

Practice Exercise – 7

Directions for questions 1 to 15: Read each passage carefully and select the best answer for the questions that follow them.

PASSAGE – I

The Hindu theory is that religions do not come from without, but from within. It is my belief that religious thought is in man's very constitution, so much so that it is impossible for him to give up religion until he can give up his mind and body, until he can give up thought and life. As long as a man thinks, the struggle must go on, and so long man must have some form of religion. Thus we see various forms of religion in the world. It is a bewildering study; but it is not, as many of us think, a vain speculation. Amidst this chaos there is harmony, throughout these discordant sounds there is a note of concord; and he who is prepared to listen to it will catch the tone.

The great question of all questions at the present time is this: Taking for granted that the known and the knowable are bounded on both sides by the unknowable and the infinitely unknown, why struggle for that infinite unknown? Why shall we not be content with the known? Why shall we not rest satisfied with eating, drinking, and doing a little good to society? This idea is in the air. From the most learned professor to the prattling baby, we are told that to do good to the world is all of religion, and that it is useless to trouble ourselves about questions of the beyond. So much is this the case that it has become a truism.

But fortunately we must inquire into the beyond. This present, this expressed, is only one part of that unexpressed. The sense universe is, as it were, only one portion, one bit of that infinite spiritual universe projected into the plane of sense consciousness. How can this little bit of projection be explained, be understood, without, knowing that which is beyond? It is said of Socrates that one day while lecturing at Athens, he met a Brahmin who had travelled into Greece, and Socrates told the Brahmin that the greatest study for mankind is man. The Brahmin sharply retorted: "How can you know man until you know God". This God, this eternally Unknowable, or Absolute, or Infinite, or without name you may call Him by what name you like – is the rationale, the only explanation, the *raison d'être* of that which is known and knowable, this present life. Take anything before you, the most material thing – take one of the most material sciences, as chemistry or physics, astronomy or biology – study it, push the study forward and forward, and the gross forms will begin to melt and become finer and finer, until they come to a point where you are bound to make a tremendous leap from these material things into the immaterial. The gross melts into the fine, physics into metaphysics, in every department of knowledge.

Thus man finds himself driven to a study of the beyond. Life will be a desert, human life will be vain, if we cannot know the beyond. It is very well to say: Be contented with the things of the present. The cows and the dogs are, and so are all animals; and that is what makes them animals. So if man rests content with the present and gives up all search into the beyond, mankind will have to go back to the animal plane again. It is religion, the inquiry into the beyond, that makes the difference between man and an animal. Well has it been said that man is the only animal that naturally looks upwards; every other animal naturally looks down. That looking upward and going upward and seeking perfection are what is called salvation; and the sooner a man begins to go higher, the sooner he raises himself towards this idea of truth as salvation; It does not consist in the amount of money in your pocket, or the dress you wear, or the house you live in, but in the wealth of spiritual thought in your brain. That is what makes for human progress, that is the source of all material and intellectual progress, the motive power behind, the enthusiasm that pushes mankind forward.

Religion does not live on bread, does not dwell in a house. Again and again you hear this objection advance: "What good can religion do? Can it take away the poverty of the poor?" Supposing it cannot, would that prove the untruth of religion? Suppose a baby stands up among you when you are trying to demonstrate an astronomical theorem, and says, "Does it bring gingerbread?" "No, it does not", you answer. "Then", says the baby, "it is useless." Babies judge the whole universe from their own standpoint, that of producing gingerbread, and so do the babies of the world. We must not judge by the standard of infinity. Religion permeates the whole of man's life, not only the present, but the past, present and future. It is, therefore, the eternal relation between the eternal soul and the eternal God. Is it logical to measure its value by its action upon five minutes of human life? Certainly not. These are all negative arguments.

Now comes the question: Can religion really accomplish anything? It can. It brings eternal life to man. It has made man what he is, and will make of this human animal a god. That is what religion can do. Take religion from human society and what will remain? Nothing but a forest of brutes. Sense happiness is not the goal of humanity. Wisdom (Jnana) is the goal of all life. We find that man enjoys his intellect more than an animal enjoys its senses; and we see that man enjoys his spiritual nature even more than his rational nature. So the highest wisdom must be this spiritual knowledge. With this knowledge will come bliss. All these things of this world are but the shadows, the manifestations in the third or fourth degree of the real Knowledge and Bliss.

1. The 'babies of the world' are those who
 - (A) have constricted or myopic view of things.
 - (B) tend to view things from their own perspective.
 - (C) have a unique perspective for each situation.
 - (D) are the novices looking at things beyond their comprehension.
2. The Brahmin opposed Socrates because he believed that
 - (A) man can understand the part of a whole only when he understands the whole.
 - (B) man is the manifestation of God's creativity.
 - (C) the tangible is nothing but the expression of the intangible.
 - (D) the material merges into the abstract in all sciences.

3. Which of the following statements apply to the concept of religion, as per the passage?
- (a) Religion is the means of enquiring into the beyond.
 (b) We can use religion as a means to attain salvation.
 (c) Religion says that one should do good to others.
 (d) It is the relation between the eternal soul and eternal God.
- (A) a, b and c (B) b, c and d
 (C) a, b and d (D) a, c and d
4. "The sense universe is, as it were, only one portion, one bit, of that infinite spiritual universe projected into the plane of sense consciousness" – Through this statement the author says that
- (A) the sense universe and the spiritual universe are one and the same.
 (B) the sense universe can never reveal the secrets of the spiritual universe.
 (C) the sense universe and the spiritual universe are mutually exclusive.
 (D) we need to apply the spiritual universe to the sense universe in order to understand the spiritual universe better.
5. What can 'the struggle' mean?
- (A) To know the infinite unknown
 (B) To achieve salvation
 (C) To reconcile the abstract with the absolute
 (D) To give up religion

PASSAGE – II

A case can be made that both systems, justice and status, began to evolve in early primates from different aspects of their lives. Both began within families. But in the primates before man's evolution, the status system developed independently of the justice system. It has worked itself into the instincts and hormonal economy of the primate brain to such an extent that the level of serotonin in an animal's brain is almost an indicator of the animal's social status. In man's evolution, the justice system has been playing catch-up and is fusing once again with the more deeply ingrained status system, just as the antecedents of the two systems were fused in early primate families. In particular, justice is applied no longer only to agreements between people to reciprocate favours, as in contracts; it has acquired the quite different role of rule-setter and *umpire* for the games of status seeking. Here again we see the justice system is an inhibitor of action, while the status system is the motivator for action.

The status system has also evolved so that the mere will to dominance takes on the more labile and subtle form of a will to be the best in a variety of culturally determined forms of excellence. We have evolved to have the capacity for sublimation and maturation. We owe to the status system, and not to the justice system, our cultural feats and our cultural dynamism.

Conspicuously absent from this picture of the evolution of the justice system is any reference to the evolution of altruistic emotions and dispositions toward strangers. Too many moralists wish evolutionary biology would reveal a trend to ever more inclusive altruistic, ego-effacing feelings. But there's no such trend. Generosity toward needy strangers did evolve, but as an alternative status game. It's useful to have them owe you a favour. In its more advanced forms it's a negative reaction to the status system, a break on it and a subversion of it: 'Give all you have to the poor'. If we are to solve mankind's impending problems, we cannot kid ourselves about the material with which we must work. Forget altruism; say Yes! To human values: status values.

Some aspects of our ideology would elevate the justice system over the status system, in effect trying to switch the motivating power away from status to achieving moralistic character traits, which by definition are not scarce, in contrast to being a winner, which must be scarcer than being a player. Moralistic character traits are achievable by anyone, however untalented and industrious, as distinct from those excellences which require talent, interest and industry. Too often the rhetoric of justice bad-mouths status as evil, seeking to undermine its influence on the young. But the effect of the rhetoric on the young, to the extent it is successful, is to kill their will to excellence. There is a debilitating disease of the will called 'scrupulosity', caused by excessive exposure to moralizing. Moralists may say we should develop our talents, but they never admit the true reason why we should, namely, that it paves the way to status. 'Does anyone seriously set as the main goal in life to be honest, reliable, conscientious? Of course not; these can only be ancillary. A person who succumbs to this aberration of moralistic rhetoric is a far more serious social ill than the people who are unjust in their pursuit of excellence. For this person lacks initiative, this good but aimless couch potato.

The rhetoric also seeks to create sympathy for those who do not rise in status along any path to excellence. To the extent that the stigma is removed from being a loser-from-the start, a lazy drifter, that too is a motivation killer. (To have aimed high, tried, and lost is much less of a stigma, if it is one at all). Thus this rhetoric - is subversive of all that's outstanding and innovative in our society, and puts no feasible human alternative value in its place. Indeed, it's impossible to imagine any alternative way of life that could be as deeply fulfilling as a society that protects and promotes the status games.

With the advent of mass media, advertisers have joined the anti-status rhetoricians. They have discovered that an effective sales pitch is to associate their product with escape from the stress of status seeking. This strategy is more effective than associating a product with becoming successful. Think of the Marlboro man, and the most effective TV ad campaigns, for example, those for Docker khaki slacks.

What is the goal of this attack? The easy answer is enslavement. Natural selection favours enslavers, and the power to enslave has evolved in many species. In the human species enslavement occurs in many subtle forms, so subtle that the slaves do not even realize they are slaves.

6. What does the author think of the generosity shown to a needy stranger?
 - (A) As an expression of altruistic feeling
 - (B) As a revelation of a natural instinct in evolutionary biology
 - (C) As a ploy to keep the other indebted
 - (D) As an example of the natural justice system
7. The author decries the "moralistic rhetoric" because
 - (A) it kills initiative.
 - (B) it is easier to preach than to practice.
 - (C) morals are unattainable goals.
 - (D) being moral is not the main goal of life.
8. The author calls justice system an inhibitor of actions because
 - (A) being inactive is portrayed as a virtue in justice system.
 - (B) it hinders uninhibited dominance.
 - (C) there is no motivational factor ingrained in a justice system.
 - (D) it hinders free conclusion of agreements between people to reciprocate favours.
9. 'Marlboro man' is quoted in the article as
 - (A) a successful person donning a particular dress.
 - (B) a person flaunting a status symbol.
 - (C) a victim of the commercialisation of success.
 - (D) a symbol of protest against status stratifications.
10. With which of the following adages would the author be in agreement, as inferred from the passage?
 - (A) Failure is the stepping stone to success
 - (B) Justice delayed is justice denied
 - (C) Honesty is the best policy
 - (D) Nothing succeeds like success

PASSAGE – III

In the beginning was the word, and the word was run together. Ancient texts (like the Greek of the Gospel of John) had few of the devices that tell readers where words begin and end (spaces), which words are proper names (the upper-lower case distinction), where breaks in meaning come (commas, dashes, semicolons and full stops), who said what (inverted commas), and so on.

Most people take punctuation to be something obvious and settled. In fact, the system is in a bit of upheaval. The beginnings of that date back to 1971, when Ray Tomlinson sent an experimental message between two computers in the same room, connected only by ARPANET (the precursor to the internet).

Tomlinson, who died on March 5th, made a lasting contribution to the world's orthography by choosing the @ symbol for e-mail addresses. His legacy will be a long one. E-mail and the @ sign have conquered the world: you cannot truly say you speak a foreign language until you can give your e-mail address complete with the local word for the glyph, like *snabel-a* ("elephant-trunk A") in Danish or *aapenstartje* ("little monkey's tail") in Dutch.

It seems that Tomlinson opened a Pandora's box. As communication using computers proliferated, so did people's recourse to those lesser-used characters at the edges of their computer keyboard. In the 1990s, it was the rise of the emoticon, from the humble :-) to the more elaborate, like >:\ (a furrowed-brow look of scepticism). The use of # to signal a topic (#language), as on Twitter, has evolved as a way to send messages through a kind of second channel. Some find this #playful, and others find it #irritating, but it has its uses in condensed media like Twitter.

Other innovations may have seen their day come and go: nerds once preferred tags in the style of HTML (used to code web pages) like "<sarcasm>". But this already seems to be on the wane, in favour of things like "*sigh*". A *sigh* was Johnson's reaction to another story of non-traditional writing: last year Oxford Dictionaries chose an emoji—those cartoonish faces descended from emoticons—as its "Word of the Year". (It was the face intended to signal "tears of joy".) Emoji aren't really words or punctuation, but something akin to a graphical hashtag, performing a bit of the same role as tone of voice and body language in speech.

With all this flux, many people worry that skill with punctuation is disappearing: witness, after all, the way teens text and tweet not bothering to capitalise or punctuate at all. It is in fact more complicated (and interesting) than that. Not putting a full stop in a text is normal for teens in an internet message, and including it sends a separate note of annoyance or frustration on the part of the writer. Full stops can also be used for other effects, like "You. Must. Be. Joking."

Such chaos is not all that historically unusual. The first English writers, when they punctuated at all, availed themselves of long-forgotten symbols like the diastole and trigon, the interpunct and the diple. Printing began the process of settling the punctuation system, but even that took four centuries. Samuel Johnson's commas, in the mid-18th century, were not only heavy; many would be ungrammatical today, and this style persisted into the first editions of *The Economist* in 1843.

As David Crystal, a linguist, points out in his history of punctuation ("Making a Point") published in 2015, at the dawn of the 19th century, punctuation prescribers were still divided into those who insisted that punctuation follow grammar and those who wanted it to aid elocution. Even one of the grammarians, Lindley Murray, wrote in 1795, in a hugely influential grammar book, that a semicolon signalled a pause twice as long as a comma; that a colon was twice as long as a semicolon; and that a full stop was twice as long as a colon. (Try that next time you read a text aloud.)

Punctuation, in other words, has not always been the epitome of order that some of its fans think. It is unsurprising that the rise of computers would unsettle a system that had barely settled to begin with. Fortunately, most of the upheaval is confined to new channels: e-mail, texting, Twitter and whatever is to come next. Even most teens know to keep it out of formal writing. And those who prefer not to follow fads at all need only wait a while: much of today's playful punctuation will soon become unfashionable, dead as the diastole and the diple.

11. Which of the following inferences can be drawn from the passage?
 - (A) Punctuation is in the process of becoming obsolete
 - (B) Punctuation has rarely been truly stable
 - (C) The process of communication through computers has caused irreversible damage to punctuation
 - (D) As punctuation is not an embodiment of order, it can be dispensed with
12. What does the author mean when he says Tomlinson opened a Pandora's box?
 - (A) The creation of the @ symbol by Tomlinson has led to the creation of new symbols and characters at the cost of punctuation
 - (B) The proliferation of communication through computers has had a severely detrimental effect on punctuation
 - (C) The creation of the @ symbol by Tomlinson has revolutionized the system of punctuation
 - (D) Tomlinson is indirectly responsible for the upheaval which punctuation is subjected to
13. Which of the following statements are true according to the passage?
 - (A) There are divergent views with regard to the use of the # in communication
 - (B) The writers of ancient texts were sticklers for punctuation
 - (C) The system of punctuation has continued to evolve over the years
 - (D) Symbols like diastole, trigone etc served the same purpose as the present day emojis
14. The word orthography, as used in the passage, refers to
 - (A) the art or study of correct spelling according to established usage.
 - (B) the accepted way of spelling words.
 - (C) the aspect of language study concerned with letters and their sequences in words
 - (D) a method of spelling, as by the use of an alphabet or other system of symbols
15. Which of the following options summarizes the last para of the passage most appropriately?
 - (A) Punctuation has always been in a state of flux and the playful punctuation which is now commonly used in e-mail, texting, etc is just a passing fad
 - (B) Punctuation is not actually necessary to bring in order in a piece of writing, hence it is quite likely that punctuation would soon become unfashionable
 - (C) The disorder which is now taking place in the system of punctuation is confined only to channels like e-mail, texting etc
 - (D) Formal writing would remain unaffected by the new fad which has taken over communication

Directions for questions 16 and 17: The sentences given in 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 indicate the correct sequence of numbers in the box provided below each question.

16. (1) A few days before Tunisia's first free elections, passersby at a busy square in the capital of Tunis were appalled at the sight of a colossal bill of Zine El Abidine Ben Ali covering an entire side of a building.
- (2) Not often does one come across a piece of communication which invokes the worst and the best in its receivers.
- (3) When the giant poster was torn to the ground, another sign revealed itself which read, 'Beware; dictatorship can return unless you vote on October 23rd.'
- (4) Mere months after the country revolted against the dictator and successfully gave him and his regime the boot, this was an unimaginable travesty titled The Return of Ben Ali!
- (5) As crowds gathered near the site, clearly agitated, within twenty minutes some decided to take matters into their own hands and get rid of Ali all over again.

17. (1) Kalam's initiative, if implemented, would make Phoenix – one of the most impoverished bits of land – to truly rise from the ashes, giving a 21st century dimension to the Mahatma's ideals.
- (2) He offered an Entrepreneurship Development Institute for the impoverished area, where young men and women who have little education and no capital could be taught skills that would enable them to become entrepreneurs.
- (3) Kalam is a statesman who always tests positive for hope and cheer.
- (4) When reminded by the local municipal councillor that nobody comes to Phoenix to service earlier Indian gifts like computers and one ambulance, Kalam emphasized that India would not supply the institute, but would ensure that there would be opportunities created in partnership with the local government.
- (5) And the tourists, who are afraid of taking the Gandhiji Heritage Trail to the settlement, would also flock, adding more income to the local community.
- (6) In Phoenix, South Africa, he was unfazed by the gloomy reports of unemployment and crime; he thought it was an area of opportunity.

Directions for question 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.

18. (1) In a week of surprises, Mahendra Singh Dhoni got married and snapped up a whopping wedding gift – a ₹210-crore deal for endorsements spread over three years.
- (a) Be it an energy drink, a fuel brand, a bike or a telecom service provider, Dhoni has lent his mighty presence in ad spots that also showed him to be a man at ease in front of the camera.
- (b) But over the years India's 'Captain Cool' had emerged as the most valued sportsperson for companies desperate to leverage their products.
- (c) Sachin Tendulkar was at the earlier peak of ₹180 crore, managed by Iconix for a period of three years from 2006.
- (d) As Dhoni signed up with Rhiti Sports Management and Mindscapes One to handle his brand associations, the Indian skipper extended his numero uno status in advertising sweepstakes.
- (6) Just like he is near the stumps.
- (A) acbd (B) dbca (C) dcba (D) adbc

Directions for question 19: In the following question, there are five sentences/paragraphs. The sentence / paragraph labelled a is in its correct place. The four that follow are labelled b, c, d and e, and need to be arranged in the logical order to form a coherent paragraph/passage. From the given options, choose the most appropriate option.

19. (a) It's as peaceful as only a jungle can be at sunset.
- (b) There's a soft orchestration of insects strumming in the high foliage.
- (c) The irascible, squabbling, flying foxes have flown away in silent, leather-winged, formation.
- (d) From the rustic food warmer in the Gol Ghar, the blue fragrance of charcoal smoke wafts nostalgically across to our tent.
- (e) And, to add to our idyll, one of the techies from Bangalore is weaving a delicate refrain on a flute: a silver filigree of sound that curls like a strip of shimmering foil through the tall trees of the Kali Wilderness Camp.
- (A) bcde (B) cbde (C) bcde (D) decb

Directions for questions 20 to 22: 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.

20. International health experts are warning of a mounting health crisis in parts of Africa because of an influx of counterfeit medicine from Asia that is playing havoc with the treatment of diseases such as malaria. Porous borders in Africa, coupled with indifferent oversight in China, are combining to turn the continent and its pressing health problems into a free-for-all for maverick manufacturers, some of whom are producing pills with no active ingredients at all _____.
- (A) We have recognised this problem.
- (B) Efforts to combat the activity are in their infancy.
- (C) This causes drug resistance building all over Africa.

(D) This problem has not been addressed so far.

21. Genocide does not appear out of thin air. In most cases there are years, even decades, in which we could detect the warning signs, if we could be bothered. It would be less expensive in lives and money if we reacted when the hate propaganda began, rather than when the mass graves are being unearthed.
- (A) War criminals continue to travel the world relatively freely, without fear of arrest.
- (B) Our words of condemnation rarely match our willingness to enforce existing international conventions.
- (C) Yet there is no need for new international laws to apprehend alleged war criminals.
- (D) Action now is less costly than paying for peacekeeping forces and refugee camps.
22. Indoor pollution caused by cooking and heating with solid fuels, including biomass such as wood, dung, farm residue and coal, continues across the globe. Inefficient burning on an open fire or traditional stove creates a mix of pollutants, primarily carbon monoxide and suspended particulates. While the World Health Organisation in 2009 estimated the number of deaths caused by this peril annually at two million, the just published *Global Burden of Disease Study* puts it at four million. _____.
- (A) The worst-hit are the poor — especially stay-at-home women and children.
- (B) Women are three times more likely to suffer from serious ailments including chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, compared to those who use other fuels.
- (C) Owing to the inherent inefficiency of the process, the products of incomplete combustion include the potent greenhouse gas methane.
- (D) The consequences of some two million tonnes of biomass going up in smoke every day have implications for the environment.

Directions for questions 23 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 and indicate the number corresponding with it in the box provided below each question.

23. (1) A dyslexic has special talents and once recognised he will excel in the field of interest.
- (2) The child often loses confidence by the time he reaches adulthood.
- (3) Spellings are terrible, the 'b' becomes 'd' or '15' becomes '51' for him/her.
- (4) Limited understanding about the problem among school teachers, administrators, educational policy makers and the parents of the dyslexic child is the reason behind this.

24. (1) The parents withdraw their children from school on the same day each week, Friday, to minimise disruption.
- (2) It's no coincidence that so many of the first wave of free schools are small primaries as that's where the need is most acute.

- (3) Some parents are involved in an experiment called "flexi-schooling", which means withdrawing a pupil from school for part of the week.
- (4) They occasionally collaborate on a lesson but more often spend the time tutoring their children one-to-one before taking them on a trip with an educational purpose.

25. (1) Some speeding is entirely safe but in a country where the speed cameras are painted bright yellow anyone who fails to notice one is guilty at the very least of driving without proper concentration.
- (2) Driving a car is almost certainly the most dangerous thing that any of us do in our lives and it's the most dangerous to other people.
- (3) So there's no doubt that regulating drivers is part of any kind of utilitarian concept of morality, and certainly part of the essential functions of a state.
- (4) Even the ghastly Mexican drug wars that killed 60,000 since 2006 are not more lethal than the traffic there, which kills about 17,000 people every year.

Directions for question 26: Four alternative summaries are given below the following text. Choose the option that best captures the essence of the text and mark the number corresponding with it in the box provided below the question.

26. Foreign investment is a key part of globalisation. According to the Washington Consensus, growth occurs through liberalisation, "freeing up" markets. Privatisation, liberalisation and macro stability are supposed to create a climate to attract investment, including from abroad. This investment creates growth. Foreign business brings with it technical expertise and access to foreign markets, creating new employment possibilities. Foreign companies also have access to sources of finance, especially important in those developing countries where local financial institutions are weak. Foreign direct investment has played an important role in many successful development stories in Singapore, Malaysia and China.
- (1) Foreign investment is very important for globalisation as it encourages the opening up of economies. Privatisation, liberalization and macrostability invite foreign and local investment. Foreign trade is highly advantageous in terms of creating opportunities. In developing economies, sources of funds are made available by the entry of foreign companies. Foreign Direct investment has promoted development in Singapore, Malaysia and China.
 - (2) Foreign investment encourages liberalisation. Privatisation, liberalization and macrostability attract foreign and local capital, and entail faster economic growth. Foreign companies bring in the much needed funds to weak financial institutions. Foreign direct investment helped provide infrastructure to developed countries.

- (3) Foreign investment is indispensable to globalisation, and an open economy encourages growth. Factors like privatisation, liberalization and macrostability help create an environment conducive to inland and foreign investment. Foreign business opens new vistas. Multinationals bring the much-needed capital for the weak banking sector in developing nations. Foreign Direct Investment has been crucial for development in many countries.
- (4) Globalisation is the result of foreign investment and helped in freeing up markets. Privatisation, liberalisation and macrostability supposedly create a climate to attract capital from abroad. Foreign business creates job opportunities, provides access to international markets and technical expertise. Multinationals bring in sources of funds that enhance the financial stability of the weak native banking sector. Foreign Direct Investment has spurred development of many countries.

Directions for questions 27 and 28: Each question has a statement. Pick from the options the most appropriate restatement of the given statement. Note that all the choices may be grammatically correct but you have to select the one that is closest in meaning to the given statement.

27. Politicians everywhere are known to indulge in doublespeak and our politicians are no exception.
- (A) While politicians everywhere are known to indulge in doublespeak our politicians are an exception.
 - (B) Our politicians are no different from politicians every where who are known to indulge in doublespeak.
 - (C) Politicians everywhere are an exception because they don't indulge in doublespeak unlike our own.
 - (D) Except our own, politicians everywhere are known to indulge in doublespeak.
28. That in our own times the fate of an individual lies in the politics of interest groups which could determine not only the general quality of his/her life but also the mode of termination of both individual and community is surprisingly a fact quite well-known.
- (A) It is a surprising fact that, in our times, the fate of an individual and the mode of termination of both individual and community is determined by the politics of interest groups.
 - (B) It is a surprisingly well-known fact that in our times, the fate of an individual lies in the politics of interest groups which determine the general quality of his/her life and the mode of termination of both individual and community.
 - (C) It is surprising to know that the fate of an individual lies in the politics of interest groups which could determine both, the general quality of his/her life and the mode of termination of both individual and community.
 - (D) The fact that the fate of an individual lies in the politics of interest groups which could determine the general quality of his/her life and the mode of termination of both individual and community, is surprisingly well-known.

Directions for questions 29 and 30: In each question, there are five sentences or parts of sentences that form a paragraph. Identify the sentence(s) or part(s) of sentence(s) that is/are correct in terms of grammar and usage. Then, choose the most appropriate option.

29. (a) Figures published on Thursday reveal the shocking extent of our thoughtlessness.
 (b) During the annual Christmas feast, we throw out the equivalent of 2 million turkeys, 5m Christmas puddings and 74m mince pies.
 (c) To put it into context, that means we are binning nearly twice as much mince pies
 (d) as retail giant Marks & Spencer sell every year.
 (e) Such enormous waste is a drain on the environment as well as a drain on our finances.
 (A) Only a (B) b and c (C) b and d (D) a and b
30. (a) After the clothing label French Connection first came up amazingly with its FCUK brand,
 (b) customers found the gag enough amusing to keep buying the T-shirts for several years.
 (c) But soon the acronym went out of fashion.
 (d) This has been particularly painful for founder Stephen Marks, who is owning 42% of the shares.
 (e) The value of the shares slumped by 30% and made Marks poor by £4.8m .
 (A) Only a (B) Only b (C) Only e (D) Only c

Directions for questions 31 and 32: There are two blanks in each of the following sentences. From the pairs of words given below each sentence, choose the pair that fills the blanks most appropriately.

31. I was born into a working-class family in industrial Newcastle and my family was pretty _____, but what was _____ was the arts scene I grew to be part of.
 (A) underprivileged privileged
 (B) ordinary extraordinary
 (C) commonplace bizarre
 (D) unconventional unorthodox
32. Living standards have been falling _____ over the past twelve months, as inflation has run well above the rate of pay increases, which the latest labour market data showed as _____ at less than 2%.
 (A) drastically equalising
 (B) considerably balancing
 (C) consistently averaging
 (D) dramatically wavering

Directions for questions 33 and 34: In each of the following questions, the word at the top is used in four different ways, A to D. Choose the option in which the usage of the word is INCORRECT or INAPPROPRIATE.

33. OPEN

- (A) It is feared that the border issue could open sharp differences between the two contiguous nations.

- (B) Megha is a very warm and understanding person; you can really open your heart to her.
 (C) The contest is open to students below the age of 18.
 (D) Leaving your briefcase on your car seat is like extending an open invitation to thieves.

34. DOWN

- (A) We drove down the sea coast as far as Karaikal.
 (B) Robert has been on leave for the past four days because he is down with a bout of flu.
 (C) She was commended for organizing everything down through the last detail, in a very meticulous fashion.
 (D) It is heartening to know that the rate of inflation is finally going down and the economy is showing signs of improvement.

Directions for question 35: Given below is a paragraph. One of the lines in the paragraph is missing. Identify the choice which is grammatically correct to fill in the blank.

35. _____. The German welfare system, providing health care, unemployment benefits and pensions, is both generous and humane and workers receive excellent perks with long holidays and bonuses. The consequences of this, however, are huge welfare bills putting a strain on a society that is ageing and where there is a falling birth rate.
 (A) In 50 years, the tyranny of Nazism in Germany had been replaced by one of the most enlightened and liberal democracy in the developed world.
 (B) The tyranny of Nazism in Germany, in 50 years, has been replaced by one of the most enlightened and liberal democracies in developed world.
 (C) In one of the most enlightened, liberal democracies in the developed world – Germany – tyranny of Nazism has been replaced in 50 years.
 (D) In 50 years, the tyranny of Nazism in Germany has been replaced by one of the most enlightened and liberal democracies in the developed world.