eat and drink and talk and gape at the people till almost midnight.  
 b. It has no class but the fare is tasty and the wine most drinkable.  
 c. It is crammed with hippies.  
 d. My friend rises and asks me if I could drop her at her home – she would not like to walk alone at that hour.  
 6. I pay my bill; I don't give a damn about the cost.  
 (A) acbd (B) abcd (C) cbad (D) cabd
11. 1. The deserts of North Africa are threatening to leap the Mediterranean and creep through Spain, according to government figures made public as part of a national campaign to halt desertification.  
 a. That figure climbs to almost 100 percent in Alicante and Murcia.  
 b. Over-grazing and irrigation methods that wash away top-soil were to blame for some of the damages, experts said.  
 c. A third of the country is at risk of being turned into a desert as climate change and tourism add to the effects of farming.  
 d. More than 90 percent of land bordering the Mediterranean from Almeria in the south to Tarragona in the north is considered to be at high risk.  
 6. Building developments and climate changes were doing the rest.  
 (A) dabc (B) cadb (C) cdab (D) bdac
12. 1. The West is, not out of altruism, going to reverse the system of trade that impoverishes Africa.  
 a. The answer is that African governments have, in the past, been short-sighted and self-centred to a degree that borders on stupidity.  
 b. But Africans who know the true causes of their poverty consider the West to be a part of the problem.  
 c. It is Africa that must fight politically to force the change.

- d. Why has it not been done before?  
6. They are not interested in palliatives such as aid, and the humiliation of becoming "highly indebted poor countries" reliant on charity; they demand economic justice.  
(A) bcad (B) cdab (C) abcd (D) acdb
13. 1. The unstoppable Sunil Mittal after having conquered the telecom space is slowly but surely working towards converting his group into a multi-activity conglomerate.  
a. Coming up next: a major retailing project.  
b. So, for the airports venture his partner is Singapore's Changi airport and in agricultural exports he has opted for a 50 : 50 venture with the blue-blooded de Rothschild family.  
c. Mittal is honing onto select growth areas and partnering with some of the world's best names.  
d. This model should also be a wealth creator if he pulls it off.  
6. Reportedly, Mittal is in the throes of sewing up a partnership with UK supermarket giant Tesco.  
(A) adcb (B) abcd (C) dcab (D) dcba
14. 1. Human beings, in nearly all cultures, have long engaged in a rather strange activity.  
a. In times of crisis, people turn to their scriptures with renewed-zest, and with much creative ingenuity, compel them to find solutions to their current predicament.  
b. They have taken a literary text, given it special status, and attempted to live according to its precepts.  
c. We are seeing a great deal of scriptural activity at the moment.  
d. These texts are usually of considerable antiquity, yet they are expected to throw light on dealing with problematic situations, that their authors could not have imagined.  
6. This is ironic, because the concept of scripture has become problematic in the modern period.  
(A) bdac (B) acbd (C) bcda (D) abcd
15. 1. Are they confused, decadent or do they leave you bewildered?  
a. Others call them impatient aspirers.  
b. Reebok India's MD, Subhinder Singh Prem, calls them screensavers – they are always glued to the screen (either TV or computer).  
c. They are being dubbed the 'me and the mine' generation.  
d. It's just that compared with their parents, they have had to deal with sex, drugs and debt, way too soon.  
6. Which is why they are also busy having a quarter-life crisis.  
(A) bacd (B) cbad (C) cabd (D) dbac
16. 1. Ms. Balata is one of the prominent leaders behind the Palestinian Campaign for Freedom and Peace who has been inspired by the visit of Arun Gandhi – Mahatma Gandhi's grandson – to the Palestinian territories.  
a. With peaceful means of resistance, we can secure a guaranteed participation of large masses from all sections of society, says Ms. Balata.  
b. Her group will stay away from extremist militant organizations such as Hamas and Islamic Jihand, she adds.
- c. This group hopes to train a thousand activists in the technique of passive resistance and is emphasizing the involvement of women in popular protest.  
d. Violent actions do not attract women, the old and children.  
6. But a conscious effort would be made to reach out to the Israeli camp, as well as other political and community leaders.  
(A) cdab (B) dabc (C) cabd (D) dbac
17. 1. Over the years, vitamin C has established itself as the pre-eminent nutrient for combating the common cold.  
a. The research published in the journal Public Library of Science analysed data from several studies and concluded that taking 200mg or more of vitamin C a day did not reduce the risk of succumbing to the common cold.  
b. Others load up on vitamin C once an infection has taken hold to contain symptoms and speed up recovery.  
c. However, the hopes of those who put faith in vitamin C as an anti-infective agent seem to be dashed by the recent publication of a study.  
d. Some regularly take supplements to reduce their risk of contracting a cold.  
6. However, in individuals subjected to cold weather or considerable stress, supplementation cuts the risk of cold infection by half.  
(A) cabd (B) cdba (C) dbca (D) adbc
18. 1. While the liability of the corporate sector is limited by law, any loss in business can bring disaster to a small entrepreneur and ruin his business career.  
a. An entrepreneur is a scarce resource for any country and his success confers manifold benefits on the society and the government.  
b. He should not be penalised and left alone in times of loss.  
c. There is no proper exit route for him.  
d. Even developed countries like America accept the failure of enterprises and do not attach the dwelling house of a failed entrepreneur's family.  
6. In India, banks attach the living homes of such entrepreneurs, given as collateral.  
(A) abcd (B) cabd (C) cdab (D) dabc
19. 1. Bombarded by the bright neon lights of a free market economy, visitors to China may think the Chinese have shelved Mao, the founder of the People's Republic.  
a. Some of them bought or brought white flowers to offer to the leader, whose embalmed remains are on display at the mausoleum.  
b. But on a closer look, Mao seems to live on more in the hearts and minds of rural China than its city dwellers.  
c. Many of the men, women and children who waited patiently in the queue to enter the mausoleum on a recent afternoon looked provincial, their rough hands giving them away.  
d. The snaking queue at the mausoleum of modern China's leader in Beijing suggests otherwise.  
6. The mausoleum is situated at one end of Tiananmen Square, which the guide describes as the biggest square in the world.  
(A) dbca (B) bdac (C) dbac (D) cabd

20. 1 Steel making has come a long way since its commercial production in 1856.
- From 1980, to until a couple of years ago, the rate slumped further and was hovering just around 2 percent.
  - The growth averaged around 7-8 percent a year.
  - In the first six decades of the last century there was only an upward movement in steel consumption.
  - Subsequently, the growth rate halved over the next 30 years.
6. The reasons for the slide are not far to seek.  
(A) bdca (B) cdba (C) bcda (D) cbda
21. 1. The association of cricket and the clergy is a feature of the Mother Country alone.
- I have not heard of cricketing priests in Sydney or Perth, or in Bridgetown and Georgetown either.
  - No mullah, to my knowledge, has ever graced the game; Arjuna Ranatunga, professes to be a practicing Buddhist, but I have not yet heard of a monk who took leave from his duties in the 'Vihara' to go for net practice.
  - I know that there was once a fast bowler named "kurmi", so known because he played with a pig tail, but has there ever been a serving Brahmin purohit who represented his club or state or country?
  - In the early decades of this, several Reverends appeared with mixed success in country cricket.
6. David Stuart Sheppard an ordained priest, became the first such to play Test cricket.  
(A) bcda (B) acdb (C) dbca (D) abcd
22. 1. It is not possible, despite our best efforts, for all of us to be good-looking - yet we all try to look as good as possible.
- Later I came to understand that traditional good looks were less important than that special quality of being 'smart' and 'attractive'.
  - During my college days, I carried with me a small packet of talcum powder and used it after washing my face during the lunch hour.
  - A college teacher endowed with "personality" will be able to command the respect of his students.
  - I guess this is what we call 'personality', the ability to command the attention of others.
6. Yet, the human race always goes looking for its 'Prince Charming'.  
(A) cbda (B) abcd (C) dbca (D) badc

### 35. PARAGRAPH WITH A MISSING SENTENCE:

A paragraph of about 80-100 words is given, with one sentence, either from the beginning, the middle or the end missing. This is followed by four answer choices each with a sentence. One of these sentences fit the blank space to make the paragraph logically complete. In answering this question you must take into consideration the tone, style and attitude of the author.

A new question type introduced in CAT2005 is one in which a paragraph is given with its last sentence given as blank. From the options you have to select the one that concludes the paragraph in the most appropriate way. In CAT2005 there were four questions of this type carrying 2 marks each.

The options were close and more than one definitely seemed right. How does one arrive at the right answer? Look at the focus of the paragraph: What is the author talking about and how is he likely to conclude these reflections or observations? What about the style?

Let us look at one question.

Squatters come in all categories. The easiest to evict are those who occupy the least space. As and when the city wishes to present its brightest face, the pavement dwellers are made to disappear overnight, bag and baggage. Then come the 'jhuggi jhopdis'. Demolition of slums is carried out every alternate or third year but never when elections are round the corner! And then come the industrious, sorry, industrial squatters who believe that what's good for their business is good for the country and steal not just power but land! The most difficult to evict are those who believe that their lien on government accommodation does not end with their tenure as representatives of the people. \_\_\_\_\_.

- MPs may come and MPs may go but they stay on forever.
- The official residence of the late, lamented leaders are converted into memorials for all time to come.
- The Supreme Court expressed concern over the illegal occupation of government accommodation in New Delhi by politicians.
- It is not as if the Bihar governor cannot be sure of a roof over his head as and when he visits India's capital city.

The paragraph talks of squatters and the difficulty in evicting them. It goes in an ascending order from the meanest pavement dweller to the arrogant MPs who are also squatters since they don't vacate their house after their terms of office. The para says they are the most difficult to evict. Hence option 1 that reiterates their hold on the property humorously is the right answer. Thus careful reading and logical thinking will help you to find the right answers. The humorous tone is in keeping with the rest of the para – note 'industrious, sorry, industrial', 'never when elections are round the corner' which suggests tongue-in-cheek attitudes. Option 1 echoes the poem 'Brook' (Men many come and men may go, But I go on for ever) to reflect the attitude of the MPs. Choice 2 talks of dead leaders who can't be called squatters even if their family tries to hold on to the house for ever. Choice 3 is ruled out because the Supreme Court can't suddenly come into the picture. Choice 4 is irrelevant as Bihar is new to the context.

Now answer the following questions:

**Directions for questions 1 to 4:** Each of the following questions has a paragraph from which the last sentence is deleted. From the options given, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

- The Indian music industry is singing. Singing the songs of the future. A future in which it would be riding the wave of technology and, in fact, like elsewhere in the world contributing to the GDP. The future is bright because it is not just physical sales that had been threatened by piracy. The digital revolution is bringing all the players onto one platform. \_\_\_\_\_.
- Technology is something that this industry has been forced into.

- (B) This augurs well for an industry that has been in a slump for sometime now.
- (C) The slump in the industry is also reflected in the sale of hardware.
- (D) To understand this, all you need to do is walk round the marketplace; nobody buys music systems or speakers.
2. The most potent factor in the creation of your future is you. Victory does not always go to the largest armies, the best deployment and the most fire power. It goes as often to the smaller force with the greatest imagination, flexibility, and boldness, with the vision to make something happen. Every vision of the future sets off its own feedback loop. One prepares for what one believes will happen. \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) Ask yourself what you are preparing for.
- (B) Ask yourself what future you would prefer.
- (C) The best way to get to a more desirable future is to go out and create it.
- (D) At the same time, that preparation makes it more likely that this particular future will happen.
3. I am writing this in a hotel room in Sydney, in the historic district called 'The Rocks'. The room is a modern one with everything from cable TV to modem ports. Yet parts of the hotel date back a century and a quarter, with the modern façade neatly dovetailed between the stone foundations and brick walls of two older buildings, new and old forming a pleasing aesthetic whole. This turns out to be a common method of building all through the nearby downtown district. \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) Accepting paradoxical structures as places to live in lies at the heart of dealing successfully with change.
- (B) Many old buildings have been renovated, expanded and given new uses.
- (C) It is as if the city refuses to choose between change and staying the same but embraces the paradox, changing and growing without losing its sense of what it is.
- (D) Old facades are hollowed out, with a high-rise sticking out amidst the grandeur of traditional architecture.
4. The key breakthrough in recent years has been the Japanese solar roofing tile. We've been putting roofs on buildings for a long time to keep out the rain and keep in the heat, but now we're putting on roofs to generate electricity. The roof becomes the power plant of the building, and one of the keys to this technology taking off in Japan is two-way electrical metering. During the day when they produce a surplus, they sell to the utility, and at night they buy back. \_\_\_\_\_.
- (A) Suddenly we have a country that's moving very fast and it's a small country.
- (B) It is an exciting new technology that's going to alter the electricity generating industry worldwide.
- (C) What works for Japan could be applied to other countries of the world.
- (D) Shell and Pilkington Glass are constructing the largest solar cell manufacturing facility in the world.

### 36. ODD MAN OUT:

In this type of question, 4 words are given, 3 of which are related in some way. One them does not belong to this group. That is the odd man out. In some cases instead of words whole sentences may be given.

Answer the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 10:** In each of the following questions four lettered choices are given. Three of them belong to the same category. Mark the letter corresponding with of the 'odd man' as your answer.

1. (A) JUDGE (B) REFEREE  
(C) UMPIRE (D) LAWYER
2. (A) READING (B) SPELLING  
(C) COUNTING (D) SPEAKING
3. (A) SYNAGOGUE (B) TEMPLE  
(C) MONASTERY (D) COLISEUM
4. (A) EVAPORATION (B) VAPORISATION  
(C) SATURATION (D) CONDENSATION
5. (A) SLIP (B) SKID (C) SKIP (D) TRIP
6. (A) LISTEN (B) LIFT  
(C) MOVE (D) BREATHE
7. (A) TYPHOON (B) TSUNAMI  
(C) TORNADO (D) CYCLONE
8. (A) FOOTBALL (B) VOLLEYBALL  
(C) BASEBALL (D) SOCCER
9. (A) TRANSISTOR (B) TRANSFORMER  
(C) GENERATOR (D) ELECTRICITY
10. (A) GREENHOUSE GASES  
(B) AFFORESTATION  
(C) GLOBAL WARMING  
(D) DEFORESTATION

### 37. BEST SUMMARY

The summary questions gives a text of about 100–150 words followed by four possible summaries. You have to pick up the best summary of the passage.

This question appeared for the first time in Feb'04 (CAT2003 retest) and there were three questions of this type carrying 2 marks each, and 2 questions carrying one mark each in CAT2004 (Nov). CAT 2005 did not have this question- type.

The challenge in this question type lies in the fact that by the time you read the text and the four summaries, the idea has been repeated so many times that you lose track of what is what. Typically the right summary is one-third the size of the original. A good summary avoids all examples, round about ways of saying things. It is direct, to the point, terse and pithy. Read the passage with concentration. Mentally zero in on the main idea and what is said about it. As you read the options watch out for distortions of the idea by a slight twist of words or phrases. Such distortions convey some thing different from what is conveyed by the question. (eg: Is it a fact, or the author's opinion?)

Let us look at an example.

Most of the people who appear most often and most gloriously in the history books are great conquerors and generals and soldiers, whereas the people who really helped civilisation forward are often never mentioned at all. We do not know who first set

a broken leg or launched a seaworthy boat, calculated the length of the year, or manured a field; but we know all about the killers and destroyers. People think a great deal of them, so much so that on all the highest pillars in the great cities of the world you will find the figure of a conqueror or a general or a soldier. And I think most people believe that the greatest countries are those that have beaten in battle the greatest number of other countries and ruled over them as conquerors. It is just possible they are, but they are not the most civilized. Animals fight; so do savages; hence to be good at fighting is to be good in the way in which an animal or a savage is good, but it is not to be civilized.

- (A) While victorious countries are thought great and statues of the victors erected, they are not the most civilized. They are as savage as animals because animals and savages also fight. The real hero is the man who set a broken leg or launched the first boat.
- (B) History books glorify conquerors, generals and soldiers because they have beaten others in battle and ruled over great territory. They are good fighters like animals and savages but they do not know what civilization is and have done nothing to make life comfortable for others.
- (C) Though conquerors, generals and soldiers are glorified in history, we know little about the people who made civilisation possible through small contributions that brought progress in life. While there are statues for the former they are not the most civilized.
- (D) We know a great deal about conquerors, generals, soldiers who are made much of in history. Statues are raised in their memory as they conquer territories and rule over people. But who thinks of the man who made agriculture possible? They are the unsung heroes of the world.

The passage is quite simple and straight forward. It says general and victors are fussed about but the really great people are those who helped in the progress of civilization in howsoever a small way. Choice (A) makes the real hero very specific (is it only the man who set a broken leg or launched the first boat? Is no other contribution worthwhile?). Choice (B) does not talk of real hero at all while it talks at length about conquerors and generals. Choice (C) conveys the idea briefly and is the best. Choice (D) also eulogizes about a specific group – those who made agriculture possible. Choice (A) and (B) both include example, which is wrong.

Now attempt the following questions.

**Directions for questions 1 to 10:** Four alternative summaries are given below each text. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the text.

1. A country's culture is often a major tourist attraction, particularly when it can be combined with sun, sea and sand. In Thailand as in many countries with a rich heritage, tourists' demands have given a much-needed boost to local arts and crafts; after all, a local economy can only stand so many baskets, pots and carvings. The phenomenal growth in the number of Art and Craft Festivals organised has brought tourists from different countries on festival tours and given some of the local inhabitants access to global culture. But what of their own culture? The story here is less rosy. In relation to the environment, even the most blinkered tourist is faced with the truism that tourists destroy the very things they come for. In Kenya, a country that depends heavily on tourism there is a real danger of 'tourist pollution' in the most popular game parks.
  - a. Nations with a rich cultural heritage and beach resorts attract tourists from all over the world. The arts festival in Thailand has given a boost to the local industry and to the inhabitants access to global culture. But sometimes tourism poses a threat to local culture and environment.
  - b. Nations with a rich cultural heritage and vast beach resorts are a tourist attraction. Tourism provides a boost to the traditional art and craft industry and gives local inhabitants a taste of global culture. However, tourism poses a threat to local culture and environment.
  - c. Nations with a sea coast, tropical climate and heritage are a tourist attraction. Tourism provides a boost to the art and craft industry because of art festivals. However, it poses a threat to local environment.
  - d. Nations with a rich cultural heritage and resorts are a big tourist draw. Tourist inflow promotes the local industry and gives inhabitants a taste of global culture. However, tourism is also a threat to local culture and industry.
2. Money was invented by man to get power but money has become more powerful than man. All over the world, money and power go together. The more money a person has, the more successful he is judged to be. A rich man is accepted by society even if he is corrupt or evil. Man works hard to earn more and more money and saves a lot of it. He thinks that money will give him more freedom to enjoy himself and enable him to have lots of fun. He thinks he will not be anyone's slave but be his own master. But soon, he becomes the slave of money. The more he has, the more he wants. He thinks that money can buy everything. He forgets that money cannot buy peace or happiness or a ticket to heaven.
  - a. Money which man invented to become powerful has ironically become more powerful than him. Man's relentless pursuit of power and money has made him a slave of money. He does not realise that money can't buy him higher valuables like peace and happiness.
  - b. Money was invented by man to become powerful but money has become more powerful than him. Man's relentless pursuit of money-power has made him a slave to it. Man does not realise that money can buy him certain things but not everything.
  - c. Money which man invented to become powerful has overpowered him. Man's relentless pursuit of money-power has made him a slave to it. He does not realise that money can give him only material gains, but not spiritual and mental benefits like peace and happiness.
  - d. Money which man invented to become powerful has overpowered him. Man's relentless pursuit of money-power has made him a slave to it. He does not realise that he gains only materially through money and not spiritually and mentally.
3. Fashion is a term commonly used to describe a style of clothing worn by a large number of people in a country. However, popular styles of furniture, homes and many other products are also fashions. The kind of art, music, literature and sports that many people prefer can also be fashions. Thus, a fashion is or

reflects a form of behaviour accepted by most people in a society. A fashion remains popular for a few months or years and then another fashion takes its place. A product or activity is in fashion or is fashionable during the period of time many people in society accept it. After a time, however, the same product or activity becomes old-fashioned when the majority of people no longer accept it. A fashion that quickly comes and goes is a fad. A majority of people do not accept fads. Some people may become involved in faddish behaviour because fads get a lot of publicity.

- a. Fashions are not limited to clothes, they extend even to things like furniture, art, music and literature. A product or activity discontinued by society becomes old-fashioned. A fad which undergoes quick change is not accepted by the majority.
  - b. Fashions are not limited to clothes, they extend to other things including behaviour. Fashions keep changing and get outdated. Fashion changing too quickly is fad and is not accepted by the majority.
  - c. Fashion reflects a form of behaviour in a society. It is not limited to clothes but includes several things. When a fashion becomes outdated, it is a fad. Only people craving for publicity opt for fads. Others prefer fashion.
  - d. Fashions are not limited to clothes, they extend to behaviour and other things. They keep changing depending on the way people respond to them. Fashions become outdated and get replaced by fads. These change quickly.
4. The character of the 'little tramp' which Charlie Chaplin played in hundreds of films, is one everyone can understand. The poor fellow makes all kinds of mistakes. He is always in trouble. Yet, he dreams of greatness. He makes us laugh with his mad, and sometimes, ridiculous attempts to escape his cruel fate. He finds surprising ways out of every difficulty. Even people who don't understand English can enjoy Chaplin's films because they are mostly silent. It is not what he says that makes us laugh. His comedy does not depend upon words or language. It depends upon little actions which mean the same thing to people all over the world. He is a master of the art of mime.
    - a. The role of the tramp, which Charlie Chaplin has played in his films has a universal appeal. The tramp's ridiculous, yet successful attempts in tackling his problems evoke laughter. Language is no barrier in Chaplin's films as the thrust lies on his master skill of miming.
    - b. Charlie Chaplin is a master in the art of miming. His films are a success and are popular all over the world. The character of the tramp which he has played in many films can be understood by all. One need not know English to appreciate the character. His actions speak louder than words.
    - c. Charlie Chaplin's portrayal of the 'tramp' in his films has a universal appeal. The tramp's ridiculous, yet successful manner of tackling problems evokes laughter. Language is no barrier as Chaplin's comedy rests on his miming skill.
    - d. Charlie Chaplin is a master in the art of miming. His films have a universal appeal and can be appreciated even by those who do not know English. Chaplin's funny actions and his innocent behaviour win our admiration.
  5. As long as human nature remains what it is, there can be no perfect form of government. Nor can democracy claim to be such. But of all the forms of political organisations (governments) known to man, it has been found to be the best so far. We often talk about the failure of democracy. But more often than not, it is the failure of our intelligence. So we should not abandon democracy. It is not merely a form of political organisation, it is indeed a way of life. It is an ideal worthy to be pursued and preserved.
    - a. Democracy, though not perfect, has been the best form of government known to mankind. Failure of democracy is mostly a failure of human intelligence. So, we should not abandon democracy.
    - b. Democracy is a worthy ideal to be pursued and is the best form of government known to mankind. It fails only when there is an intelligence failure.
    - c. Democracy is the perfect form of government known to mankind. Failure of democracy is due to failure of human intelligence. It is a worthy ideal to be pursued.
    - d. Democracy has proved to be the best form of government known to mankind. We should not abandon democracy because it fails whenever human intelligence fails.
  6. How amazing is this spirit of man! In spite of innumerable failings, man, throughout the ages, has sacrificed his life and all he held dear for an ideal, for truth, for faith, for country and for honour. That ideal may change but that capacity for self-sacrifice continues and because of that, much may be forgiven to man, and it is impossible to lose hope for him. In the midst of disaster, he has not lost his dignity or his faith in the values he cherished. Plaything of Nature's mighty forces, less than a speck of dust in this vast universe, he has hurled defiance at the elemental powers, and with his mind, the cradle of revolution, sought to master them. Whatever gods there be, there is something godlike in man, as there is also something of the devil in him.
    - (A) The self-sacrificing spirit of man to fight for the ideals he held dear is amazing. Disasters have not disabled him to stand by his ideals. He has challenged Nature and her forces and tried to master them. The god-like qualities in man neutralize the devil in him.
    - (B) Man's spirit of sacrifice to uphold the ideals which are dear to him is amazing. This undying spirit makes up for all his failings and keeps hopes alive. Despite disasters and his physical limitations, he has challenged Nature with his mind. He has the divine and the devil in him.
    - (C) Man's spirit of sacrifice is amazing and undying. With this spirit, he has fought for all the ideals he holds dear and retained his dignity. All his failings and limitations can be forgiven and there is no losing hope for him. With his mental power, he has challenged Nature and tried to control her.
    - (D) Man's spirit of sacrifice for truth, country and honour is amazing. Although his ideals keep changing, his spirit of sacrifice is undying. He has faced disasters and yet retained his dignity. Despite being a toy in Nature's hand, he has challenged her. God has blessed him with his qualities and so has the devil.

7. Work life is changing. People don't stick to one organisation for donkey's years to take home a meagre pension. Firms too are shifting from the 'life-time' employee concept to the 'contractual employee' model. Evidently, the pressure to produce more with the least use of resources is the aim of the hour. In keeping with this, every organisation aims to hire the best talent available by implementing varied recruitment procedures that pay attention to both sourcing and selection. Recruiters want to select the most appropriate candidate for a given post, and a single method of assessment like an interview or just a written test does not suffice to evaluate the candidate. Hiring heads are using scientific testing tools and competency-based interviewing to acquire a good talent pool.
- In order to pick out the best of talent, firms are adopting recruitment procedures which focus both on sourcing and selection. They are moving from 'life-time employee concept' to 'contractual employee' model. Interviews and written tests are passé. Scientific testing tools and competency based interviewing are now in vogue.
  - Recruitment procedures adopted by companies are changing in keeping with employees' preferences for 'contractual jobs' to 'life-time' jobs. Firms have realised that meagre pensions do not satisfy employees. In order to pick out the best of talent, firms are opting for scientific testing tools and competency based interviews.
  - Recruitment procedures adopted by companies have changed. They have shifted from 'life-time employee concept' to 'contractual employee model', which focus on sourcing and selection. Scientific testing tools and competency-based interviews have replaced written tests and interviews to streamline recruitment procedures.
  - With changes in people's attitude to shifting jobs, companies are also adopting new recruitment procedures, focussing both on sourcing and selection. They are moving from 'life-time employee' concept to 'contractual employee' model and using scientific testing tools and competency-based interviews to acquire a good talent pool.
8. There have always been people who claim to have the power of looking into the future. However, no one can say what the next 1000 years would be like. Fate plays a major role in our lives. There is a certain suspense in everyone's life and that is what god intended. Imagine – an end to world wars, no more homelessness, no dysfunctional families, no famine, and everybody being everybody's best friend. A world so perfect, nothing else could make it seem brighter. It is so easy to imagine and hope that this is how the world is going to be in the year 3000. However, if we think logically, it is easy to see that it is impossible for the world to be this way. Nothing is ever perfect.
- With fate playing a major role in our lives and god deciding that suspense remains a permanent feature, nobody can predict the future with certainty. A perfect world devoid of problems can only be imagined and can never become a reality.
  - Although some people claim that they can predict the future, it is impossible for them to do so. Fate plays a major role in our lives and God never intended to make the world a perfect place. To think that the world will get rid of all its problems in the next 1000 years is illogical.
  - Predicting the future is impossible in a world where fate plays a major role in our lives. We can hope and imagine that in a thousand years the world will be a perfect place. But God never intended to make it so and has filled it with imperfections.
  - When we imagine a world with no war, no famine it seems so perfect. It cannot become a reality. Anyone who predicts that the future will take this shape is being illogical. Fate and god have a role to play in our lives.
9. The drink of Asia for hundreds of years, tea, is believed to have been brought to Europe by the Dutch. Today, from the remotest corners of Ladakh to Buckingham Palace, tea is synonymous with cheer. It is rightly said that there will be no agreement on a perfect cup of tea. For most tea drinkers the brew is addictive and the preferred method of preparation and taste differs from person to person and region to region. Many varieties of tea and tea brands are available in the market. An innovation is the tea-bag that makes preparation easy, quick and less messy than the traditional way of brewing tea. Some research findings claim that drinking tea reduces the risk of heart disease and cancer and lowers cholesterol levels in the blood. A welcome thought for inveterate tea drinkers.
- Tea has been a popular drink in Asia for years and made its way to Europe, courtesy the Dutch. Though most tea-drinkers are addicted to the drink, preparation and taste varies between individuals and regions. A new and convenient way of making tea is by using the tea-bag. Some researchers claim that tea reduces the risk of heart disease.
  - Drinking of tea originated in Asia years ago and was introduced in Europe by the Dutch. Preparation of tea varies according to individual and regional tastes. Tea is easier to make using tea-bags and has several health benefits.
  - Drinking of tea has prevailed in Asia for years and was introduced in Europe by the Dutch. Most tea-drinkers are addicted to the drink and preparation and taste varies between persons and regions. Tea bag is an innovation, which has made preparation easy and neat. Some researchers claim that tea offers health benefits.
  - Tea has been a popular drink in Asia and was introduced by the Dutch. Most tea-drinkers are addicted to it. Preparation and taste varies from person to person. Using tea bag is an innovative way of making tea and is better. Tea offers health benefits and reduces the risk of cancer.
10. Biologists say elephants can rarely exist in a cloistered habitat. They require vast tracts of unencumbered forest land to trundle about. These giant herbivores have gargantuan appetites, and are messy eaters. While a herd goes about raiding a fodder site, damage is caused to trees and plants in the vicinity. Since pachyderms traverse hundreds of kilometers in search of food and water, they give enough time for the lost vegetation to rejuvenate and get ready for another possible elephant foray. This is not the case with the Terai-Bhabhar elephants. Stifled in their movements in fragmented forest, they are forced to forage for food in the limited area available

to them. The paucity of food is forcing the elephants to venture outside protected areas into crop fields. This has brought them in direct conflict with man.

- (A) Living in fragmented forests and stifled in their movements, the Terai Bhabhar elephants leave their protected areas, enter crop fields in search of food and are in direct conflict with man.
- (B) The Terai Bhabhar elephants live in a cloistered habitat, unlike other elephants which inhabit vast areas of land. Biologists say they move out of their fragmented forests and enter crop fields in search of food. This has brought them in conflict with man.
- (C) Biologists are of the opinion that elephants need vast tracts of forest land that facilitate their search for food. They have called for measures to save the Terai Bhabhar elephants which are forced to leave their protected area due to food shortage.
- (D) Biologists are of the opinion that elephants need vast tracts of forest land that facilitate their search for food. However, the Terai Bhabhar elephants which live in fragmented forests are forced to leave their protected areas and enter crop-fields. This has led to their direct conflict with man.

### 38. FACTS, INFERENCE AND JUDGMENT:

**Some questions appeared, most recently, in CAT 2006.**

Each question in this section has four sentences. You must decide whether each of the sentence is a Fact(F), Inference (I), or a Judgment based on the definition for each given in the question and select the answer choice that agrees with your categorization.

Answer the following questions:

**Directions for questions 1 to 5:** Listed under each question are four sentences. Categorize each sentence as Fact (F), Inference (I), or Judgement (J) based on the following.

Facts describe what we have seen, heard, or read; they are capable of verification and exclude inferences and judgements.

Inferences are statements about the unknown made on the basis of the known.

Judgements imply approval or disapproval of objects, occurrences, or persons described.

1.
  - a. Cancer is caused by uncontrolled division of cells.
  - b. Cancer is the most baneful of the curses heaped on mankind.
  - c. Millions of dollars are being spent worldwide to find a permanent cure for this scourge.
  - d. If these intensive efforts on cancer research are maintained, the efforts on finding cures for other diseases may receive a setback.

(A) FJFI (B) FFFJ (C) FJFJ (D) FJIF
2.
  - a. An earthquake measuring 6.4 on the Richter Scale rocked the region on the 14<sup>th</sup> of September.
  - b. The losses could be in billions of rupees.
  - c. It was the biggest disaster of the decade.
  - d. The movement of tectonic plates beneath the earth's crust was the cause of the disaster.

(A) FFIF (B) FIJF (C) FFJF (D) FFFJ

3.
  - a. The power situation in Andhra Pradesh is pathetic.
  - b. There is atleast 5 hours of powercut for every household.
  - c. The Industries are not exempted from this powercut.
  - d. If the situation continues for over a year, a deep economic crisis may grip the state due to low industrial output.

(A) FFFI (B) JFFJ (C) JFFI (D) JFII

4.
  - a. The victim lay in the pool of blood.
  - b. The scattered objects all round the place suggested that a struggle preceded the murder.
  - c. It was certainly the most gruesome murder I ever witnessed.
  - d. The broken safe suggested the motive for murder.

(A) FFJI (B) FIJJ (C) FIJI (D) FJJJ

5.
  - a. Suicide rates are on the increase among school-going students of Japan.
  - b. Parental expectations and societal pressures are the main reasons which are driving children to suicide.
  - c. Looking at the workloads students have to handle, it is obvious that they have very little social life.
  - d. Japan has a highly demanding education system.

(A) FJFJ (B) FFJI (C) FFJF (D) FJII

### 39. UPSTREAM, DOWNSTREAM ARGUMENTS:

Upstream/Downstream arguments: This is a set of questions given only once on the CAT. What is essentially required here is classifying statements into different categories on the basis of a main statement given as per the directions provided. The directions will explain these questions.

**Directions:** Given below is a main statement followed by questions. Each question itself is a statement. Read the main statement and the questions that follow and mark your answer as

- (A) if the main statement can be derived from the question-statement (UPSTREAM ARGUMENT)
- (B) if the question-statement can be derived from the main statement (DOWNSTREAM ARGUMENT)
- (C) if the question-statement supports the main statement (LATERAL ARGUMENT).
- (D) if the question-statement is not relevant to the main statement (IRRELEVANT STATEMENT).

### CONCLUSION:

The 4 exercises that follow present different questions of various types. Familiarity with question types and practice is the key to doing well in the Verbal Ability section. The more questions you answer of a particular type the more comfortable you feel with the question type and the more successful in answering it correctly. With this in mind you have been given in Verbal Ability Study Material Booklet. This booklet has an introductory chapter that provides detail of various question types. This is followed by 41 exercises (each exercise dealing with one variety of question). Explanatory notes are given wherever necessary. Work through this book systematically as it will improve you speed and accuracy. Happy working.



### ***Key for Word Usage***

Questions 1 to 5: Refer to explanatory notes

#### ***Key for Appropriate substitute***

- |      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. A | 2. C | 3. B | 4. A | 5. B |
|------|------|------|------|------|

#### ***Key for Inappropriate substitute***

- |      |      |      |       |       |
|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 1. D | 4. C | 7. A | 10. C | 13. B |
| 2. B | 5. B | 8. D | 11. D | 14. A |
| 3. D | 6. C | 9. B | 12. A | 15. C |

#### ***Key for Analogies***

- |      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. D | 3. B | 5. B | 7. B | 9. A  |
| 2. C | 4. C | 6. D | 8. C | 10. B |

#### ***Key for Reverse Analogies***

- |      |      |      |       |       |
|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 1. C | 4. B | 7. B | 10. C | 13. C |
| 2. A | 5. D | 8. A | 11. D | 14. A |
| 3. D | 6. C | 9. D | 12. D | 15. B |

#### ***Key for Confusing words***

1. C

#### ***Key for Sentence completion***

- |      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. A | 3. B | 5. A | 7. B | 9. A  |
| 2. C | 4. C | 6. C | 8. D | 10. D |

#### ***Key for Cloze Test***

- |      |      |      |       |       |
|------|------|------|-------|-------|
| 1. B | 4. A | 7. A | 10. D | 13. A |
| 2. C | 5. B | 8. D | 11. C | 14. B |
| 3. B | 6. C | 9. B | 12. B | 15. C |

#### ***Key for Meaning and Usage Table***

- |      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. A | 3. D | 5. B | 7. A | 9. C  |
| 2. B | 4. B | 6. B | 8. B | 10. D |

#### ***Key for Incorrect/inappropriate usage***

- |      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. C | 3. A | 5. B | 7. D | 9. D  |
| 2. B | 4. C | 6. C | 8. C | 10. A |

#### ***Key for Sentence with an error***

- |      |      |      |       |       |       |
|------|------|------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. D | 4. C | 7. B | 10. D | 13. D | 16. A |
| 2. B | 5. C | 8. B | 11. C | 14. B | 17. C |
| 3. D | 6. B | 9. C | 12. C | 15. D |       |

#### ***Key for Grammatically correct statement***

- |      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. D | 2. A | 3. D | 4. A | 5. C |
|------|------|------|------|------|

#### ***Key for Replacing the underlined part***

- |      |      |      |      |       |
|------|------|------|------|-------|
| 1. B | 3. D | 5. A | 7. D | 9. A  |
| 2. C | 4. B | 6. B | 8. A | 10. B |

#### ***Key for Error identification : Double sentence type***

- |      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. B | 2. C | 3. D | 4. D | 5. A |
|------|------|------|------|------|

***Key for Fill in the Blank***

1. C	6. A	11. B	16. C	21. B
2. C	7. D	12. A	17. B	22. D
3. D	8. C	13. D	18. A	23. C
4. C	9. A	14. A	19. B	24. B
5. B	10. A	15. C	20. C	25. D

***Key for Identify the Incorrect Sentence***

1. A	3. B	5. D	7. D	9. B
2. A	4. B	6. C	8. A	10. C

***Key for Identify the correct Sentence***

1. C	2. D	3. B	4. A	5. D
------	------	------	------	------

***Key for Restating a sentence***

1. A	3. C	5. C	7. C	9. C
2. A	4. D	6. B	8. D	10. A

***Key for Concise Expression***

1. B	4. A	7. D	10. D	13. B
2. C	5. B	8. A	11. C	14. A
3. C	6. C	9. A	12. D	15. D

***Key for Sentence Anagram***

1. C	4. D	7. C	10. B	13. D
2. B	5. D	8. B	11. C	14. B
3. C	6. D	9. D	12. C	15. A

***Key for Paragraph Anagram Type – I***

1. D	5. B	9. D	13. C	17. D	21. C	25. D	29. D
2. B	6. D	10. B	14. A	18. C	22. B	26. A	30. C
3. D	7. C	11. D	15. D	19. B	23. C	27. C	31. B
4. C	8. C	12. B	16. B	20. D	24. B	28. B	

***Key for Paragraph Anagram Type – II***

1. D	5. D	9. A	13. D	17. C	21. D
2. B	6. C	10. C	14. A	18. B	22. D
3. A	7. C	11. C	15. B	19. A	
4. B	8. D	12. B	16. A	20. D	

***Key for Paragraph with a missing sentence***

1. B	2. D	3. C	4. C
------	------	------	------

***Key for Odd man out***

1. D	3. D	5. C	7. B	9. D
2. C	4. C	6. D	8. C	10. B

***Key for Best Summary***

1. B	3. B	5. A	7. D	9. C
2. D	4. C	6. B	8. A	10. D

***Key for Facts Inference and Judgement***

1. A	2. B	3. C	4. C	5. D
------	------	------	------	------

### Practice Exercise – I

**Directions for question 1:** The following question has a word in capitals. From among the choices, select the most suitable synonym (word that means the same) for the main word and mark its choice as your answer.

1. BUCOLIC  
(A) urbane  
(B) contagious  
(C) rustic  
(D) cultivated

**Directions for question 2:** A foreign expression is given in the following question. Identify, from among the choices, the meaning of the foreign expression and mark its choice as your answer.

2. LAISSEZ-FAIRE  
(A) a policy of non-interference in the affairs of others  
(B) running a successful business  
(C) to lead a cloistered life  
(D) minimum regulatory control

**Directions for question 3:** The following question has a sentence with one word underlined. Identify the meaning of the underlined word (as used in the sentence) from among the four alternatives and mark its choice as your answer.

3. Since the rejection of the European constitutional Treaty by the Dutch and the French voters in 2005, the European Union has remained gridlocked.  
(A) shell-shocked (B) straitjacketed  
(C) blocked (D) baffled

**Directions for question 4:** An expression followed by four words is given in the following question. The expression carries the meaning of one of the words. Identify the word and mark its choice as your answer.

4. Using a few words, especially to the point of seeming rude  
(A) laconic (B) succinct  
(C) voluble (D) prolix

**Directions for question 5:** The following question has a word. From among the choices, identify the word which is opposite in meaning (antonym) to the main word and mark its choice as your answer.

5. PRECIPITATE  
(A) condense  
(B) retard  
(C) defray  
(D) coagulate

**Directions for question 6:** In the following question, four words identified as a, b, c and d are given. Two of them are opposite in meaning. Identify this pair and from the choices, mark as your answer, the combination that has the opposites.

6. (a) agnostic  
(b) pliant  
(c) callow  
(d) obstinate  
(A) a – c (B) a – b (C) b – c (D) b – d

**Directions for question 7:** In the following question, a sentence is given in which an idiom is used. The idiomatic phrase is underlined. Four possible meanings of the idiom are also given. Mark the choice of the correct meaning as your answer.

7. Nobody is going to help you; you've to pull yourself up by the bootstraps.  
(A) overcome all hurdles  
(B) improve your position by your own efforts  
(C) continue to do something in spite of difficulties  
(D) bounce back after every failure

**Directions for question 8:** Four sentences are given with a blank in each. Four words are also given. The blank in each sentence can be filled by one or more of the four words given. Similarly, each word given in the choices can go into any number of sentences. Identify the number of sentences each word can go into and mark as your answer, the maximum number of sentences any word can go into.

8. (a) He changed his decision in a/an \_\_\_\_\_ of seconds.  
(b) No important \_\_\_\_\_ was left undiscussed at the meeting.  
(c) On a/an \_\_\_\_\_ of principle, I quit the job.  
(d) The industry has a problem disposing of the waste \_\_\_\_\_.  
(i) material (ii) matter  
(iii) affair (iv) issue  
(A) 1 (B) 2 (C) 3 (D) 4

**Directions for question 9:** For the word below, a contextual usage is provided. Pick the word/phrase, from the alternatives, that is the most appropriate substitute for the question word in the given context and mark its choice as your answer.

9. Promulgate: The government is going to promulgate the idea of the small family among the rural poor.  
(A) disseminate (B) appropriate  
(C) promote (D) permeate

**Directions for question 10:** The following question has a paragraph with one italicized word that does not make sense. Choose the most appropriate replacement for that space from the options given below the paragraph.

10. Dubbed as 'the chimpanzees of the New World' because of their *nimbus* and intelligence, capuchins have found a way to make a living in almost every type of forested habitat within their range.  
(A) agility (B) adaptability  
(C) survival (D) resilience

**Directions for question 11:** For the word given below, a contextual usage is provided. From among the alternatives given, pick the word that is the most inappropriate as a substitute in the given context and mark its choice as your answer.

11. Flamingos need large water bodies, but these habitats have been drained, sending the population into terminal decline.  
(A) irreversible (B) ultimate  
(C) permanent (D) lethal

**Directions for question 12:** The following question has four capitalized words. From among the choices, identify the word that can be associated with all the four capitalized words.

12. FAVOURS, LINE, SPIRIT, PIECE  
(A) help (B) hard (C) team (D) party

**Directions for question 13:** The question has a pair of CAPITALISED words followed by four pairs of words. Choose the pair of words that does NOT express a relationship similar to that expressed by the capitalized pair.

13. OBFUSCATION : CLARITY  
(A) inanity : sagacity  
(B) proclivity : penchant  
(C) amiability : hostility  
(D) despondency : exhilaration

**Directions for question 14:** There are two blanks in the following sentence. From the pairs of words given below, choose the pair that fills the blanks most appropriately.

14. We must be aware that the policies and programmes that specifically target the economic development of the marginalized cannot serve as a \_\_\_\_\_ for a cultural road map that counteracts the \_\_\_\_\_ symbols and practices of domination.  
(A) betrayal . . . ingrained  
(B) proxy . . . entrenched  
(C) substitute . . . inveterate  
(D) surrogate . . . cantonal

**Directions for questions 15 to 17:** Fill in the blanks in the passage below with the most appropriate word from among the options given for each blank. The right words are the ones used by the author. Be guided by the author's overall style and meaning when you choose the answer.

When the Mauryan empire fell apart, foreign invaders conquered and successively ruled the northern sector, while the southern remained mostly subject to (15) rule. The basic reason for this difference was that plough-using villages (16) the economy of the part conquered by foreigners, who mainly looted the surplus gathered under the preceding rulers. The south had still to be covered by such (17) unresisting villages.

15. (A) indigenous (B) inherent  
(C) inborn (D) intrinsic  
16. (A) dominated (B) tyrannised  
(C) overruled (D) bullied  
17. (A) untouched (B) unstirred  
(C) docile (D) passive

**Directions for question 18:** In the question below, the word at the top of the table is used in four different ways, numbered A to D. Choose the option in which the usage of the word is INCORRECT or INAPPROPRIATE.

18. REPEAT  
(A) The Home Minister told the army officers that they have to, at any cost, prevent the repeat of the subversives' infiltration into the country.  
(B) The teacher asked her students not to repeat her, but listen to her in silence.  
(C) He repeated himself several times during the speech.  
(D) Don't miss the repeat of the programme on television tomorrow.

**Directions for question 19:** In the following question, there are five sentences that have pairs of words printed in bold. From each pair, select the word most appropriate to fill the blank that follows the pair and to form a contextually correct sentence. Then, from the choices that follow pick the one that represents the sequence of your choice of words.

19. (i) It **seemed** (a) / **appeared** (b) ----- to him that the noon recess would never come.  
(ii) It was the sleepest of sleepy days; there was not a leaf **shaking** (a) / **stirring** (b) -----.  
(iii) Away off in the flaming sunshine, Cardiff Hill was **lightly** (a) / **faintly** (b) ----- visible through a shimmering veil of heat.  
(iv) A few birds floated on lazy **wing** (a) / **wind** (b) ----- high in the air.  
(v) No other living thing was visible **but for** (a) / **but** (b) ----- some cows, and they were asleep.  
(A) bbaab (B) abbab (C) aabba (D) abbaa

**Directions for question 20:** In the following sentence, a part of the sentence is underlined. Beneath the sentence, four different ways of phrasing the underlined part are indicated. Choose the best alternative and mark its choice as your answer.

20. The bus was so crowded so we had to stand all the way.  
(A) too crowded that we had to stand all the way.  
(B) very crowded that we had to stand all the way.  
(C) so crowded that we had to stand all the way.  
(D) so crowded so we had to stand all the way.

**Directions for question 21:** In the following question, two sentences are given. There may be errors in the sentence(s). Mark your answer as

- (A) if there is an error only in the first sentence;  
(B) if there is an error only in the second sentence;  
(C) if there are errors in both sentences; and  
(D) if there is no error in either of the sentences.  
21. I. The girl's friends were making fun at her.  
II. The research provides evidence that Japanese are highly talented.

**Directions for question 22:** The sentence below has a part missing. Choose the best option from those given below the statement to make up the missing part.

22. True devotion is defined as that which is resolute \_\_\_\_\_.  
(A) and the mind of such devotee engages in the Almighty incessantly like a steady flow of oil.  
(B) and the mind of such a devotee incessantly engages in the Almighty like a steady flow of oil.  
(C) and the mind of such a devotee engages in Almighty incessantly like a steady flow of oil.  
(D) and the mind of such a devotee engages in the Almighty incessantly like a steady flow of oil.

**Directions for question 23:** The following question consists of four sentences on a topic. Some sentences are grammatically incorrect or inappropriate. Select the option that indicates the grammatically correct and appropriate sentence(s).

23. (a) Sweet are the uses of adversity.  
(b) Adversity can prove highly beneficial for mankind.  
(c) Having once been through adverse circumstances, one is certain to face the rest of one's life with greater courage and confidence.  
(d) He who has never suffered cannot understand what is suffering.  
(A) Only a (B) a and c  
(C) Only c (D) a, b and d

**Directions for question 24:** In the following question there are sentences that form a paragraph, presented in five lines. Identify the lines that present sentences / parts of sentences that are correct in terms of grammar and usage (including spelling, punctuation and logical consistency), and choose the option that denotes the lines you have so identified.

24. (a) Lying is universal - we all do it. Therefore, the wise thing is for us to  
 (b) train ourselves diligently to lie judiciously; to lie with good intentions, not evil ones; to  
 (c) lie gracefully, not clumsily; to lie firmly, with head erect, not haltingly, as with  
 (d) shame. Only then we will be worthy dwellers in a world where even benign  
 (e) Nature habitually lies except when she promises execrable weather.  
 (A) a, b and c (B) b, d and e  
 (C) a and c (D) e only

**Directions for question 25:** In the following question, four statements conveying the same idea are given. Select the one which expresses the idea in the most concise manner and mark its choice as your answer. Please note that all of them may be grammatically correct and mean the same but you have to select the most concise way of expressing the idea.

25. (A) The recent E.U regulation forbidding airlines and tour operators from denying travel to passengers with disabilities and reduced mobility besides affirming the principle of anti-discrimination, also makes sound business sense.  
 (B) Apart from confirming to the idea that discrimination in any form should not be allowed, the new E.U regulation which forbids airlines and tour operators from denying travel to passengers with disabilities and reduced mobility, also is useful as it comes as an opportunity to improve the business of the airlines industry.  
 (C) The recent E.U regulation that does not permit any kind of discrimination in the travel industry, on the basis of disability and related issues is beneficial in terms of business too.  
 (D) The recent E.U regulation regarding airlines and disabled people does not support discrimination in the airlines industry and it is also likely to accelerate business.

**Directions for question 26:** In the following question, a sentence is split into four parts and labelled a, b, c and d. Rearrange the parts to form the original sentence and select the correct order from among the four choices given below and mark its choice as your answer.

26. (a) a long step towards goodwill among nations  
 (b) and the advocates of this view can certainly offer many arguments in its favour  
 (c) the view is widely held that the world would be taking  
 (d) if it were to adopt a universal language  
 (A) adbc (B) dabc (C) cadb (D) bdac

**Directions for question 27:** The sentences given in the question below, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. From among the four choices given below each question, choose the most logical order of sentences that constructs a coherent paragraph.

27. (a) Malicious programmes make use of the period between it being identified and a security patch for the programme becoming available to infect workstations.  
 (b) Attacks via web browsers have dramatically increased over the years.  
 (c) Laptops and other mobile devices are particularly vulnerable; employees use the same devices to work from home or hotels and airports.  
 (d) Employees endanger the corporate network when they inadvertently introduce back door programmes downloaded via malicious websites.  
 (e) These devices connect to different access networks which may be a source of infection.  
 (A) abdc (B) bedca (C) bdace (D) dbeac

**Directions for question 28:** The following question has a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraphs in the most appropriate way.

28. For the first time, light is being investigated seriously as a human health hazard, a possible contributor to the increased incidence of cancer, depression and other ailments. And for many wildlife species, light pollution seems to be as grave an environmental threat as bulldozed habitats and toxic dumping. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (A) Nearly two-thirds of the world's population lives under night skies polluted by light.  
 (B) Bryant Wayner, a biology professor at the university of California has conducted experiments in which he showed that even a dim night light is enough to blind nocturnal frogs.  
 (C) The implications are far bigger than ever realised and people have to begin to take the issue much more seriously.  
 (D) Canada has set up a light-conservation reserve, north of Toronto; the first of its kind in the world.

**Directions for question 29:** The following question presents four statements of which three, when placed in appropriate order, would form a contextually complete paragraph. Pick the statement that is not part of that context.

29. (A) It has about as good a turn of speed as a creature needs to hunt down a lettuce.  
 (B) Its horizons are a few inches away.  
 (C) It has survived by being, on the whole, no threat to anyone and too much trouble to eat.  
 (D) The tortoise is a ground-living creature that lives as close as possible to the ground without being under it.

**Directions for question 30:** Four alternative summaries are given below the given text. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the text.

30. When some feature of an event seems similar to an emotionally charged memory from the past, the mind responds by triggering the feelings that went with the remembered event. The emotional mind reacts to the present as though it were the past. The trouble is that especially when the appraisal is fast and automatic, we may not realise that what was once the case is no longer so. Someone who has learned through painful childhood beatings, to react to an angry scowl with intense fear and loathing will have that reaction in some degree even as an adult, even though the scowl carries no such threat.

- (A) Distancing ourselves from the past is tough, especially when it comes to unpleasant experiences. Someone who has learned, through painful childhood beatings, to react to the event that caused it, in a particular way, (he/she) is likely to show a similar reaction, when faced with a similar situation even as an adult.
- (B) People may react in ways that are not proportionate to a stimulus encountered in the present, as past reactions to a similar stimulus are unconsciously brought to mind.
- (C) Our past is imposed on the present, consciously or unconsciously. Our past experiences tend to stay with us and the learnt responses, which come out of those experiences are likely to come out naturally, when we find ourselves in a situation that simulates the one we went through in the past.
- (D) We all tend to mix the past with the present. The present is a continuation of the past and hence we tend to live with the past also, to an extent. One has to avoid bringing back memories of the past, as it then affects present functioning.

### Practice Exercise – 2

**Directions for questions 1 to 10:** The sentences given in each of the following questions, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. Rearrange the sentences in a proper sequence in order to form a logically coherent paragraph and indicate the sequence in the box provided below each question.

1. (A) What they were basically interested in was the usefulness of the product, which was the compelling factor for buying it.
- (B) Women from lower socio-economic strata had mixed feelings about the product being produced with American collaboration.
- (C) On the other hand, it meant that it would be very expensive.
- (D) On the one hand, this was an assurance for them that it would be of good quality and free from adulteration.

2. (A) That dalits, particularly of the district, have lost faith in the impartiality of the police and the district administration is clear from a writ petition now before the High Court.
- (B) The atrocities perpetrated on the people of the all-Dalit village by a 600 strong police force gave a new dimension to the caste related clashes.
- (C) Yet another black chapter was written into the history of Tamil Nadu police at Kodyiam Kalam, a remote village.
- (D) It seeks legal proceedings against those responsible for the attack on Dalits including the district collector.

3. (A) This has resulted in improving the average standard of living in these economies.
- (B) It is now widely accepted that uninhibited economic growth has a potentially disastrous effect on the environment.
- (C) Taking account of the environment, via new technologies and their application, will increasingly become a factor promoting growth.
- (D) More emphasis these days is placed on the quality of life than on growth for growth's sake.
- (E) Technological progress has allowed most advanced industrial economies to grow by 2 or 3 per cent a year.

4. (A) While the U.S. space programme has declined slowly, the Russian effort, though still technologically strong, has suffered mightily from the Soviet Union's collapse.
- (B) No one is happier about the prospect of joint missions and especially about co-operation on the space station than the Russians.
- (C) Beyond that, the Russian programme has lost some of its guaranteed funding.
- (D) The space facilities of the erstwhile Soviet Union are now located in different countries – launch pads in Kazakhstan, flight controllers in Russia and manufacturing units in Ukraine – each with its own political agenda.

5. (A) The message was heard at the stock market where a jump of 64 points on one day was the largest one day rise since September.
- (B) The government's hope is that lower interest rates will stir both businesses and ordinary citizens to spend the country out of its two year old recession.
- (C) With nearly 3 million of their compatriots unemployed, Britons have felt little incentive, of late, to go out and spend money.
- (D) To entice them, the Treasury has cut the nation's base interest rate to 6%, the lowest in 15 years.

6. (A) A day was twenty-four hours long but seemed longer.
- (B) People moved slowly then.
- (C) There was no hurry, for there was nowhere to go, nothing to buy and no money to buy it with, nothing to see outside the boundaries of Maycomb county.
- (D) But it was a time of vague optimism for some of the people.
- (E) They ambled across the square, shuffled in and out of the stores around everything.

7. (A) When he was nearly thirteen, my brother got his arm badly broken at the elbow.
- (B) He couldn't have cared less, so long as he could pass and punt.
- (C) When it healed and his fears of never being able to play football were assuaged, he was seldom self-conscious about his injury.

- (D) When he stood or walked, the back of his hand was at right angles to his body, his thumb parallel to his thigh.  
(E) His left arm was somewhat shorter than his right.

8. (A) A majority of tourists visiting India, rate facilities from roads to accommodation as average or poor.  
(B) This is less than the share of tiny Singapore.  
(C) Eco-tourism industry in India is facing various challenges due to lack of strategic business plans.  
(D) Its track record in tourism is abysmal.  
(E) We get less than 0.38% of the share of the tourists of the world.

9. (A) Realising the importance of wetlands in India, the Ministry of Environment and Forests published a directory of wetlands in 1990 based on a survey carried out during 1972.  
(B) The total area of wetlands (including rivers) in India is 58,286,00 ha. or 18.4% of the country's total area.  
(C) India has a rich variety of wetland habitats.  
(D) Many inland wetlands have not been included in the compilation.  
(E) However, the survey is not comprehensive.

10. (A) The Prime Minister who is the head of the cabinet, regards other members as his colleagues.  
(B) An analysis of the cabinet and presidential type of chief executive reveals many points of difference.  
(C) To begin with, in countries where parliamentary system of government prevails, the real chief executive is the cabinet, which is a plural body.  
(D) The US president has several secretaries in charge of independent departments; but they are not colleagues and can be removed by him.  
(E) Unlike this, the chief executive in the presidential system of government is a single individual, the President.

**Directions for questions 11 to 13:** The sentences given in each of the following questions, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. From among the four choices given below each question, choose the most logical order of sentences that constructs a coherent paragraph.

11. (a) Cloning signifies the technology of making an identical copy physically as well as genetically.  
(b) The ability to clone DNA to produce large amounts of identical fragments is an important technique in genetic engineering.  
(c) Clones are exact replicas of plants or animals, replicated asexually.  
(d) They represent a population of genetically identical organisms or cells derived from an original single organism or cell by asexual reproduction or mitosis.  
(e) This term is also applied to population of viruses or DNA molecules copied from original parent viruses or DNA molecules.  
(A) cabde (B) abced (C) acdeb (D) adceb

12. (a) I once asked him what he thought was his most important creation, thinking he would answer the iPad or the Macintosh.  
(b) I think the real lessons from Steve Jobs have to be drawn from looking at what he actually accomplished.  
(c) Instead he said it was Apple the company.  
(d) Business schools will be studying how he did it a century from now.  
(e) Making an enduring company, he said, was both far harder and more important than making a great product.  
(A) baced (B) acbed (C) bdace (D) dabce

13. (a) Man believed that if only there as more and more wealth, everything else would fall into place.  
(b) This is the philosophy of materialism, and it is this philosophy or metaphysic which is now being challenged by events like natural disasters, terrorism, genocide, pollution, breakdown etc.  
(c) Money was thus considered to be all powerful, and if it could not actually buy non-material values, such as justice, harmony, beauty or even health, it could circumvent the need for them or compensate for their loss.  
(d) Modern man has built a system of production that ravages nature and a type of society that mutilates man.  
(e) The development of production and acquisition of wealth have thus become the highest goals of the modern world in which all other goals have come to take a secondary place.  
(A) cabed (B) daceb (C) decab (D) abcde

**Directions for questions 14 to 18:** In the following question, statements 1 and 6 are respectively the first and the last sentences of a paragraph. Statements a, b, c and d come in between them. Rearrange a, b, c and d in such a manner that they make a coherent paragraph together with the statements 1 and 6. Select the correct order from the given choices and mark the letter corresponding with it as your answer.

14. 1. It was a late spring night on the Rhine a hundred years ago.  
a. Fishermen on their boats were looking for salmon upstream.  
b. In the still of the night an owl glided down across the river.  
c. People began to complain about the taste of petroleum in fish.  
d. The river was polluted with domestic and industrial waste water.  
6. Fish mortality had begun.  
(A) dcab (B) bcda (C) badc (D) dabc
15. 1. Upgradation is the watchword in Singapore.  
a. Following a steady deterioration in the performance of students from the Singapore Indian community, the leaders of the community decided to do something about it.  
b. An action committee was set up to go into all the aspects of the problem - not only to assess the magnitude of the problem, but also to evolve an action plan.  
c. Individual houses or apartments, residential colonies, roads and infrastructure, or even the performance of a community - this is the case in any sector.

- d. The findings were startling to say the least.  
6. The report of the committee noted that the performance of Indian students is lagging behind the national average.  
(A) abcd (B) bacd (C) dcba (D) cabd
16. 1. The Sariska tiger territory in Rajasthan, spread over the dry deciduous forests and grassy pasture lands of the arid undulating Aravallis, is under siege.  
a. Most of the mines around Sariska yield dolomite, marble and limestone and are leased out in plots of one hectare each.  
b. Renewed threats from mining have once again come to haunt the tiger haven, causing concern for its wildlife.  
c. Mines are the chief source of revenue for the Rajasthan Government.  
d. A plot of this size may provide an annual rent of ₹1-5 lakhs for the government depending upon the quantity of the mineral extracted.  
6. The renewed concern is largely a result of the official downscaling of the area of Sariska Tiger Reserve (STR).  
(A) acbd (B) bdac (C) bcad (D) bcda
17. 1. Over the years, a lot of hype has always been created at the time of budget presentation.  
a. While the economic reforms to be introduced in the following year are an integral part of the budget, development projections also find a place in it.  
b. A few announcements are implemented while the others are forgotten, only to be followed by some new announcements in the next budget.  
c. Followed by a pre-budget economic survey, every year the country looks forward to the budget speech of the Finance Minister.  
d. No budgetary exercise is complete without some sops for weaker sections of society as well as some concessions in income tax for the middle class.  
6. If performance of the economy is to be evaluated during a particular year, performance with the budget announcements for that year should be compared.  
(A) dbca (B) cabd (C) adcb (D) cadb
18. 1. The Indian Women hockey players have always been the poor cousins of the men's team.  
a. They did finally play, just a few weeks before the Manchester games, but lost out narrowly.  
b. Then, earlier this year, the women had to wait for months on end to play the US in a play off for a berth in the World Cup at Perth later this year.  
c. But Manchester was different.  
d. Backed by a federation ravaged by internal politics, there seemed no hope in sight – their game was suffering and nobody seemed to care for the players.  
6. And their game against England in the final was their best ever.  
(A) bdca (B) bdac (C) dbac (D) dbca
- Directions for questions 19 to 25:** Each of the following questions presents 4 statements of which 3, when placed in appropriate order would form a contextually complete paragraph. Pick the statement that is not part of that context.
19. (A) This is a common theme for me, and I wonder how often other people deal with this sort of thing.  
(B) Indian time is dubiously famous all over the world.  
(C) Others' lack of planning does not constitute an emergency for me.  
(D) I'm at the point where I'm tired of constantly accommodating this, and I refuse to hurry for any deadlines other than my own now.
20. (A) When Sailen Manna died, 2000 people followed his body to the Keoratala burning ghat in Kolkata, on the banks of the Hooghly river that flows out of the Ganges and this acknowledged that they had lost rather more than a decent player.  
(B) Football is abound in myths.  
(C) What it does not produce is saints; with one exception.  
(D) The game of football, regularly produces playboys, celebrities, racists, billionaires, fashion models and spoilt brats.
21. (A) With growth fragile and petrol prices soaring, the economy is Barack Obama's gaping weakspot, and Republican primary voters have backed the candidate best equipped to exploit it.  
(B) To understand why Mitt Romney has triumphed over his rivals for the Republican presidential nomination, look no further than the disappointing job numbers.  
(C) But blame the candidate too as in the past year Mr. Romney's views have metamorphosed worryingly as he has tried to protect his flank against a succession of conservative challenges.  
(D) Yet, it's very far from clear what they are getting.
22. (A) But "men" presupposes the existence of living organisms of inferior grades.  
(B) Therefore a world for habitation must first of all be one upon which it is possible for living organisms, as such, to exist.  
(C) Living organisms can be categorised into many types on the basis of size, shape, intelligence, etc.  
(D) A world for habitation, then, is a world wherein living organisms can exist that are comparable in intelligence with men.
23. (A) They are much more wild than the wildest romances of chivalry and much more dull than the dullest religious tract.  
(B) There has appeared in our time a particular class of books and articles which I sincerely and solemnly think may be called the silliest ever known among men.  
(C) Moreover, the romances of chivalry were at least about chivalry; the religious tracts are about religion, but these things are about nothing; they are about what is called Success.  
(D) Success is counted sweetest by those who never succeed!
24. (A) In 1988, India intervened militarily to thwart a coup attempt in neighbouring Maldives.  
(B) In the late 1980s India broke the ice with China, following Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's historic visit to Beijing in 1988.  
(C) Since then relations have improved, and China has emerged as India's largest trading partner.  
(D) Both sides decided to start talking about the border issue.



25. (A) Researchers in the field suggest using both quantitative, return-on-investment measures along with qualitative accounts of the benefits of coaching in order to more fully evaluate its effectiveness.
- (B) In their roles as leaders, executives often provide coaching to protégés and employees.
- (C) Many executives are especially appreciative to receive coaching at this latter part of their professional lives.
- (D) Yet, as they move up in organizations, they are often not given mentoring themselves, despite the fact that they have increasingly more challenging jobs.

**Directions for questions 26 to 35:** Each of the following questions presents 5 statements of which 4, when placed in appropriate order would form a contextually complete paragraph. Pick the statement that is not part of that context and indicate the letter corresponding with it in the box provided below each question.

26. (A) Aditya is the nation's third big extra terrestrial outing after moon and mars, all conceived and designed by ADCOS, the multi-faculty body of the Indian Space Research Organization.
- (B) That is if the Advisory Committee on Space Sciences, which is the brain behind the country's extra planetary missions has its way.
- (C) ISRO has started activities to send a 400-kg spacecraft to look at the sun from a special stable orbital slot called L1 around 2019 – 20.
- (D) Aditya–L1, the Indian sun mission due after three years, may turn out to be a unique formation of not one but two spacecraft looking at the sun from two stable orbital points.
- (E) Internal discussions have apparently been launched.

27. (A) The February 3 avalanche on the Siachen glacier that buried 10 Indian Army Soldiers is a stark reminder to both India and Pakistan about the cost of military development in such inhospitable territory.
- (B) Ever since the two militaries began a costly engagement on the glacier, there have been numerous efforts by both countries to find a way to demilitarize the glacier.
- (C) This was not an isolated incident but part of a growing trend in that region, as global warming dramatically affects the glacier.
- (D) Avalanches are a threat not just to the Indian Soldiers, but also to the Pakistan troops.
- (E) Not long ago, four soldiers of 3 Ladakh Scouts were killed when an avalanche hit a patrol party in the Ladakh region, very close to the site of the present tragedy.

28. (A) The quest for clean cities has only grown more complicated, steady urbanization is putting pressure on a poorly prepared municipal administration system, and the more affluent consumers produce ever higher volumes of trash.

- (B) A century ago, Mahatma Gandhi lamented that the Indian city was mostly a stinking den, and Indians as a people were not used to city life.
- (C) The neglect of social housing, sanitation and water supply has ensured that there is nothing like a truly clean, green and sustainable city.
- (D) The squalid urban landscape of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, with mountains of garbage merely relocated to maintain “clean cities”, would seem to prove that not much has changed since then.
- (E) Achieving sustainable clean cities will ultimately depend on the attention devoted to human development and environmental governance.

29. (A) The war has nearly destroyed the country, triggering an unprecedented humanitarian crisis.
- (B) If the U.S and Russia are committed to the Munich agreement, they should put serious pressure on their allies and bring them to the table.
- (C) For years, the world looked away when Syria was transformed into a geopolitical battlefield where several countries were involved, either directly or indirectly through their proxies, to maximize their interests.
- (D) A report released recently by the Syrian centre for Policy Research paints a picture graver than what even the UN had estimated.
- (E) The agreement reached in Munich by major world powers, including the United Nations and Russia, to work towards a cessation of hostilities in Syria within a week is the most constructive step yet to find a political solution to the country's civil war.

30. (A) Observational windows in radio waves, infrared and ultraviolet rays, x-rays and gamma rays opened up, and many terrestrial and space-based instruments have enabled scientists to gain new insights into the working of the universe.
- (B) For hundreds of years since Galileo's times, the sky was being observed with optical telescopes that looked at celestial objects either by visible light that they emitted or by the light that was scattered off them.
- (C) A mega gravitational astronomy project in India would enhance scientific research and provide valuable opportunity to the country's researchers.
- (D) Neutrino astronomy, which looks at neutrinos from solar and extra solar sources, is another window to the universe that has opened up in the last few decades.
- (E) With advances in technology, the universe began to be observed using different wavelengths of the electromagnetic spectrum.

31. (A) Men who put themselves forward at work are “assertive”, women who do the same are more often “pushy” or “bossey”, men are persistent whereas women are “nagging”, men are “frustrated”, women “upset”.

- (B) That this should show up in the language is the surprise.
- (C) Some words are trickier than mere double-standards: those using them may think they are paying a kind of compliment, whereas what is heard is something between condescension and insult.
- (D) Women and men face double-standards.
- (E) A man has a lot to say, a woman is chatty; a man discusses the doings of his colleagues and rivals, a woman "gossips".

32. (A) It is well known that livers and alcohol do not get on well together.
- (B) The serious and irreversible harm of cirrhosis seems to have another cause, hitherto unknown.
- (C) But precisely how alcohol destroys the liver of someone who drinks too much has been a mystery.
- (D) Fortunately for those who like a pint or a dram, the liver is a regenerative marvel.
- (E) Though alcohol wreaks some damage directly, experiments suggest that this is by no means the whole explanation.

33. (A) Nor is the state's bad air restricted to its South; Fresno, in the central valley, comes top of the list in America for year-round particulate pollutants.
- (B) Things were not as bad as once they were, but, according to the American Lung Association a health group, Los Angeles is still the worst city in the United States for levels of ozone, nitrogen oxides, hydrocarbons and carbon monoxide.
- (C) Since the 1940s southern California has had a reputation for smog.
- (D) All of which, combined with California's reputation as the home of technological innovation, makes the place ideal for developing and testing systems designed to monitor pollution in detail.

- (E) Gazing down on the city from the Getty centre, an art museum in the Santa Monica Mountains, haze can blot out the view of the Pacific Ocean.

34. (A) Sri Lanka seems to be sitting pretty.
- (B) Yet the main source of Sri Lanka's fragility is its own fiscal mistakes, not external turbulence.
- (C) Seven years after a protracted civil war ended, its economy is still reaping a peace dividend.
- (D) Its growth has averaged 6% a year over the past decade.
- (E) It is also a beneficiary of the collapse in commodity prices, which has trimmed its hefty bill for imports of fuel.

35. (A) A few of us are more like the orchid: fragile and fickle, but capable of blooming spectacularly given greenhouse care.
- (B) So holds a provocative theory of genetics, which asserts that the very genes that give us the most trouble as a species, causing behaviours that are self-destructive and antisocial, also underlie humankind's phenomenal adaptability and evolutionary success.
- (C) Most of us have genes that make us as hardy dandelions able to take root and survive almost anywhere.
- (D) But research has shown that toddlers with especially high rates of these behaviours are likely to become stressed, confused children who fail academically and socially in school and become antisocial and unusually aggressive adults.
- (E) With a bad environment and poor parenting, children can end up depressed drug-addicted, or in jail – but with the right environment and good parenting, they can grow up to be society's most creative, successful and happy people.

### ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR PRACTICE

**Directions for questions 1 and 2:** The sentences given in each of the following questions, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. From among the four choices given below each question, choose the most logical order of sentences that constructs a coherent paragraph.

1. (a) On the last day, he would stand in front of a whiteboard and ask, "What are the 10 things we should be doing next?"
- (b) People would fight to get their suggestions on the list.
- (c) After he righted the company, Steve Jobs the founder of Apple began taking his "top 100" people on a retreat each year.
- (d) Jobs would write them down, cross off the ones he decreed dumb and after much jockeying, the group would come up with a list of 10.

- (e) Then Jobs would slash the bottom seven and announce, "We can only do three."
- (A) acbde (B) abcde (C) dbaec (D) cabde

2. (a) The other is to move away from the obsolete notion that rural India needs power only for irrigation leading to power supplies at night.
- (b) Now that huge additions to power generation capacity are coming on stream, two different kinds of distribution reforms are needed.
- (c) This kills not only potential diversification of rural economic activity but also better price-realization by the farmer.
- (d) One is the well-recognized need to stamp out power theft, meter all power consumption and fund subsidies explicitly from the exchequer.
- (e) The practice aborts manufacturing enterprises, particularly value addition to farm produce.
- (A) dbaec (B) bdace (C) abcde (D) ceadb

**Directions for question 3:** The sentences given in the following question, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is labelled with a letter. Rearrange the sentences in a proper sequence in order to form a logically coherent paragraph and indicate the sequence in the box provided below the question.

3. (A) The sober zigzag to avoid falling into the city's axle-breaking potholes.
- (B) As winter retreats, holes in roads and budgets are being revealed – especially in midwestern states, which were hit hard by the polar vortex.
- (C) Those states with money have made emergency appropriations for repairs; those without will have to delay resurfacing of highways.
- (D) This year the craters, caused by continual freezing and thawing, are worse than ever, and the spring thaw has brought three times the usual number of complaints from citizens.
- (E) Only the drunk, they say, drive in a straight line in Chicago.

**Directions for question 4:** The following question presents 4 statements of which 3, when placed in appropriate order would form a contextually complete paragraph. Pick the statement that is not part of that context.

4. (A) The effects of the receding glaciers are also felt in Bangladesh where the rivers flood more often on the one hand and on the other there is increasing drought.

- (B) Deforestation is rampant.
- (C) People are forced to flee to Dhaka and earn a living on the streets after the swollen rivers washed away their homes.
- (D) The coastal afforestation programme of planting mangroves is an attempt to stem the erosion.

**Directions for question 5:** The following question presents 5 statements of which 4, when placed in appropriate order would form a contextually complete paragraph. Pick the statement that is not part of that context and indicate the letter corresponding with it in the box provided below the question.

5. (A) Across Africa, airlines wanting to fly new routes from one country to another need the agreement of both governments first.
- (B) In Tanzania, where on some flights almost half the passengers are taking to the skies for the first time, many of the faces in the cabin betray a sense of wonder tinged with fear.
- (C) Few places still capture the romance of the early days of flight quite as Africa does.
- (D) In Nigeria everyone applauds when the plane touches down.
- (E) Although air travel in the continent is safer and more common than Ever before, it still has some charming anachronisms.

### Practice Exercise – 3

**Directions for questions 1 to 15:** Each of the following questions has a paragraph from which a sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the para in the most appropriate way.

1. Industrial societies are obsessed with the idea of economic growth at all costs. For them economic growth is a sign of progress. And they have come to believe that globalization is the most efficient way of achieving economic growth. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (A) Industrial farming methods and mass transportation are inevitably destructive to the environment.  
 (B) But globalization is a major cause of global warming.  
 (C) As a result, mass production and mass transportation of food around the world have become normal practices.  
 (D) Globalization in fact, has a negative effect on the world.
2. The most striking thing about modern industry is that it requires so much and accomplishes so little. Modern industry seems to be inefficient to a degree that surpasses one's ordinary powers of imagination. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (A) Its inefficiency therefore remains largely unnoticed.  
 (B) Hence we have little faith in it.  
 (C) A major part of the world's resources is used up by the modern system.  
 (D) It is a misconception to think that industrially advanced nations are most progressive.

3. Modern communication techniques give people the freedom to converse and correspond on real time basis. Familiarity and ease with these means of communication enable people to develop relationships that do not demand face-to-face contact. The popularity of citizens band radio, the notion of pen pals, to take just two examples, testify that intimacy does not always demand either proximity or close personal knowledge. \_\_\_\_\_  
 (A) Modern communities form themselves irrespective of geographies.  
 (B) Far from disappearing in the modern age, community is being stretched over a wider area and is finding new forms of expression.  
 (C) Thanks to technology, the world has now become a global village.  
 (D) The internet is another tool which facilitates instant communication.
4. There has always been a subtle connection made between the management's perception of an employee working for long hours and his output. Though as old as the industrial revolution, employers still widely hold the view. \_\_\_\_\_ Employees find it difficult to maintain a work-life balance as they find no time for activities outside work.  
 (A) Working long hours as a way of showing one's commitment is unavoidable.  
 (B) It forces employees to put in long hours as a consequence of which they may not work with the required concentration and effort all through.

- (C) Though the hours put in are important, the emphasis is greater on the quality of work.
- (D) A few progressive companies are emphasizing on the quality of work rather than the number of hours put in.
5. With increasing focus on well-being and longevity as opposed to the "enjoy now, pay later" syndrome, health has become a priority for most urban Indians. Health food stores are now fairly common, gyms are packed, hotels and restaurants provide low calorie meals and almost all public parks these days have jogging tracks. In most grocery stores, foods fortified with vitamins, foliate, minerals and herbal extracts are as plentiful as the cheeses and cold cuts. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) The key to healthy living is awareness and access to services and products that encourage that process.
- (B) New research suggests that spirituality and deep rooted faith are the secrets of wellness.
- (C) All signs point to a society that is growing healthier by the day.
- (D) Till comparatively recently, good health in Indian society was equated with looking prosperous.
6. If writing literature is a transfer or transcription of internal experience and imaginative states into the external world, then even when authors and readers speak the same language, writers are obliged to translate, to engage in the immense, utopian effort to transform the images and ideas flowing through their most intimate spaces into material, legible terms to which readers have access. And if this is so, the doubts and paradoxical questions that pursue translators must also arise for authors: Can the written work ever be a perfect fit with that imaginative, creative original when two different languages, two realms of experience, can only approximate each other : \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) Should they re-examine their texts to see whether they are truly meaningful to readers?
- (B) Can there ever be a perfect work of literature?
- (C) Are their texts, then, an inevitable betrayal of the imagination and the creative impulse?
- (D) Should it be their concern whether readers relate to what they read, or not?
7. Darwin's book *On the Origin of Species*, published in 1859, argued that life has evolved by wholly natural processes, without any supernatural intervention. Every organism, he pointed out, varies in some degree or trait from all other organisms, and that variability is basic to evolution. In a world of limited resources, variation must compete against variation, and those individuals that survive and leave offspring provide the next generation of organisms that, in turn, may leave heirs of their own. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) The less successful – those less fitted to their environment – are relegated to the status of parasites, forever dependent on a stronger species.
- (B) The less successful – those less fitted to their environment – eventually vanish into the earth, unless conditions suddenly change in their favor.
- (C) The less successful – those less fitted to their environment – eventually find their way to more conducive circumstances where they continue in virtual isolation.
- (D) Humans, among the weakest of Earth's species, have proved themselves the exception to this principle of 'only the strong survive'.
8. The word 'glamour' originally meant a literal magic spell, which made the viewer see something that wasn't there. In its modern, metaphorical form, glamour usually begins with a stylized image – visual or mental – of a person, an object, an event, or a setting. The image is not entirely false, but it is misleading. Its allure depends on obscuring or ignoring some details while heightening others. We see the dance but not the rehearsals, the stiletto heels but not the blisters, the skyline but not the dirty streets, the sports car but not the petrol pump. To sustain the illusion, glamour requires an element of mystery \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) It is a potent tool of persuasion, a form of nonverbal rhetoric that heightens and focuses desire
- (B) It lifts us out of everyday experience and makes our desires seem attainable, something that can make life bearable for the most disadvantaged.
- (C) It may provide momentary pleasure or life-altering inspiration, depending on what you see it in.
- (D) It is not transparent or opaque but translucent, inviting just enough familiarity to engage the imagination and trigger the viewer's own fantasies.
9. While corruption is irrational everywhere, in Russia it has reached the sort of levels where its very existence is now fatal for the state. This makes it an ideal accompaniment to the realm of the absurd, its operating system. You don't have to understand how it works, but it has a very convenient function which any idiot can grasp. Press the button and you get a result. Survival in such a state depends on not looking for sense. Interest in, and acquaintance with, the news bulletins on the Russian internet soon turns into a psychedelic bad trip. You experience a veritable avalanche of negative emotions: horror, shock, and outrage. Situations and institutions that should inspire public confidence actually evoke fear. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) The most sinister oxymoron of all is the term 'law enforcement agencies' – many consider it another phrase for 'organised crime'.
- (B) When citizens can be hauled away in the middle of the night on the flimsiest of grounds, they surely have reasons for fear.
- (C) One shudders to imagine the sort of adulthood the current generation of Russian children are destined for.
- (D) The Russian version of the Mafia is not just a law unto itself, it also delivers its own style of 'justice' with impunity.
10. For the French, the 20th century dawned not on the first day of 1900 (or, for purists, 1901) but on a September evening in 1894, when a cleaner at the German embassy in Paris found a torn-up letter in the military attaché's wastebasket. The cleaner was working for French intelligence, and the letter, once reassembled, was found to contain military secrets being offered by an unnamed French Army officer. After a cursory investigation, authorities arrested Alfred Dreyfus, a Jewish artillery captain working at General Staff headquarters. Thus began the Dreyfus Affair, in which an innocent man was unjustly convicted, amid rising xenophobia and anti-Semitism,

and sent off to rot on a deserted island in South America. \_\_\_\_\_

- (A) And rot, he did – when Dreyfus was finally brought back to France after a decade, his physical and mental state had been rendered so fragile as to cause him extreme pain and suffering for the rest of his life.
  - (B) Though Europe had never really been free of anti-Semitism, no one could have foreseen that this would develop into a Holocaust that would imperil the social fabric of Europe in the coming years.
  - (C) A vigorous public campaign against the injustice of the affair raged for more than a decade before the captain's final vindication, which divided France into warring camps of Dreyfusards and anti-Dreyfusards, republicans and traditionalists.
  - (D) Like so many other wrongly convicted people in history, Dreyfus could do nothing but serve 10 long years of his sentence before it was remitted, by President Loubet, on grounds of compassion.
11. If natural disasters induce panic, so do pandemics. In recent years, we have seen a series of pandemics: AIDS, avian influenza, SARS and H1N(1). And now, we are in the midst of an epidemic, Ebola, which — according to experts — can acquire pandemic proportions. Natural disasters and pandemics have existed in the pre-modern era as well but what is remarkable is that, in the modern era, the attitudes towards hazards — both natural and man-made — have drastically changed. Panic is the order of the day, especially in sanitised spaces of the developed West. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) Many of the risks in the modern era are manufactured by the very progression in human development, especially by the progression of science and technology.
  - (B) We live in a risk society that generates a lot of risks precisely because it is obsessed with the aspiration to control the future.
  - (C) Panic itself is a pandemic.
  - (D) Science and technology generates new uncertainties as it banishes old ones.
12. Blood pressure medication, used by 70 percent of people over 70, can cause dizziness when blood pressure drops too much, and is another oft-cited culprit in falls. A study in JAMA Internal Medicine last April found that among older people with hypertension, the risk of serious fall injuries — fractured bones, brain injuries or dislocated joints — was significantly higher for those who took hypertension drugs than those who did not. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) Given such findings, it is advisable that elderly patients discuss their drugs with their primary care physician, with an eye toward reducing dosages or eliminating medications that might not be necessary.
  - (B) Patients taking diuretics for disorders such as high blood pressure and heart failure should take the medication during the day rather than in the evening.
  - (C) So reducing the number of tripping and slipping hazards at home helps prevent falls.
  - (D) But people shouldn't cut down on their activity, which may make their balance worse.
13. While the nation's competitive edge is weakened when about half the workforce is not highly motivated, what is truly unhappy is the personal deprivation when an individual sees his or her job in overly self-centered and materialistic terms. A job takes up so much of one's waking hours that it's a crying shame when it is viewed as just a way to make a living and nothing more — as it is to three-quarters of workers. By implication, there appears to be a deficiency in the zest for tackling challenges, learning, excelling, and developing a web of relationships. A subterranean loss is the possible extension of that disengagement to other aspects of one's life. Clock watchers tend to be downbeat about social spheres, too, whereas engaged workers are more optimistic in general and ready to work for desired outcomes. Of course, employers can play a part in kindling enthusiasm by shaping job roles that are interesting, purposeful and offer growth opportunities. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) 54 per cent reported they were unhappy at work, far removed from the minority holding the perfect job
  - (B) Often, all it takes to be happy is the spirit of carpe diem.
  - (C) But while looking at what a job has to offer, it is also critical for individuals to bring something to the job
  - (D) It is telling that even first-time job seekers tend to harp on work-life balance when exciting opportunities beckon in a globalised market.
14. Transparency and reproducibility are the beating heart of the scientific enterprise. Transparency ensures that all aspects of scientific methods and results are available for critique, compliment, or reuse. This not only meets a social imperative, but also allows others to test new questions with existing data, makes it easier to identify and correct errors, and helps unmask academic fraud. Transparent practices such as sharing data and computer code, in turn, safeguard reproducibility. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) So, for a scientific observation to count as a discovery it must reveal something real and repeatable about the natural world.
  - (B) Yet the incentives that drive individual scientists are out of step with what is best for science as a social enterprise.
  - (C) Yet transparency policies have been rare, and there isn't yet good data to know how best to promote transparency.
  - (D) Yet its importance remains undervalued.
15. For quite some time now, the governor of the Reserve Bank of India has been voicing his concerns over the 'competitive monetary policy easing' by central banks across the globe. According to him, the current non-system in international monetary policy is a 'substantial source of risk' to sustainable growth as well as the financial sector. Unconventional policies have the potential to trigger huge risks when they are terminated. He reckons that such policies will push the world economy towards 'musical crises'. In an inter-connected world, actions in one place trigger consequences elsewhere. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) Indeed now Indian policy-planners find themselves in a predicament.
  - (B) So India will have to look at ways to protect the Indian economy from external vicissitudes.

- (C) In such a situation, domestic policy-planners have to factor in this 'outside influence' in their strategies.
- (D) Clearly unconventional policies have the potential to trigger huge risks.

**Directions for questions 16 to 30:** Each of the following questions has a paragraph form which a sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way and indicate the letter corresponding with it in the box provided below each question.

- 16.** Change is most dangerous when it is brought forth not because it is necessary but because someone simply has the power to initiate it and wishes to exercise this power. This seems to be the reason for the Human Resource Development Ministry's proposal for an Indian Institutes of Management Bill, 2015. It is important to note that world-class institutions are not built based on the decisions of politicians, but by those within the institution — those who spend a lifetime in their respective fields and make important decisions concerning the functioning of the institution. This is especially because political parties and agendas come and go. \_\_\_\_\_

- (A) So this move will take away that decision-making power from the hands of the very people who created these great institutions through decades of hard work.
- (B) Therefore, their temporary presence should never be allowed to influence academic decisions and excellence.
- (C) Sadly, the IIM Bill, in its present form, intends to take away decision-making power from the hands of the very people who created these great institutions through decades of hard work.
- (D) We know these institutes have functioned without interference from the government in the past and can continue to do so in the future.

- 17.** Some geneticists believe that if an average Greek from 1,000 BC were transported to modern times, he or she would be one of the brightest among us. They say that our intellectual prowess has probably been sliding south since the invention of farming and the rise of high-density living that it allowed. In the past, when our ancestors faced the harsh realities of a hunter-gatherer lifestyle, the punishment for stupidity was more often than not death. And so, enormous evolutionary pressure bore down on early humans, selecting out the dimwits, and raising the intellect of the survivors' descendants. But this is not the case today. A hunter-gatherer who did not correctly conceive a solution to providing food or shelter probably died, along with his or her progeny, whereas a modern Wall Street executive who made a similar conceptual mistake would receive a substantial bonus and be a more attractive mate. \_\_\_\_\_

- (A) Clearly, human intelligence is on a downward path.
- (B) Clearly extreme selection is a thing of the past.
- (C) Surprisingly, we are intellectually fragile.
- (D) This evolutionary pressure is necessary to maintain human intelligence.

- 18.** The epoch of Charles II (1665-1700) was one of the saddest and emptiest in the history of Spain. All of its spiritual reserves had been devoured by the flames of a dynamic life and art full of antitheses and extremes. The decadence of Spanish culture on the peninsula coincided with its noonday in America. \_\_\_\_\_

- (A) Artists carried the aesthetic tendencies of the period to their ultimate consequences.
- (B) The greatest intellects were interested in astronomy, physics and antiquities.
- (C) Baroque art reached the pinnacle of achievement during this period.
- (D) The critique of reason would come later to America.

- 19.** The macro stress tests conducted on 148 scheduled commercial banks by the Reserve Bank of India establish what is already known — that banks are under severe stress from bad loans. What is noteworthy is the central bank's warning, in the half-yearly Financial Stability Report (FSR), that things are likely to get worse before becoming better. The gross non-performing assets (GNPA) ratio, which was 4.6 per cent in March 2015 is projected to deteriorate to 4.8 per cent by September before improving to 4.7 per cent in March next year. And this is in the least stress scenario. If the macroeconomic conditions turn unfavourable, the GNPA ratio could rise to as high as 5.9 per cent by March 2016. Though the central bank has tempered its warning with the observation that risks to the banking sector have moderated marginally since September last year, the message is clear \_\_\_\_\_

- (A) A multi-pronged action is needed to redeem the situation.
- (B) NPAs need to be tackled before they turn a threat to the banking system.
- (C) The Centre needs to play its part by rolling out the much-delayed reforms.
- (D) The magnitude of the NPA problem is to be understood by all concerned.

- 20.** It has taken years of coaxing, cajoling and haranguing to get India's pension monies to trickle into its stock markets. Recently the elephantine Employees Provident Fund Organisation has promised to put ₹5,000 crore out of its annual mop-up of ₹1 lakh crore into domestic equities. Recent tax breaks are also making the National Pension Scheme, which invests up to half its corpus in equities, a hit with retail savers. \_\_\_\_\_

- (A) Equity investments are essential to deliver the much-needed kicker to the under-funded retirement kitties of Indian investors.
- (B) There have been hardly any ten-year periods in India when equities have not delivered a double-digit return.
- (C) This will aid the growth of the Indian economy.
- (D) All this suggests that a lot of retirement money belonging to Indian savers is soon likely to find its way into index funds.

21. Addressing a joint session of Parliament on Monday, President Pranab Mukherjee spelt out his government's agenda for change, for better days ahead. Its effect on the market was, of course, as expected; BSE Sensex breached the 25,000 mark. Did anyone wonder at the irony of a Congressman occupying Rashtrapati Bhavan speaking for a government that had so decidedly trounced his party into insignificance? And yet, his words carried the day, the very words that he would have uttered as finance minister. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) For it is not the message that is different but the author of that message; the President was merely the vessel in which it was carried.  
(B) The irony must have struck Mukherjee nonetheless.  
(C) What makes the old message new is the perceived self-confidence of a Prime Minister keen to lift the economy up by its bootstraps.  
(D) It is possible that President Pranab Mukherjee will succeed where the UPA failed.
22. A certain intensity of stress is must for productivity but when it goes on for months it affects your health. It may seem that there's nothing you can do about stress. There is always stress to change or challenge. But you learn to manage by practising healthy ways. In fact, the simple realisation that you're in control of your life is the foundation of stress management. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) Managing stress is recognising it in your life.  
(B) Once you understand where your stress is coming from, you can come up with ways to deal with your stressors.  
(C) Managing stress is avoiding stressful situations.  
(D) Managing stress is all about taking charge of your thoughts, emotions, schedule, and the way you deal your situations.
23. Empathy is an important aspect to look for when hiring employees. Someone who has empathy will have an awareness of the feelings of others and consider those feelings in their words and actions. This does not mean that they will tiptoe around or be unwilling to make tough decisions for fear of hurting someone's feelings. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) It simply means that they assess their co-workers.  
(B) It simply means that they agree with their co-workers.  
(C) It simply means that they are aware of, and take into consideration the impact on others.  
(D) It simply means that they bring people together to work.
24. The Queen, as a constitutional monarch, is supposed to be above politics, but when it comes to the most profound issues facing the UK she isn't quite. When Downing Street had a panic attack over the Scottish referendum, she was encouraged to speak out on the issue, and – after much semantic to-ing and fro-ing between No 10 and Buckingham Palace – urged voters in Scotland to “think very carefully” before casting their vote. The code worked. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) The speech went far beyond her usual Christmas Day platitudes.  
(B) She convinced the voters that no man is an island, or even a collection of islands.  
(C) The UK was saved.  
(D) She did not cross a line.
25. Our comfort with nature is an illusion. Here on earth, even with our earthquakes and storms, we have no conception of the range and the power of nature. In many other parts of the cosmos, conditions are far more extreme than on earth and quite inhospitable to life. On the planet Mercury, for example, the temperature reaches 800 degrees. On Neptune, it is minus 370. On Uranus, the winds exceed 350 miles per hour. With the recent work of the Kepler spacecraft, searching for planets favourable for life, we can estimate that only about one millionth of one billionth of 1 percent of the material of the visible universe exists in living form. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) From a cosmic perspective, we and all life are the exception to the rule.  
(B) From a cosmic perspective, the power of nature is insensible.  
(C) From a cosmic perspective, the power of nature is unimaginable.  
(D) From a cosmic perspective, we are the lucky ones.
26. People do not just buy something because it provides the most efficient solution to a problem. They buy it because it provides aesthetic satisfaction – a beautiful book, for example, or a perfectly made shirt – or because it makes them feel good about themselves. This suggests a paradox: the more that disruptive innovations like the internet boost the overall productivity of the economy; the more room there will be for old-fashioned industries that focus on quality rather than quantity and heritage rather than novelty. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) Sometimes the best way forward is backwards.  
(B) This demands a careful balance between tradition and change.  
(C) New technologies do not simply displace old ones.  
(D) However, revival businesses also need to be willing to change.
27. “The weather is like the government,” wrote Jerome K. Jerome, “always in the wrong.” That may be true for those trying to organise a picnic or a cricket match, but when it comes to predicting the performance of stock markets, weather can be a good guide. Economists have long known that sunshine is good for stock markets, perhaps because nice weather makes people more optimistic. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) Very cold weather is also associated with higher returns.  
(B) Warm weather sends prices higher.  
(C) There are fortunes to be made from the daily forecast.  
(D) New research suggests that cold weather has an upside, too.



28. Some 66 million years ago the earth was hit by a space rock reckoned to have been 10 km across. The resulting chaos did for the dinosaurs and many other species, opening the way for the age of mammals – and ultimately humans. It also left a big hole in what is now southern Mexico. That hole is one of only three known of similar dimensions (the other two are Vredefort in South Africa and Sudbury in Canada). And this is odd. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) If things have not changed over the aeons, about 14 big asteroids should hit the earth every billion years.
- (B) It is likely that some craters have survived and been overlooked.
- (C) Many other craters have vanished, either by erosion or by being swallowed into the earth's interior as its crust moves around.
- (D) For, during the billions of years that Earth has had a solid crust, many more than three big asteroids might have been expected to have hit it.
29. Until now relations between Vietnam and China seemed only to be improving. Business deals were being done and trade was humming. The Communist neighbors were discussing the possibility that they might jointly prospect for oil in the South China Sea, where they have long disagreed over conflicting territorial claims. But the calculus changed abruptly when China National Offshore Oil Corporation towed a \$ 1 billion oil rig into waters just 120 nautical miles

off central Vietnam's coast. China announced that the hulking structure would stay put until the middle of August. \_\_\_\_\_

- (A) To make that perfectly clear, it sent a flotilla of ships, which Vietnam says included armed vessels.
- (B) This is all taking place not far from the Paracel islands, which China seized from the American-backed South Vietnamese regime in 1974.
- (C) Yet domestic anger may be hotter than the Vietnamese government is hoping for.
- (D) Vietnam is indignant.

30. Oxford Dictionaries' word of the year is VAPE. It means to suck on an electronic cigarette. If you vape, you are a "vaper"; and the act of doing so – perhaps in a "vaporium" – is "vaping". Associated vape-vocab noticed by Oxford includes "e-cigarette", "e-juice", and the pleasing retrospective formation "tobacco cigarette", so people will know what you mean when referring to what used to be just a "cigarette". \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) Technically, this is called a retronym.
- (B) So we now have the twin pleasures of using technologically enhanced drug-delivery systems while rolling a novel word around on our tongues.
- (C) This is a well-chosen word that reflects the cultural conversation over the past twelve months.
- (D) A word of the year amounts to a narrative about changing middle-class preoccupations.

### ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR PRACTICE

**Directions for questions 1 to 3:** Each of the following questions has a paragraph from which a sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the para in the most appropriate way.

1. Warming of the climate system is unequivocal, and, since the 1950s, many of the observed changes are unprecedented over decades to millennia. The atmosphere and ocean have warmed, the amounts of snow and ice have diminished, and sea level has risen. In recent decades, changes in the climate have caused impacts on natural and human systems on all continents and across the oceans. Impacts are due to observed climate change, irrespective of its cause, indicating the sensitivity of natural and human systems to the changing climate. It is extremely likely that almost all of the observed increase in global average surface temperature from 1951 to 2010 was caused by the anthropogenic increase in greenhouse gas concentrations and other anthropogenic causes together. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) In other words, continued emissions of greenhouse gases will cause further warming and changes in all components of the climate system.
- (B) In other words, there is evidence that *all* the warming that has occurred since 1950 is due to human actions.
- (C) In other words, limiting climate change will require substantial and sustained reductions of greenhouse gas emissions.
- (D) In other words, climate change is real.

2. Recent neuroscience research shows that people with attention deficit hyperactivity (A.D.H.D) are actually hard-wired for novelty-seeking — a trait that had, until relatively recently, a distinct evolutionary advantage. Compared with the rest of us, they have sluggish and underfed brain reward circuits; so much of everyday life feels routine and understimulating. To compensate, they are drawn to new and exciting experiences and get famously impatient and restless with the regimented structure that characterizes our modern world. \_\_\_\_\_
- (A) In short, the problem with people with A.D.H.D. looks like a lack of focus.
- (B) In short, what is stimulating to one person may be dull — or even unbearably exciting — to another.
- (C) In short, people with A.D.H.D. may not have a disease, so much as a set of behavioural traits that don't match the expectations of our contemporary culture.
- (D) In short, all their experiences need to be novel and unpredictable.
3. The three biggest forces on the planet — the market, Mother Nature and Moore's Law — are all surging at the same time. The market, i.e., globalization, is tying economies more tightly together than ever before, making our workers, investors and markets much more interdependent and exposed to global trends, without walls to protect them. Moore's Law, the theory that the speed and power of microchips will double every two years, is, as Andrew McAfee and Erik Brynjolfsson posit in their book, "The Second Machine Age," so



relentlessly increasing the power of software, computers and robots that they're now replacing many more traditional white- and blue-collar jobs, while spinning off new ones — all of which require more skills. And the rapid growth of carbon in our atmosphere and environmental degradation and deforestation because of population growth on earth are destabilizing Mother Nature's ecosystems faster.

- (A) That's why strong states are being stressed, weak ones are blowing up and Americans are feeling anxious that no one has a quick fix to ease their anxiety.
- (B) So we need immigration policies that attract talent, sustainable environments, manageable debt and governing institutions adapted to the new speed.
- (C) So the biggest challenge we're facing today is the resilience of our workers, environment and institutions.
- (D) In sum, we're in the middle of three "climate changes" at once: one digital, one ecological, one geo-economical.

**Directions for questions 4 and 5:** Each of the following questions has a paragraph form which a sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way and indicate the letter corresponding with it in the box provided below each question.

4. Nearly half of all Americans live in areas with unhealthy levels of air pollution, according to an American Lung Association (ALA) report released Wednesday. Nearly 148 million people live in areas where smog and soot particles make it unhealthy to breathe the air, according to the ALA's annual study

on US air quality. The report, which is based on data collected between 2010 and 2012, found smog or ozone, had worsened in 22 of the 25 biggest US metropolitan areas, including Los Angeles, Houston, Washington-Baltimore, New York City and Chicago — and said there was a high risk of more high-ozone days because of climate change. The warmer summers in 2010 and 2012 contributed to higher ozone readings and more frequent ozone days.

- (A) It's going to be much harder to keep ozone pollution down to the levels that we should be breathing.
- (B) Sunlight and heat create conditions that increase the risk of high ozone levels.
- (C) In hotter temperatures it is difficult to clean up air pollution.
- (D) Smog or ozone is expected to increase in the years to come.

5. Art and food have an ancient and mysterious relationship. Artists have been depicting what they eat since the Ice Age — the bison and mammoths in cave paintings were food for Palaeolithic hunters. Yet there's more going on here than meets the eye — literally. When we look at images of food, more than one sense is involved. \_\_\_\_\_

- (A) There's confusion in our brains between looking and tasting.
- (B) That's why we like food to be beautifully presented.
- (C) Seeing and tasting get mashed up.
- (D) The taste buds kick in, the tummy reacts.

### Practice Exercise – 4

**Directions for questions 1 to 10:** Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage and indicate the letter corresponding with it in the box provided below the question.

1. There have been delays galore for all senior appointments over the past year, whether for regulatory bodies and apex institutions. In this respect, there is no difference between this government and the previous one. The modus operandi is the same — the new appointment is made at the 11th hour, just when the incumbent has to demit office. If the incumbent gets an extension, it will be at the last minute. If they are not that lucky to get an extension, they seldom get the chance to hand over charge to the successor in an orderly way. The successor doesn't get the benefit of being an understudy for a few weeks in order to understand the challenges and difficulties that await him or her.
- (A) Delaying important government appointments in the country is a costly mistake.
  - (B) Successive governments sport a lackadaisical approach to senior appointments in regulatory bodies and apex institutions in the country.
  - (C) Delays in appointments in regulatory bodies and top institutions in the country can create a vacuum at top levels.
  - (D) No government is committed to the efficiency of regulatory bodies and apex institutions.

2. The Kudremukh National Park in the Western Ghats is a part of the world's 38 'hottest hotspots' of biological diversity, a UNESCO world heritage site. It is more than 630 sq km area of montane grasslands and tropical rainforests form the largest protected block within the Western Ghats. The park is home to unique, threatened and endangered biodiversity including lion-tailed macaques, tigers, Malabar civets and great pied hornbills. The rivers Tunga, Bhadra and Netravati, which originate from the heart of the park, sustain millions of rural people in south India. The park provides invaluable ecosystem services, such as water security, nutrient recycling, climate regulation and carbon sequestration — all of which are issues of global concern.

- (A) The Kudremukh National Park's contribution to addressing issues of global concerns cannot be underestimated.
- (B) The Kudremukh National Park has the distinction of finding a place in the world's 38 'hottest hotspots' of biological diversity, a distinction conferred on it by the UNESCO.
- (C) The Kudremukh National Park is South India's heart and soul of rain forests.
- (D) The Kudremukh National Park is unique in its services to biodiversity and ecosystems.

3. Here are some glimpses of the structural unfairness in America. A dumb rich kid in America is now more likely to graduate from college than a smart poor kid, according to Robert Putnam of Harvard University. Next, the 20 wealthiest Americans, a group that would fit comfortably inside a luxury private jet bound for a private Caribbean island, are worth more than the poorer half of the American population, according to a recent report from the Institute for Policy Studies. Forbes's wealthiest 100 are worth as much as all 42 million African-Americans, the report says.
- The ordinary people in America are exploited.
  - In the American society, money exerts tremendous influence.
  - Of late, there has been a remarkable rise in inequality in America.
  - The American economy favours the rich.
- ☐
4. There are people in almost every workplace who feel the need to be constantly acknowledged and excessively flattered. And for good measure they often have a marked lack of feelings for everyone else. Although there is no overall agreement on the causes of this disorder, as a child they may have experienced excessive love and flattery or the unpredictable experience of being smothered with attention one moment and utterly ignored the next by distracted and poorly regulated parents. The psychological armour that develops as adults is built to shore up a fragile sense of self by insisting on the flattering attention of everyone else.
- It is not advisable to show excessive love towards children as they may become psychic cases in their adulthood.
  - Narcissistic personality, which is ubiquitous today, is in all probability, caused by childhood experience of excessive attention followed by neglect, by unregulated parents.
  - Even among the ordinary people, psychological disorders are prevalent.
  - Narcissists struggle in their personal relationships.
- ☐
5. Modern humans spend a lot more time sitting down than any previous generation. Manual labour jobs have largely been replaced by office jobs; cars and other means of transport allow us to travel while sitting down. This has its downsides. Obscene sums are spent on ergonomically designed office chairs to ensure people don't get damaged or injured due to excessive sitting. Sitting too long on an aeroplane can even be fatal, due to deep vein thrombosis. It seems odd, but staying very still is bad for us.
- Though unhealthy, sedentary life is the hallmark of the present generation.
  - Moving is very important today, though it is risky at times.
  - Human body is ideally suited to regular ambulation.
  - Movement, though fatal at times, is integral to human survival.
- ☐
6. Once photography was considered the profession of photographers. With cameras becoming affordable and mobile phones coming equipped with two cameras, one for taking selfies, everybody has become a photographer. While most such photographers are easily excited by their potential to become great photographers, they do not realise the dangers of photography. The problem is not confined to India, as reports come even from developed countries of selfie-takers getting involved in accidents.
- Taking selfies is quite dangerous today.
  - People are so fascinated by photography today that accidents involving photographers are on the rise.
  - With the advent of mobile phones fitted with cameras, and people's craze for selfies, accidents involving photographers are rampant.
  - There are many dangers lurking in photography.
- ☐
7. Previous research suggested that random cell mutations played a significant role in the development of tumours, a finding dubbed the "bad luck hypothesis". However, a recent study suggests that cancer incidence is far too high to be explained away by simple mutations in cell division. It says that nearly 75 per cent of the risk of colorectal cancer is now believed to be due to diet. Likewise, 86 per cent of the risk of skin cancer is down to sun exposure while 75 per cent of the chance of developing head and neck cancers is due to tobacco and alcohol.
- Even if someone is exposed to important external risk factors, it isn't certain that they will develop a cancer - chance is always involved.
  - Although some rare cancers can be driven by genetic mutations, the most prevalent diseases are down to extrinsic factors.
  - Cancers can be prevented by avoiding risk factors.
  - Random cell mutations are not responsible for cancer.
- ☐
8. India is one of the few countries where the sale of mobile phones has been galloping ahead with states such as Delhi and Kerala having more mobile phones than population. In other words, many now have more than one phone. However, there has not been a corresponding increase in the awareness about telephone use. From shouting into the phone in public places to texting, making and receiving calls while driving to using phones and thereby wasting office hours are menaces that need to be tackled. There is need for a massive awareness campaign to prevent misuse of phones.
- Indians do not know how to use mobile phones without causing inconvenience to the public.
  - India is the only country in the world where people are grossly ignorant about judicious use of mobile phones.
  - With the phenomenal increase in the sale of mobile phones in India, people are to be educated about its use in public.
  - People in India will continue to misuse mobile phones in the absence of a massive awareness campaign about their use.
- ☐

9. Zika is the kind of thing biologists have been ranting about for 20 years. We should have anticipated it. Whenever the planet has faced a major climate change event, man-made or not, species have moved around and their pathogens have come into contact with species with no resistance. It is still not clear what role rising temperatures and altered rainfall patterns have had on the spread of Zika, which is mainly spread by mosquitos; the increased global movement of people is probably as great an influence as climate change for the spread of infectious diseases.

- (A) Though biologists have been talking about Zika for 20 years, no initiative has been taken by scientists to avoid the spread of Zika.  
(B) Climate change together with increased human movement across the globe caused the spread of Zika.  
(C) Scientists have no idea what triggered the spread of Zika.  
(D) Global warming has had tremendous influence on the spread of pathogens.

10. Perhaps the Syrian implosion may have been avoided. There was a time when there was no foreign meddling and a Syrian political solution could have been found. Hell broke loose after the government decided to steamroll popular political demands; all of them the democratic world would not hesitate to consider legitimate. This was about the time when India too was experiencing street protests. How absurd it would have been if the government had sent in military aircraft, tanks and missiles, and called in foreign advisers to bomb Bengaluru and Chennai in reaction to crowds supporting Anna Hazare.

- (A) The Syrian government's use of force to suppress legitimate public demands led to the Syrian collapse.  
(B) If the Syrian government had acceded to the popular political demands, Syria today would have been a peaceful country like India.  
(C) The Syrian crisis started with popular demands and ended in bloodshed.  
(D) A political solution to the Syrian crisis can be achieved only if foreign powers stop meddling in the affairs of Syria.

**Directions for questions 11 to 20:** Each question below has a sentence. From the choices provided, identify the one which best restates the given sentence and mark its corresponding letter as the answer.

11. Around 270m people have left China's countryside to work in urban areas, many of them entrusting their children to the care of a lone parent, grandparents, relatives or other guardians.
- (A) People in China have left homes to work in urban areas and have entrusted their children's care to a lone parent, grandparents, relatives or guardians.  
(B) About 270m people in China have left homes to join the urban areas in search of work, leaving their children in the care of lone parents, grandparents or guardians.  
(C) About 270m people in China have left the countryside homes and moved to urban areas in search of work, assigning their children under the care

of a lone parent, grandparents, relatives or other guardians.

- (D) Leaving their children under the care of a lone parent, grandparents, relatives or other guardians, about 270m Chinese people have moved from the countryside to urban areas in search of work.
12. To see George W. Bush on stage in Charleston, telling corny jokes and wisecracking about his supposed lack of intelligence, was to recall the presidential stand up act that disappeared so suddenly, almost as if his eight years in the White House had never happened.
- (A) George W. Bush's corny jokes and wisecracking of his supposed lack of intelligence, was a remembrance of the eight years which went unnoticed while he was at the White House.  
(B) Seeing George W. Bush crack jokes and be witty about his lack of intelligence, was a reminiscence of the presidential stand up act that disappeared so suddenly, as if he were never at the White House for all his eight years of presidency.  
(C) George W. Bush's corny jokes and wisecracking of his supposed lack of intelligence, was an insight into his absence for all those eight years for which he was supposedly the President.  
(D) A stark reminder about George W. Bush's inefficiency as a President for the eight years at the White House came from his stand up act on stage.
13. Top bankers recently met at a luxury hotel in Bengaluru to discuss how to innovate startups, from sourcing ideas to influencing direction of new product development. The theme of the event revolved around how to combine the spirit of traditional business powerhouses with startups.
- (A) With the idea to combine the spirit of traditional business powerhouses with startups, a meeting was held in Bengaluru.  
(B) With the intention of innovating startups, a meeting was held in Bengaluru in which ideas on combining the spirit of traditional business powerhouses with startups were discussed. The meeting also found new ways to influence product development.  
(C) Innovative ways to develop products with the help of traditional companies and startups was discussed in Bengaluru.  
(D) With the intention of innovating startups, a meeting was held in Bengaluru in which ideas on influencing direction of new product development were discussed and the meeting also revolved around combining the spirit of traditional business powerhouses with startups.
14. By imposing President's rule in Arunachal Pradesh even before a mandatory floor test could establish conclusively that the Congress Government of Nabam Tuki had lost its majority, the Central government acted prematurely.
- (A) The Central Government acted prematurely when it imposed President's rule in Arunachal Pradesh before doing a mandatory floor test to conclude that the Congress Government of Nabam Tuki had lost its majority.  
(B) The Central Government was inconclusive in establishing whether or not the Arunachal Pradesh's Congress party Nabam Tuki had lost its majority and imposed a President's rule without verification of the same.

- (C) The Central Government acted prematurely when it imposed President's rule in Arunachal Pradesh before conducting a mandatory floor test to establish that the Congress Government of Nabam Tuki had lost.
- (D) The Central Government was hasty in establishing the President's rule in Arunachal Pradesh as it did not verify whether or not Nabam Tuki had lost its majority.
15. Sri Lanka is eager to share the opportunities created by major government plans such as Make in India and Digital India as it would give Sri Lanka an opportunity to provide a lot of man power for the required research and development work, and many other job types.
- (A) Major government projects like Make in India and Digital India are a golden opportunity for Sri Lanka which can invest its manpower for the required research and development work, along with providing manpower for various other jobs.
- (B) Major government projects like Make in India and Digital India are a very good opportunity for Sri Lanka to invest its manpower for the required jobs, which may vary.
- (C) With manpower required for various jobs and projects that may come under the purview of projects like Make in India and Digital India, Sri Lanka has a golden opportunity to earn money.
- (D) Sri Lanka can provide all the manpower required for research and any other job type, which is a major part of Make in India and Digital India.
16. BlackBerry's pivot to software began to show traction on Friday, after the company reported a smaller quarterly loss and its first quarter-to-quarter revenue increase in over two years, sending its stocks soaring by 13 percent.
- (A) BlackBerry's switch to software began to bear fruit when the company reported smaller quarterly loss and its stocks went soaring by 13 percent.
- (B) BlackBerry's stock soared by 13 percent when it reported a smaller quarterly loss and its first quarter-to-quarter revenue increased in over two years.
- (C) BlackBerry's switch to software showed good results, after the company reported its first quarter-to-quarter revenue increase in over two years and a smaller quarterly loss, which raised its stocks by 13 percent.
- (D) BlackBerry's move to software showed results when the company reported a smaller quarterly loss and its first quarter-to-quarter revenue which was due to higher stocks.
17. Arguing that privacy was not a fundamental right, the Finance Minister told the Lok Sabha that the legislature's primary objective was delivery of benefits, subsidies and services to the people and reassured the House that any gaps in the law could be improved with the passage of time.
- (A) Reassuring the House that faults in laws can be improved at any time, the Union Finance Minister told the Lok Sabha that privacy was not a fundamental right and the legislature has many primary objectives.
- (B) The Union Finance Minister argued that privacy is not a fundamental right and that faults in laws can always be improved and the legislature's primary objective was delivery of benefits, subsidies and services to the people.
- (C) The Union Finance Minister argued that privacy is not a fundamental right and told the House that faults in laws can always be improved and the legislature's primary objective was delivery of benefits, subsidies and services to the people.
- (D) Reassuring the Lok Sabha that faults in laws can be improved at any time, the Union Finance Minister told the Lok Sabha that privacy was not a fundamental right and the legislature has primary objectives towards people.
18. Many animal species hate the cold, which is why when winter comes around they burrow underground to hibernate or migrate to lower latitudes where conditions are warmer; however some embrace the cold.
- (A) While some animals embrace the cold, most others hibernate or migrate to lower altitudes which are warmer.
- (B) While most animal species do not like the cold and they burrow underground, hibernate or migrate to lower altitudes, some embrace the cold.
- (C) While some animals embrace the cold, most others find ways to keep them from freezing.
- (D) While some animal species do not like the cold and find ways to keep themselves from freezing, most other animals embrace the cold.
19. One of the objectives of the "Make in India" programme is to improve and protect the Indian intellectual property (IP) regime and the steps envisaged to achieve this objective include increased posts in IP offices, e-filing facilities, major fee reduction for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, etc.
- (A) Protecting the Indian intellectual property (IP) regime is one of the objectives of the "Make in India" programme and it could be achieved by increasing posts in IP offices, e-filing facilities, major fee reduction for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, etc.
- (B) The major objective of the "Make in India" programme is to protect and improve the Indian intellectual property (IP) regime and for doing this an increase in posts in IP offices, e-filing facilities, major fee reduction for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, etc., will be done.
- (C) A major increase in the posts in IP offices, e-filing facilities, major fee reduction for Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, etc., will lead to an improvement and protection of the Indian intellectual property (IP) regime.
- (D) The improvement and protection of the Indian intellectual property (IP) regime can only be done by increasing the posts in a few sectors.
20. As across the globe, countries and ethnic groups ask for indigenous artworks housed in the West to be returned, there is a sense of urgency around the topic, with a larger diversity of voices which question cultural patrimony and wish to find ways to "share" a global heritage more widely and fairly.
- (A) Larger groups of people want their indigenous artworks returned to their homelands while considering sharing them widely and fairly.
- (B) While countries and ethnic groups the world over want their indigenous artworks returned by the West, there is an urgent consensus by a large diversity of people who wish to find ways to be able to "share" a global heritage more widely and fairly.

- (C) While countries the world over are wanting their indigenous artworks back from the West, the rest of the people want to "share" these indigenous artwork and more.
- (D) While countries and ethnic groups the world over want their indigenous artworks returned to the West, there is an urgent consensus by a large variety of people who wish to find ways to "share" a global heritage in an expansive manner.

**Directions for questions 21 to 30:** Four alternative summaries are given below each text. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the text and indicate the letter corresponding with it in the box provided below each question.

21. "A smile is central to our evolution and one of the most powerful tools of human behaviour", says Dacher Keltner, a professor of Psychology at the University of California, who has studied the importance of facial expressions, including the variety and impact of smiles. Anyone who has been around a smiling baby knows how a spontaneous grin helps build kinship, strengthen social bonds and release positive brain chemicals that help us feel good. Standing at a grocery checkout with her sparkly Angus, Jane is apt to hear a chorus of 'oohs' and 'aahs' as her baby uses his new-found power of smiling to elicit smiles from others.

- (A) Dacher Keltner, specialist in the study of facial expressions, observes that a smile is one of the most useful tools of human behaviour as a spontaneous smile helps build kinship, strengthens social bonds and makes one feel good.
- (B) Dacher Keltner, a professor of psychology, who has studied the importance of a smile in social relations, says that a spontaneous smile can releases positive brain chemicals.
- (C) According to Prof. Dacher Keltner, a smile is central to our evolution, because anyone around a smiling baby can understand that a spontaneous smile can help build kinship, strengthen social bonds and release positive brain chemicals. Jane also realizes that when she goes to the grocery with her child.
- (D) Prof. Dacher Keltner observes that anyone around a smiling baby knows that a spontaneous smile can help build kinship, strengthen social bonds and release positive brain chemicals.

22. Millionaires, you'd think, would hate to queue up for anything. That notion takes a beating if you're a millionaire trying to buy high-end property in the tiny island nation of Singapore, where there is high demand for such properties. Once the bookings for a new residential building are announced, investors – typically between 35 and 45 years of age, educated, very, very rich and, quite often, foreigners – queue up for long hours to make sure they can book an apartment. Some do it themselves, others appoint agents to queue up for them. That is a true measure of the ongoing property boom in the country. And Indians are among the most dominant players. According to the global property consultants, Knight Frank, Indians made up 11.2 percent of foreign home buyers in Singapore in 2006. In the 1996 property boom, that number was just 1.6 percent. "There is a

growing interest from Indian buyers, just like mainland Chinese buyers, in Singapore properties," says Nicholas Mark, director, Knight Frank.

- (A) People generally believe that millionaires hate to queue up for anything. But in Singapore which offers great opportunities in realty, millionaires are queuing up to buy high-end properties themselves. According to global property consultants Knight Frank, Indian millionaires play the most dominant role.
- (B) As realty is thriving in Singapore, millionaires, including Indians, are queuing up to acquire high-end properties. Indians are dominant, with their share of purchases rising from 1.6 percent in 1996 to 11.2 percent in 2006.
- (C) Contrary to popular notion, millionaires, mostly foreigners, are queuing up to acquire high-end properties in Singapore following high demand for such properties. Among them, Indians play a dominant role.
- (D) Contrary to popular notion, millionaires, most of whom are Indians, are queuing up to buy properties in Singapore when the bookings for new residential building are announced. Knight Frank maintains that the number of Indian millionaires who bought properties rose from 1.6 percent in 1996 to 11.2 percent in 2006.

23. Production and distribution are basic economic activities, but they take different institutional features under changing social conditions. For instance, while production, in principle, is always the interaction of human beings with nature, its actual manifestation depends on a wide range of social conditions. Under the socio-economic system that has come to be known as feudalism, agriculture was the predominant productive activity, clearly demonstrating human action on land, where the social arrangement for the distribution of the produce was more crucial than ownership over land. In the social set-up commonly designated as capitalism, the means of production are a wide range of items including machinery, energy and raw materials, all valued in money terms as 'capital', owned and controlled by a small section in society, who uses this power to employ and control others.

- (A) Basic economic activities like production and distribution change their institutional features following the prevailing social conditions. Under feudalism, where agriculture was the predominant productive activity, distribution played a more important role than ownership over land. But under capitalism, a small section captures all means of production which they use to control others.
- (B) Production and distribution take different institutional features under changing social conditions. Under feudalism, agriculture was the predominant productive activity and distribution was more important than land ownership. However, capitalism aids the minority in capturing all means of production and they use this power to control others.
- (C) Production and distribution, the basic economic activities, change their institutional features following changing social conditions. Under feudalism, agriculture, which exhibited human

interaction with nature, was the main productive activity. But under capitalism a small section of people gained control over means of production.

- (D) Production and distribution take different institutional features under changing social conditions. Under feudalism where agriculture was the main productive activity, distribution was more crucial than land ownership. But under capitalism, the means of production are varied and help a minority to control others.



24. The real India is said to reside in villages, but increasingly real Indians – the village dwellers – seem to want no part of it. They have been voting with their feet, moving in thousands every day to towns and cities. Only 14 percent of all Indians lived in urban areas in 1947; today twice that figure do so.

Of the 'push' and 'pull' factors which lead people to leave the village, the 'pull' factor is much stronger. Jobs, of course are many more than villages can provide. Nearly sixty percent of India's GDP is generated in urban areas. But there is much more on offer: numerous opportunities for personal growth, extensive exposure to new worlds and experiences and a plethora of recreational facilities undreamt of in the hinterland.

- (A) Many people living in villages are migrating to urban areas not only for job opportunities but also for a variety of attractions in the cities. 60% of the GDP is generated in urban areas.  
 (B) Many people from villages are migrating to towns and cities. 28% of all Indians live in urban areas. Many job opportunities and recreational factors are the pulling factors.  
 (C) Real India does not reside in villages any more because the villagers are migrating to cities for the innumerable opportunities and other attractions they offer. Urban India contributes most to the nation's GDP.  
 (D) Real India resides only in cities because the villagers are migrating to cities which not only provide jobs but also many other opportunities which are the pulling factors. Cities contribute most to the nation's GDP.



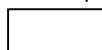
25. During a format change it is important for the publishers to introduce a structured approach to avoid losing the most valuable readers. One way is to get a perspective on their overall customer lifetime value by analyzing dimensions such as acquisition and maintenance costs, the length of subscriptions, the advertising potential, the cost to serve, and the possibility of selling other products. When the newspaper has identified its most important subscribers, it can determine their particular needs through market research surveys and use the findings as the basis for an outreach plan. Leading newspapers have used these customer-lifetime-value programmes during format changes. One such programme helped a European newspaper not only to retain virtually all of its most valuable subscribers but also to cut subscriber churn as a whole compared with the levels prevailing before the format change. The reduced churn resulted from effective, consistent communication with readers about the benefits of the new format.

- (A) During a format change, to reduce subscriber churn, it is important that the publishers introduce a structured approach to identify its most important subscribers and their needs through market research surveys and through regular communication with readers about the benefits of the new format.

- (B) For a format change to be effective it is essential for the publishers of the newspapers to come up with a structured approach, conduct market research surveys to retain its most valuable subscribers like the European newspaper. It is important to assess the customer-lifetime value during format changes.

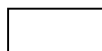
- (C) For a format change to be effective it is important that the publishers of the newspapers identify their core reader group and cater to their needs, and keep them informed about the benefits of the format.

- (D) During a format change it is important that the publishers introduce a systematic approach and identify their most important subscriber group, and determine their needs. For example like the European newspaper did.



26. China is focused on manufacturing. Sixty percent of all liquid crystal display panels sold globally, for example, are manufactured in China. The improvement in the conditions of the people, so far, has been achieved mainly by the development of manufacturing. But there is a serious problem. The manufacturing prowess of China is dependent on exports and largely, on the ability of the U.S. to import Chinese goods. This success will evaporate into thin air if the U.S economy is in trouble.

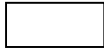
- (A) The success and the development of the manufacturing sector in China, which has resulted in enriching the condition of the Chinese, depends mostly on the health of the U.S. economy.  
 (B) China is focused on manufacturing but its success depends on the ability of the U.S. to import.  
 (C) The focus on manufacturing has improved the condition of the Chinese. But, there is a serious problem regarding this because it depends on the economy of the U.S.  
 (D) China's focus is only on manufacturing and the goods manufactured in China are imported to the U.S. which controls China's economy.



27. Much of modern science requires large teams working with very expensive apparatus. The decoding of the human genome is an example of a 'Mega science' undertaking. Unravelling a gene sequence, with potential commercial value, and the discovery of a virus that is the cause of a dreaded disease will certainly be rewarded by major prizes: 'Scientific Riches' that may be exploited by the unscrupulous. Fraudulent claims of priority have corrupted scientists in the past and will probably be more common in future as the potential rewards increase. With large teams interacting on a project, individual original ideas may emanate from junior team members who may be excluded from the laurels awarded for the fruits of their originality. Yet, the ambience in which their ideas were able to flourish may

have depended on the personal attributes and fund attracting capabilities of their team leader.

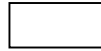
- (A) Major scientific discoveries require working in teams and is followed by major prizes, often leading to false claims of priority. Juniors may be excluded from the rewards despite their brilliant ideas which are responsible for the discovery. Yet their ideas would not have been able to flourish without the team leader's leadership qualities.
- (B) Modern science requires scientists to work in large teams with expensive apparatus. The decoding of the human genome is an example of such a mega science project. A mega science undertaking is often followed by rewards and accolades which lead to false claims of priority and exploitation by the unscrupulous. The junior members of the team are often excluded from the rewards by the team leaders.
- (C) Unravelling a gene sequence is often followed by huge rewards which in turn lead to false claims of priority. The junior members of the team may come up with brilliant ideas but they are not taken into consideration by the team leaders, whose personal attributes and fund-raising capabilities are those which are actually responsible for the success of the scientific discovery.
- (D) Unravelling a gene sequence requires working with expensive scientific apparatus by large teams of scientists. Such major scientific breakthroughs are often responsible for huge rewards and accolades. These 'Scientific Riches' are exploited by the unscrupulous who make false claims of priority. But in reality the scientific discovery would not have been possible without the fund-raising capabilities and personal attributes of the team leader.



28. The traditional teaching of the medical profession requires a doctor to do everything legitimate in his power to try to help his patient. This is the Hippocratic ethos of medicine and the best possible treatment must be given irrespective of whether or not the doctor likes the patient or considers him or her feckless or ill because of self-inflicted disease or injury, or a confirmed and even vicious criminal. In our contemporary market economy, with new and very expensive 'high-tech' medicine and surgery, doctors are repeatedly being reminded by those responsible for managing healthcare that the funds available are limited and the best treatment cannot be available to all.

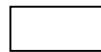
- (A) According to medical ethics, a doctor must extend the best treatment to a patient whether he likes or dislikes him, even if he is a vicious criminal whose illness is because of self-inflicted injury. But due to expensive medicine and surgery best treatment is not available to all.
- (B) According to medical ethos a doctor must give the best treatment to his patient even if he is a notorious criminal or whether his illness is due to self-inflicted injury or disease.
- (C) Medical ethics demand that a doctor extend the best treatment to a patient irrespective of whether he likes the patient or not. But unfortunately best treatment is extended to only those who are wealthy.

- (D) According to medical ethics a doctor should extend the best treatment to a patient whether he likes him or not. But expensive medicine does not permit a doctor to extend the same type of treatment to all due to paucity of funds.



29. Since the state was a vast and complex organisation involving thousands of conscious and unconscious acts of daily cooperation by millions of citizens, they did not usually notice that they in fact sustained it and were morally responsible for its actions. And if they did, they excused themselves on the grounds that each of them was only an insignificant cog in a mighty wheel. Gandhi considered this a dangerous fallacy. A mighty river was made up of individual drops, each of which contributed to its creation; the state was no different. Further, as a moral being, every citizen had a duty to ask how he personally contributed to the maintenance of the state and whether he was happy about it. Citizens were responsible for their actions and their responsibility was in no way diminished by what others did or failed to do.

- (A) Citizens do not understand their responsibility and act irrationally. This was decried by Gandhi who felt that the acts of citizens govern the state and hence they are significant.
- (B) Citizens do not usually regard their actions as significant in the context of the running of the state. Gandhi disagreed and felt instead that the individual acts did contribute to the running of the state, that citizens should be aware of this, and that they should be responsible for their actions.
- (C) People of the state regard their actions as insignificant, considering the vastness and complexity of the state. Gandhi was vehemently opposed to this idea and held that though individual actions are insignificant, the citizens have a duty to understand that they contributed something to the maintenance of the state.
- (D) Citizens are very well aware that even though what they contribute towards the maintenance of the state is not significant, the state cannot be run without their participation. Gandhi says that citizens benefit from the existence of the state and hence should assume responsibility for its proper functioning.



30. Détente cannot be taken forward by waving conditionalities and ultimatums in the face of the other. The productive and progressive approach, is to take all contentious issues on board, tackle the less difficult problems and get them out of the way, engage the ex-antagonist on the more complicated issues and meanwhile let relations develop all round. This must be done in the areas of trade, investment, economic cooperation, cultural relations, sport, but above all, in people to people relations. The closing of the gap on the issue of the gas pipeline seems propitious. The unprecedented grant of Indian visas to eighteen Pakistani journalists, to visit important centres in the state of Jammu and Kashmir, is a fine gesture that should help to improve the atmosphere between India and Pakistan.

- (A) Détente cannot be carried forward by striking antagonistic postures, but by adopting conciliatory measures to solve outstanding issues. Improvements should be made on various fronts and the more tractable issues should be tackled in order to develop confidence. Certain steps taken in the recent past augur well for Indo-Pakistan ties.
- (B) Easing of tensions does not come about by proposing conditions and ultimatums but rather by adopting a give-and-take policy. Though the more complicated issues must be solved immediately, the less complicated issues must also be taken up, to find a lasting solution. That India and Pakistan agree on the gas pipeline issue is a sign of détente.
- (C) Détente does not come by introducing conditionalities, but by solving the issues at hand. The less contentious issues can be solved easily and improvement in other fields such as trade etc contribute to détente significantly. However, this should not be at the cost of people to people relations, which is the cornerstone of lasting peace.
- (D) Détente between warring nations improves by solving contentious issues and improving bilateral ties in the field of trade, etc. Solving the gas pipeline issue and the issue of visas to Pakistani journalists are steps in the right direction.
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### ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR PRACTICE

**Directions for questions 1 and 2:** Four alternative summaries are given below each text. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the text and indicate the letter corresponding with it in the box provided below each question.

1. Banks are today in a much better position financially than they were four years ago. But the turnaround is largely on account of a fortuitous combination of sharply declining interest rates boosting their treasury incomes and operating profits. Consequently banks have been able to make large loan loss provisions and clean up their balance sheets with relative ease. However interest rates are now on the rise. Treasury incomes, which have been in the nature of a windfall are out. Banks will therefore have to depend largely on their traditional business of lending for their income.
- (A) Banks are better off now, thanks to declining interest rates and consequent increase of income. This resulted in off setting their losses but with interest rates going up, banks have to revert to their traditional business of lending for their income.
- (B) Today banks are in a better position because of the low interest rates. Hence they are not making losses any more. But with interest rates going up they have to start lending again.
- (C) Banks are financially better now as they have been able to wipe off the losses with their treasury income and operating profits. However with interest rates looking up they have to enter into lending for earning income.
- (D) Banks are better now than before financially. This is on account of the low interest rates which helped them wipe off losses. Now they have to resort to their traditional business of lending to earn income.

2. When you say 'animated film' the moving pictures that come to mind are evocatively hand-drawn Disney movies aimed at kids. In reality, many forms of animation have crossover adult appeal. Some animation films are made chiefly for adults, others are designed to snag a child still lurking at the core of our grownup hearts. Unconvinced? Well, just go see Toy Story 3 and it will be a memorable reunion complete with giggles and tears-with old friends Buzz and Woody.

Animated films such as the remarkable Toy Story Trilogy or Up want their kiddie audiences but are not one dimensional; they are cleverly constructed to evoke the wonderment of childhood as well as layer in themes/pop culture references that appeal to the adult. Animation of course is not every adult's celluloid brew of choice; it is a style of filmmaking and tastes differ. Just as you could favour Butterscotch over Vanilla, you might prefer real actors to animated characters.

- (A) The word animation conjures up children's films. But many such films appeal to adults also though they draw children to view them because the themes are varied.
- (B) Animated films, we think, are only for children. However, animated films appeal even to adults because the films cleverly include such themes.
- (C) Animated films, it is thought are for children. However, such films can cater to adults and also to the child in adults. The themes of animated films are multi-dimensional but to view or not to view is left to the choice of the adult.
- (D) Many animated films appeal to adults though they are made for children because many adults are still children. Of course to see or not to see animated films is left to the choices adults make.

**Directions for questions 3 and 4:** Choose the option that best captures the essence of the passage and indicate the letter corresponding with it in the box provided below the question.

3. Scientists from the Hyderabad-based Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB) and the Asian Institute of Gastroenterology, Hyderabad, analysed various genes linked to pancreatitis. While one of the mutated genes (SPINK1) was earlier linked to the disease, the second mutated gene PRSS1 (cationic trypsinogen), which plays a key role in digestion of proteins, was for the first time shown to be playing a role in disease pathogenesis in Indians. It was also found that the onset of the disease was earlier in individuals having only SPINK1 gene as compared to those having only PRSS1.
- (A) PRSS1 gene mutation is the major cause of pancreatitis disease in Indians.
- (B) Pancreatitis disease sets in when mutated genes SPINK1 and PRSS1 are present in a person.



- (C) SPINK1 gene mutation is the predominant cause of pancreatitis disease in Indians.
- (D) SPINK1 gene mutation affects digestion of proteins, thereby causing pancreatitis disease in Indians.

4. Even though the economy is on a roll and major businesses are expected to go on a hiring spree, there are definitely hushed murmurs in the corporate corridors regarding a phenomenon that is troubling the Indian business scenario. A majority of business leaders are concerned about the unavailability of a skilled workforce. Most industry experts would agree that the education sector needs major reforms to ensure the creation of a workforce that has expertise and can innovate. While academic debate revolves around the number of years for the ideal engineering curriculum, industry experts insist on the necessity for it to be fast and fit to purpose. To this end, leading players from the industry have started to collaborate with industry associations to offer solutions through initiatives and ventures like skill-based training programmes, finishing school sessions and joint workshops held by experts in the industry and academia.

Which of the following is a summary of the paragraph?

- (A) Without collaborating with the industry, the engineering colleges cannot improve their curriculum.
- (B) Major businesses in India are disillusioned with the available workforce.
- (C) The root of the problem the Indian industry faces today is the unavailability of ideal workforce suited for its needs due to our out-dated engineering curriculum.

- (D) The education sector in India needs revamping.

**Directions for question 5:** The following question below has a sentence. From the choices provided, identify the one which best restates the given sentence and mark its corresponding letter as the answer.

5. Sending out a dual message to Pakistan, the Indian government said that it would continue to engage with Pakistan to ensure it makes progress on the Pathankot investigation, but it also made it clear that the Sharif government would have to show sincerity, as it is from their territory that the maximum attacks come.

- (A) The Indian government is ready to engage with Pakistan to make progress on the Pathankot issue but it is also cautious of the attacks that come from Pakistan.
- (B) The Indian government is back to being engaged with Pakistan to make progress on the Pathankot investigation and is making it clear to the Sharif government that they have to be sincere as the maximum attacks come from Pakistan.
- (C) The Indian government is continuing to engage with Pakistan on the Pathankot investigation, but it is also emphasizing on the Sharif government's sincerity for tackling the issue as it is from their territory that the maximum attacks happen.
- (D) The government is continuing to engage with Pakistan on the Pathankot investigation, but it is also emphasizing on the fact that the Sharif government has to show sincerity as it is from their territory that the maximum attacks come.

### Practice Exercise – 5

**Directions for questions 1 to 10:** The sentences given in each of the following questions, when properly sequenced, form a coherent paragraph. Each sentence is indicated with a number. Choose the most logical order of sentences that constructs a coherent paragraph and mark the correct sequence of numbers in the box provided below each question.

1. (1) It is said that Sun Tzu, to demonstrate the importance of consistency to an emperor, held a military practice session using the emperor's concubines.
- (2) Consistency is the key to successful management.
- (3) When one of the concubines, the emperor's favourite, refused to participate in the "manly exercises", Sun Tzu had her beheaded.
- (4) We're obviously not advocating such an extreme action, but the lesson is clear.
- (5) Needless to say, practice went smoothly after that, as the other concubines realized that the punishments would be severe but consistent, and that favourites meant nothing.

2. (1) Defined as 'irreversible loss of brain functions', brain death is not, unfortunately, considered the end of life.
- (2) As a result, families of those who are brain dead do not allow harvesting of their organs till they are declared dead.

- (3) In fact, most people do not consider a person dead till his heart beat ends.
- (4) By then, many of the organs are no longer in a condition to be transplanted.
- (5) The lack of public awareness about 'brain death' has its consequences for the health sector.

3. (1) These are the world's strivers and pillars of our knowledge industry whose stock and trade is intellect and information.
- (2) Our customers work hard to gain the intellectual skills and money needed to access a degree that we offer.
- (3) A key source of that degree's value stems from professors of world stature.
- (4) These commodities know no border.
- (5) We export education, purchased by customers and designed by intellectuals from all corners of the globe.

4. (1) Some countries wanted to use the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to gain intergovernmental control of the World Wide Web.
- (2) The World Conference on International Telecommunication (WCIT) that concluded on December 14 saw much heated debate.

- (3) Others insisted that the Internet must be left alone.
- (4) Some saw it as an opportunity to democratise the Internet, by replacing U.S. and corporate domination of Internet policy, with a more intergovernmental process.
- (5) The result was that after many days' deliberations, there was no consensus.

5. (1) He was a cheerful English speaking man who talked about himself and his family's woes in the hour it took to cover the 30 km.
- (2) The driver of the taxi that took me from the airport to the hotel in Mexico City was a computer systems analyst.
- (3) He blamed the U.S. and its policies, and corruption in society for the present situation.
- (4) He wanted to know about the global economic crisis so that he could figure out why things were bad in Mexico for people like him.
- (5) He complained about unemployment and his inability to get the right job without connections - a fate his children also face.

6. (1) Every transaction you have with another individual is determined by the boundaries both of you have in a relationship.
- (2) They appear gradually, consciously or unconsciously, invited or uninvited.
- (3) Whichever part of the world we live in, it would be a fallacy to believe that we can get by in our relationships without boundaries.
- (4) Whether between parents and children, siblings, spouses, friends, peers, bosses and subordinates, in short, any situation where two living beings enter into a more-than-casual equation with each other, boundaries creep in.
- (5) For example, if you agree to go out to lunch with a friend but not to the movies, you have defined a boundary.

7. (1) An important part of their brain – the frontal lobe – that governs their capacity to make rational judgements, seems to shut down.
- (2) The ironical thing is that the research study on which this story is based was first published in September 2000, by Andreas Bartels and Semir Zeki.
- (3) A recent story in *The Daily Mail* explained how, when in the presence of or shown a picture of someone they were passionately in love with, most people have a fairly characteristic response.
- (4) Obviously, it was not considered hot enough then to be reported, but with the increasing interest on the part of the general public in the findings of scientific research concerning love, sex and relationships, it's evidently more saleable now.
- (5) Since its publication, the story has been echoed by a large number of news sources all over the world, both online and in print.

8. (1) We've all seen these with our managers at one point or another.
- (2) They wait for instructions and expect leaders to tell them what to do.
- (3) However, once a follower suddenly becomes a leader, then the perspective changes so quickly that few are able to cope effectively.
- (4) As a result, the stereotypical horrible bosses emerge out of magnified personality disorders - the bully, the wimp, the mouthpiece and the psycho.
- (5) Most people are natural followers most of their lives.

9. (1) The mansion restored, it was later leased to the Taj Group, which runs it as another fine resort today.
- (2) By 1982 large tracts of Kumarakom, including the grand old Baker Bungalow were acquired by Kerala tourism.
- (3) Even the resort was carved out and water bodies created adding to Baker's handiwork.
- (4) Four generations of Bakers lived in Kumarakom but after Independence, the last of them, Robert Baker, sold off sections of their property before he left for England.
- (5) The five - star deluxe cottages, pools and spas that now make up Zuri Kumarakom, opened in 2006.

10. (1) Those hands, moreover tend to be simple claws - as befits the simplicity of their job.
- (2) Indeed, it defines the machine's capabilities.
- (3) Robots intended to work with and care for people, however will need more dexterity.
- (4) Industrial robots that do repetitive tasks like welding and cutting are usually single-handed.
- (5) A robot's hand is one of the most important parts of its anatomy.

**Directions for questions 11 to 20:** The following questions have a paragraph from which the last sentence has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

11. Vivek graduated in mathematics in 2005. As he didn't get admission in a Masters programme, he joined a BPO. The following year, he applied to several US universities and got admission, but since he didn't get financial aid, he decided to forgo the admission. Now, six years later, he is still with the BPO. He has been performing well and has got several promotions. "I want to go back to my first love, mathematics," he says. "I am wondering if it would be foolish to leave my current salary and life-style and waste a few more years studying."
- (A) While he can see himself clearly in the BPO industry for a few more years, he is not sure whether maths would lead him to a lucrative career.

- (B) While he can see himself clearly in the BPO industry for a few more years, he does not see any future for mathematics.
- (C) He doesn't see any future for BPO industry.
- (D) He considers studying mathematics a waste of time.
12. In Cincinnati, in the United States, one in ten children suffers from asthma but the potential environmental factors contributing to the disease are not well known. Cincinnati based researchers now report new evidence that exposure to three types of mould during infancy may have a direct link to asthma development during childhood. These forms of mould—*Aspergillus ochraceus*, *Aspergillus unguis* and *Penicillium variable*—are typically found growing in water-damaged homes, putting a spotlight on the importance of mould remediation for public health.
- (A) But mould remediation is not a practical proposition.
- (B) There is still not enough evidence that indoor mould contributed to asthma development.
- (C) This stresses the urgent need for remediation of water damage in homes, particularly in lower income, urban areas where this is a common issue.
- (D) But the link between water and these forms of mould has not been established.
13. Ethnography is the branch of anthropology that involves trying to understand how people live their lives. Unlike traditional market researchers, who ask specific, highly practical questions, the anthropological researcher visits consumers in their homes or offices to listen in a non-directed way. Her goal is to see people's behaviour on their terms, not hers. This observational method may seem inefficient.
- (A) However, it is carried out in a manner that gives it an appearance of efficiency.
- (B) However, it enlightens her about the context in which customers would use a new product and the meaning that product might hold in their lives.
- (C) However, it ensures that the researcher does not intrude too much into the lives of the observed.
- (D) However, it is a method that has been in use ever since market research and analysis developed into a recognised field of study.
14. Like Hercules, and other mythological and historical figures, we all struggle with five recurring challenges as we journey through work and life: We wander without knowing where we're going. Data and circumstances confuse us. Fear blocks us from acting. Change paralyses us. And, despite our best intentions, we talk more than we listen.
- (A) Thankfully, it is not always expected of us to win these struggles.
- (B) Thankfully, success in work and life is not dependent on the outcome of these struggles.
- (C) Thankfully, we have more enduring examples to emulate than Hercules did.
- (D) Thankfully, our competitors are equally burdened.
15. Managers should look for tasks at which an employee excels and responds with specific, timely verbal approval that will energise the individual and help him improve in performance. Through careful use of positive feedback, the manager can shape the employee's behaviour into successively closer approximations to ideal behaviour and induce the individual to connect several good efforts in a rich, complex chain of excellent performance.
- (A) This brings about results that help not only the individual, but the organisation as well.
- (B) Although this tactic is not complicated, it's amazing how rarely it is applied.
- (C) Management gurus have always held the view that the organisation's performance is only as good as the individuals' performance.
- (D) Management is the art of bringing out the best in people.
16. Pakistan's progress in eradicating polio is notable but fragile. This year there have been only 56 polio cases in the country, less than a third of the 175 last year. Yet the virus can spread rapidly and unexpectedly, especially where hygiene and sanitation are poor. This is why vaccination is so important.
- (A) If children are not immunized, the virus will spread among children not immunized.
- (B) If enough children are immunized, polio will no longer be endemic.
- (C) If enough children are immunized, the virus can't find susceptible children to infect and dies out.
- (D) Eradicating polio is an exceedingly difficult task.
17. India's public health policy is pitted against three powerful sectors with enormous political influence: tobacco, alcohol and the packaged food industry. Can the government muster the will to tighten controls on agents of harm and unhealthy products, including high-sodium food that is promoted aggressively? Both tobacco and alcohol are now accessible to adolescents and young adults, with a strong influence on their entire life course.
- (A) We should note that disease burdens attributable to tobacco use and hypertension are increasing in India.
- (B) Tobacco is a well-known disease agent causing a great deal of social distress.
- (C) India has a massive market for tobacco though consumption patterns differ from other countries.
- (D) Policy response must therefore adopt a far-sighted approach and focus on prevention and management.
18. The next general election, in 2015, could be a watershed moment for Westminster and usher in a new era of Asian-style succession politics in Britain. Some half-a-dozen offspring of senior Labour figures have set out their stalls to become MPs.
- (A) It is seen as a measure of the strength of British democracy that it has not allowed political power to be concentrated in a few hands - at least so far.
- (B) They want to create a "brand name" which people will begin to identify with and trust in the same way that they reach out for a branded product.
- (C) If they pull it off, the House of Commons might look more like the Lok Sabha with its generous sprinkling of sons and daughters.
- (D) They believe that voters will reach for 'trusted brand names.'
19. We are accustomed to paying per seat, whenever we fly. But here is an airline which does things differently. Samoa Airlines is the world's first airline to charge passengers by weight. Passengers do not pay for a seat, but pay a fixed price per kilogram of their body

weight, and this fixed price varies by length of the route. Flying by this airline costs \$1 per kg on the shortest domestic route, and up to \$4.2 for travel from Samoa to neighbouring nations. Many consumers, particularly those who are slim or tiny, and who have got uncomfortably wedged between rather heavy passengers on flights, may feel that this is quite a fair method of pricing.

- (A) This may create a natural incentive for people to work out and maintain their weight.
- (B) After all, aircraft can carry only a limited amount of weight, so why not charge passengers by their weight?
- (C) In due course, such pricing may lead to natural segmentation – passengers who are lighter will more likely choose airlines which charge by weight, and passengers who are heavier will perhaps be happier with the conventional price per seat.
- (D) This exploration opens up interesting possibilities: gymnasiums may charge consumers by the amount of weight they lose.

20. Yaksha asked: "What is ignorance?" Yudhishtira replied: "Not knowing one's duty." That was a perfect answer in the days of *Sanatana Dharma* (absolute set of duties), when good was good, bad was bad, and all were agreed on what was duty. *Sanatana Dharma* is no longer practised in our country. So what is good is bad for some.

- (A) And as a result, things that should never happen in a civilised nation—and has never happened in India before—are happening now.
- (B) And our country is in turmoil.
- (C) And we jeopardise our plans to progress economically.
- (D) And what some see as duty is seen by others as abuse of duty.

**Directions for questions 21 to 23:** Each of the following questions presents 4 statements of which 3, when placed in appropriate order would form a contextually complete paragraph. Pick the statement that is not part of that context.

- 21. (A) If you look at mutual funds in India, most of them have gone after large corporate and institutional investors.
  - (B) For years in a row, in a very turbulent market, they have made money.
  - (C) The mutual fund business is one that has enormous potential.
  - (D) It is also a business which gives a high ROE (return on equity) because the capital required is not so much.
22. (A) Linfen in China offers a significant lesson to Indian cities.
- (B) The design of public toilets has changed people's perceptions and about 20 million use them every year.
  - (C) In the last four years, it has turned around dramatically, improved living conditions and recently won the UN-Habitat's international best practice award for the Asia and Pacific region.
  - (D) It convincingly shows that simple, but vital things such as public toilets are as critical as any large infrastructure project to make cities liveable.

- 23. (A) Most of us do not take all the vacations we are entitled to.
- (B) Workers worry that, in their absence, their co-workers will flaunt their energetic expertise, effectively stealing their jobs.
- (C) Often, workers sacrifice more than half their allocated vacation time, during which they are paid not to work.
- (D) As an employer, this is the worst thing you can let your employees do.

**Directions for questions 24 and 25:** Each of the following questions present 5 statements of which 4, when placed in appropriate order would form a contextually complete paragraph. Pick the statement that is not part of that context mark and the number corresponding with it in the box provided each below question.

- 24. (1) More than a billion tweets, Facebook posts and log updates are published every single day.
- (2) Opinion polls reveal that in many countries support for free speech is lukewarm and conditional.
- (3) Anyone with access to the internet can be a publisher, and anyone who can reach Wikipedia enters a digital haven where America's First Amendment reigns.
- (4) In a sense, this is a golden age for free speech.
- (5) Your smart phone can call up newspapers from the other side of the world in seconds.

- 25. (1) A universal basic income might just make sense in a world of technological upheaval.
- (2) Yet work is a less generous, and less certain, provider of these benefits than it once was.
- (3) It provides people with meaning, structure and identity.
- (4) Work is one of society's most important institutions.
- (5) It is the mechanism through which spending power is allocated.

**Directions for questions 26 to 30:** In each of the following questions a paragraph is given which is followed by four options. Select the option which summarizes the paragraph in the most appropriate manner and mark the number corresponding with it in the box provided below each question.

- 26. Lack of sleep can lead to extreme consequences, since sleep is the time of rest and recuperation for the body engine which has been involved in energy-draining activities while awake. Thus inadequate sleep and rest affects metabolism, heart function, cognition and neurological activity. As a sleep researcher from Chicago points out, we are not wired for sleep deprivation. Every time we deprive ourselves, things go wrong. Abnormal activities in the cortex (part of the brain associated with thought and action), hippocampus (with memory and emotions), and the forebrain (which processes cognition, vision, hearing and sensory perception) have been found upon sleep deprivation.
- (1) Inadequate sleep can have disastrous consequences.

- (2) Sleep deprivation can adversely affect bodily and mental functions.
- (3) The body heals itself through sleep.
- (4) The psychological consequences of sleep deprivation outweigh the bodily discomforts it causes.

- 27.** Before anyone takes on a leadership role, they should ask themselves, "Why do I want to lead?" and "What's the purpose of my leadership?" These questions are simple to ask, but finding the real answers may take decades. If the honest answers are power, prestige, and money, leaders are at risk of relying on external gratification for fulfilment. There is nothing wrong with desiring these outward symbols as long as they are combined with a deeper desire to serve something greater than oneself.

- (1) Being self-centred and egoistical would make one a bad leader.
- (2) Quest for power and wealth should not be the motive of leadership.
- (3) Becoming a great leader takes decades.
- (4) Self- reflection on one's strongest motive to become a leader is the right path to leadership development.

- 28.** The budget has offered schemes for new derivatives to be launched by the Security and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), and options for insurance companies to invest in stock markets. The economy today is dominated by finance, which has little to do with the real economy of output and jobs. With uncertain markets generating the need to hedge financial assets by using derivative instruments like futures, options and swaps, the gains and losses arising from them are like transfers across the economy which do not account for changes in the GDP.

- (1) Opening the financial market will not improve the economy.
- (2) Finance and economy are two discrete entities, independent of each other.
- (3) Though investing in derivatives may yield gains, the gains are not consistent.
- (4) The budget has made no effort to improve the GDP.

- 29.** While most people value fair compensation for their accomplishments, a few leaders start out seeking only money, power, and prestige. Along the way, the rewards—bonus cheques, perks, and stock appreciation—fuel increasing desires for more. This creates a deep desire to keep it going, often driven by desires to overcome narcissistic wounds from childhood. Many times, this desire is so strong that leaders breach the ethical standards that previously governed their conduct.

- (1) Rewards like bonus cheques, perks, and stock appreciation are often detrimental to the growth of a leader.
- (2) The desire for wealth and fame is a factor that motivates many leaders to perform well.
- (3) Some leaders fall into the trap of their accomplishments making them highly egoistic and unscrupulous.
- (4) There are two types of leaders – those who work for money and those who work to satisfy their ego.

- 30.** In February, the WTO ruled against the domestic content requirements (DCR) of India's solar mission. The verdict is a response to a complaint filed by the US, which alleged that DCR's mandate of using solar cells and modules made in India was detrimental to imports of such products. A section of Indian industry has welcomed the ruling as Indian solar equipment is no match for US imports. But some environmentalist groups have interpreted the ruling as a blow to India's solar mission. They are right if the ban is seen from a long-term perspective. DCR was not designed for immediate results. It was mandated in a context when India's fledgling equipment industry was finding it tough to compete with a glut of cheap imports.

- (1) The WTO ruling against DCR will not affect India's solar mission since it doesn't depend on DCR.
- (2) The WTO verdict is seen by environmentalist as an attempt to nip in the bud India's dream of attaining self-sufficiency in renewable energy production.
- (3) The WTO ruling against DCR is going to crush India's young solar equipment industry.
- (4) The WTO has never really been an amiable forum for the environment

***Practice Exercise – 1***

- |      |            |       |       |       |       |
|------|------------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. C | 6. D       | 11. D | 16. A | 21. C | 26. C |
| 2. A | 7. B       | 12. D | 17. D | 22. D | 27. C |
| 3. B | 8. 4 times | 13. B | 18. B | 23. B | 28. C |
| 4. A | 9. C       | 14. B | 19. B | 24. C | 29. B |
| 5. B | 10. B      | 15. A | 20. C | 25. C | 30. B |

***Practice Exercise – 2***

- |          |           |       |       |       |
|----------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. BDCA  | 8. CDAEB  | 15. D | 22. A | 29. B |
| 2. CBAD  | 9. CBAED  | 16. C | 23. D | 30. C |
| 3. EABCD | 10. BCAED | 17. D | 24. A | 31. C |
| 4. BADC  | 11. C     | 18. C | 25. A | 32. D |
| 5. CDBA  | 12. A     | 19. B | 26. C | 33. D |
| 6. BEACD | 13. B     | 20. B | 27. B | 34. B |
| 7. ACEDB | 14. C     | 21. C | 28. E | 35. D |

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR PRACTICE**

- |      |      |          |      |
|------|------|----------|------|
| 1. D | 2. A | 3. EADBC | 4. B |
|------|------|----------|------|

***Practice Exercise – 3***

- |      |       |       |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. C | 7. B  | 13. C | 19. B | 25. A |
| 2. A | 8. D  | 14. A | 20. D | 26. A |
| 3. B | 9. A  | 15. C | 21. A | 27. D |
| 4. B | 10. C | 16. B | 22. D | 28. D |
| 5. C | 11. C | 17. B | 23. C | 29. A |
| 6. C | 12. A | 18. C | 24. C | 30. A |

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR PRACTICE**

- |      |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|------|
| 1. B | 2. C | 3. D | 4. B | 5. D |
|------|------|------|------|------|

***Practice Exercise – 4***

- |      |       |       |       |       |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. B | 7. B  | 13. D | 19. A | 25. C |
| 2. D | 8. C  | 14. A | 20. B | 26. A |
| 3. D | 9. B  | 15. A | 21. A | 27. A |
| 4. B | 10. A | 16. C | 22. B | 28. D |
| 5. A | 11. C | 17. C | 23. A | 29. B |
| 6. C | 12. B | 18. B | 24. C | 30. A |

**ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS FOR PRACTICE**

- |      |      |      |      |
|------|------|------|------|
| 1. A | 2. C | 3. C | 4. C |
|------|------|------|------|

***Practice Exercise – 5***

- |          |           |       |       |       |
|----------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|
| 1. 21354 | 7. 31524  | 13. B | 19. B | 25. 1 |
| 2. 51324 | 8. 52341  | 14. C | 20. D | 26. 2 |
| 3. 52314 | 9. 42135  | 15. B | 21. A | 27. 4 |
| 4. 21435 | 10. 52413 | 16. C | 22. B | 28. 1 |
| 5. 21453 | 11. A     | 17. D | 23. B | 29. 3 |
| 6. 34215 | 12. C     | 18. C | 24. 2 | 30. 3 |