

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR VERBAL ABILITY

9. WORD USAGE:

1. The word 'mean' can be used in sentences 1, 3 and 4.
(3 times)
2. The word 'point' can be used in sentences 1, 2 and 4. The word 'view' can fill in the blanks in sentences 1, 3 and 4.
(3 times)
3. The word 'good' can be used in all the four sentences.
(4 times)
4. The word 'catch' can be used in sentences 1 and 2.
(2 times)
5. The word 'claim' can be used in sentence 4, the word 'call' in sentence 1, the word 'visit' in sentence 2 and the word 'figure' in sentence 3. So, each word can be used in one blank only.
(1 time)

10. APPROPRIATE SUBSTITUTE:

1. 'Obdurate' means stubborn, (obstinate or rigid) and is the appropriate choice. 'Extravagant' is a tendency to spend a lot. 'Mean' and 'petty' suggest narrow-minded.
Choice (A)
2. A punitive measure is one which serves as a punishment. Only disciplinary gives this idea. 'Retaliatory' is to retort (reaction to harm), 'Vindictive' is trying to harm someone whom you think has harmed you. 'Conciliatory' is trying to make angry people calm.
Choice (C)
3. 'Factitious' is being too artificial or contrived. 'Flippant' is being casual, 'facetious' is being amusing at a time when it is not warranted. 'Factual' is providing facts.
Choice (B)
4. 'Pensive' is to be engrossed in thought because you are sad or worried.
Choice (A)
5. Assiduity means to be diligent and hardworking. Options A and C can be eliminated because of their negative connotation.
Choice (B)

11. INAPPROPRIATE SUBSTITUTE:

1. "Utopian" world is an imaginary or visionary world. 'Stark' is the odd-word.
Choice (D)
2. Dry, droop and shrivel can replace wither (= because shrunken or wrinkled). Blossom (bloom) is inappropriate.
Choice (B)
3. Pinnacle, acme and prime convey the same meaning as zenith (peak). Perigee, meaning the point in the orbit of the moon, is inappropriate in the given context. Choice (D)
4. Banter, jest, chaff and badinage indicate humorous, teasing.
Choice (C)
5. Unsnarled means not twisted. Options A, C and D convey the same meaning as the word disfigure. Choice (B)
6. 'Eclectic' means 'wide' or broad-ranging while 'unique' means distinctive or special.
Choice (C)
7. 'Hallowed' means holy or sacred or worshipped. Choice (A) 'famous' means well known.
Choice (A)
8. 'Desecrated' means treated with disrespect, violated, vandalized or deface.
Choice (D) 'impaired' means lessen or weaken.
Choice (D)
9. 'Opalescent' means 'many coloured' while choice (B) 'glorious' means 'wonderful' or 'magnificent'. The word 'opalescent' deals with colours.
Choice (B)

10. 'Laidback' means 'easy-going' or 'casual'. Options A, B and D are synonymous with it.
Choice (C) 'upright' is the opposite of 'laidback'.
Choice (C)

11. 'Boorish' refers to a behaviour which is unpleasant and rude. Uncouth, unseemly and awkward imply the same idea. 'Pompous' is behaving in a self-important manner. So it is inappropriate.
Choice (D)
12. 'Serene' implies peace. Composed, unperturbed and calm are synonymous with it. 'Queer' which means peculiar or strange is inappropriate here.
Choice (A)
13. 'Cursory' means to give a quick and fleeting glance. 'Attentive' is an inappropriate substitute. Choice (B)
14. 'Entice' is to attract or lure. Woo and draw can be used in its place, but not help.
Choice (A)
15. 'Ominous' suggests that something bad is likely to happen and is not a welcome signal. Menacing, sinister and baleful are also unpleasant, whereas propitious indicates fortunate.
Choice (C)

12. ANALOGIES:

1. Contemplate is to ponder (synonymous) as captivate is to capture. The words fascinate (charm) and wonder, mitigate (ease; lessen) and reject, fabricate (invent) and feign (pretend to feel or have) are not synonymous.
Choice (D)
2. The depth of water and the strength of colour can be found out. The other options are not related in this manner.
Choice (C)
3. Blood can clot on its own just as milk can curdle on its own. We don't need an agent or doer for this activity. The other three activities need an agent.
Choice (B)
4. Piston is a part of a power engine. Wings are part of an aeroplane. The remaining options are unrelated.
Choice (C)
5. We recite a poem just as we chant a prayer. We cannot express a speech. Choice (C) can be eliminated because all though dance is choreographed, the order of the words is reversed in this option.
Choice (B)
6. Radical (extreme) and moderate are antonyms, similarly revolutionary (rebellious) and conservative (moderate) are not antonyms but synonyms. Epicurean (devoted to pleasure) and extravagant (exaggerated) grotesque (absurd) and massive (large and heavy) are not antonyms.
Choice (D)
7. Death occurs in the gallows, love is felt in the heart.
Choice (B)
8. An edifice has a foundation. A nation has a constitution.
Choice (C)
9. A botanist studies plants while a sociologist's area of study is society.
Choice (A)
10. Ophthalmia affects the eye while rickets is a disease that affects the bones.
Choice (B)

13. REVERSE ANALOGIES:

1. Despotism is a quality of a tyrant. So, among the choices only option C is not similar. Irony does not indicate a person. All other choices define a person (misanthrope, traitor and debonair).
Choice (C)
2. A mendicant is a beggar. So, option A is the odd pair.
Choice (A)

3. Carpenter, butcher, farmer and surgeon use a saw, a knife, an axe and a scalpel respectively. Option D is the answer.
Choice (D)
 4. A sentence has some words just like a poem has some verses, a forest has trees and an organ has cells.
Choice (B)
 5. The young one of a cat is called a kitten. The young one of an elephant is a calf and not a cub.
Choice (D)
 6. Wig is used for baldness. Options A, C and D share the same analogy. You can't use exercise for obesity, you need to do it.
Choice (C)
 7. We retrench employees to cut cost. We cut flab to remove excess fat. We dispose waste which we don't need. We prune trees to remove extra-growth. All these relate to elimination of what is not necessary. Redressal of grievances does not share the same relationship.
Choice (B)
 8. Cricket is a sport, squash is a vegetable, cricket is also an insect and maroon is a colour. Spout is not a container. It is a part of a container.
Choice (A)
 9. Reading a map is similar to the relationship suggested in choices A, B and C. We can't blemish a scar. Blemish is to cause a damage.
Choice (D)
 10. Absence of malice is goodness. Absence of light is darkness and not blackhole. So that is the answer. The other three options are similar to the one in the question.
Choice (C)
 11. In the given pair, the relationship is of the type MEMBER : GROUP. A similar relationship is there in A, B and C. Hence, the odd-pair is option D.
Choice (D)
 12. A pebble is a small stone, a brook is a small stream, a rock – a small boulder, a shrub – a small tree. The same relationship is not there between tea and drink.
Choice (D)
 13. Here option C is the odd-pair. A restaurant is not used primarily for recreation.
Choice (C)
 14. Warmth is a quality of the hearth. The same relationship is exhibited by choices B, C and D. However, Igloo is a type of house and hence is the odd man out.
Choice (A)
 15. Flax is a type of fibre, not a costume.
Choice (B)
- 14. CONFUSING WORDS:**
1. (i) 'Immanent' means inherent (built-in, in this context), while 'imminent' means expected in the near future.
(ii) 'Ensure' means to make sure of something, while 'insure' is to provide for loss.
(iii) 'Deprived' means lacking in something (lacking in means, in this case), while 'depraved' means of low moral standards.
(iv) 'Crass' means crude or disregardful of others' feelings, and is used to describe behaviour. 'Cross' means annoyed or angry and is used to describe persons.
(v) 'Rebuke' means to scold harshly, while 'rebuff' means to turn down or disregard help or suggestions offered.
Choice (C)
- 15 to 19: SENTENCE COMPLETION:**
1. The word in the second blank qualifies 'manoeuvres'. It can be electoral or political not secular or economical (in the context of the sentence). The word in the first blank should be bane not boon.
Choice (A)
 2. Only 'negate' can fit in the second blank since the 'claim' made is nullified by facts.
Choice (C)
 3. The 'strain' can be 'unprecedented' or 'tremendous'. This can be 'baffling' or 'intimidating'.
Choice (B)
 4. The sentence talks about 'General Anxiety Disorder' – hence the tension experienced cannot be understandable or acceptable. It has to be exaggerated or unreasonable. Worrying over 'stressful life-events' is normal (it is not a disorder), hence it must be 'routine life-events'.
Choice (C)
 5. Choice D can be ruled out since forsaking the match will not lead to the dream being raised. Of the other three 'shattered' is better than 'stumped' or 'quashed'.
Choice (A)
 6. The word which best describes spreading of idea or experiences is disseminate. So, circulated and distributed can be eliminated. Dissipated means to disappear or disperse, which is ruled out here. For the second blank, the word repudiate which means to disown is inappropriate. Experience cannot be promulgated. Replicate fits in best.
Choice (C)
 7. Although the first word given in the first option 'shortage' can be chosen, the second word 'potential' is not suitable. Scarcity and shortcoming do not fit in the first blank. Dearth and market are apt.
Choice (B)
 8. Options A and C contain a combination of words which are contradictory. A person who is 'relegated' or 'uncomfortable' can't be working to 'improve' or 'build' the image of the government. The word affiliated is usually followed by 'to' and can be ruled out. Hence, option D 'isolated' and 'tarnishing' is correct.
Choice (D)
 9. All the words given as options for the first blank seem suitable. However, for the second blanks only 'unlikely' can be chosen.
Choice (A)
 10. The first two options can be eliminated because 'provides' and 'encourages' cannot go with appetite. Between options C and D, 'inviting' sight is better than 'pleasant' sight in the given context.
Choice (D)
- 20. CLOZE TEST:**
1. Only anonymity, meaning a state of not being known or recognized, can give people a sense of freedom. It is absurd to say that animosity (hatred or dislike), anomaly (something that departs from normal) and vicissitude (changes of circumstances or fortune) can give people a sense of freedom.
Choice (B)
 2. Small town attitudes are jettisoned (rejected, thrown away) in a big city like Mumbai. Jettisoning small town attitudes can give people a sense of freedom. Hence only option C is in line with what is stated in the para. The words exacerbated (make something worse) camouflaged (covered, concealed) and permeated (spread throughout) are inappropriate in the given context.
Choice (C)
 3. 'Dwell on' means spend time on or brood. Only option B is apt in this sentence. The words endure, invest and spurn (reject) do not make sense in this context.
Choice (B)
 4. The word 'Solitude', meaning the state of being alone gels with the description given in the sentence. The word solace (comfort) is inappropriate in comparison. People don't go to the Himalayas to seek oblivion (anonymity) or transition (change). Hence choices B and C can be eliminated.
Choice (A)
 5. The word which fits into the blank is linked to the preceding word 'privacy' through the conjunction 'and' thereby indicating that the two words convey the same idea. Hence only 'quietude' is appropriate in the given blank. The words trepidation (nervousness), pugnacity (quick to fight) and subtlety (shrewdness) don't make sense in this context.
Choice (B)

6. Manifest means to demonstrate or show - the darkness has manifested itself. This is the most appropriate word here. Declare means to announce, authenticate means to prove, substantiate means to provide evidence. Choice (C)
7. 'Dark ages' suggests moving back in time – hence regressed (return to a former state) is apt. Denigrate (criticize unfairly), renege (to go back on a promise) and detract (to take away the value of) are unsuitable in the context. Choice (A)
8. The imbalance is most pronounced (very noticeable). It is not prophetic (predicting the future) or propitious (favourable) or protracted (drawn out). Choice (D)
9. Indians have a preference (a greater liking) for the male child. It is not a fuss (a display of excessive excitement) or fervour (a passionate feeling) or selection (the action of choosing). Choice (B)
10. The word 'despite' at the beginning of the sentence suggests that the operation has become brazen (bold and shameless) not troublesome (giving trouble) or reserved (slow to reveal emotions or opinions) or insolent (rude). Choice (D)
11. Semantically, any of the four words given as options can take the first blank. Saving the elephant seems to be at the cost of targeting the hippopotamus is what the passage suggests. So contextually, we can conclude that option C is the best choice. Choice (C)
12. Nations ban trade is the correct usage, not stop. Usually, we say there is an 'embargo on trade' not 'embargo trade', 'sanction' used as a verb means allow or permit. This is illogical in this context. Choice (B)
13. The hippopotamus does not have horn, antlers or mane. Ivory is obtained from the teeth of the hippo. Choice (A)
14. We use the word lament when we want to express a sense of loss, and unhappiness. This word is better than all the other words provided as options. Choice (B)
15. Expansion ultimately leads to explosion. So, expand is the apt word. When a body decomposes, methane gas is produced. The body does not decompose, decay or pollute with gas. Choice (C)

21. MEANING AND USAGE TABLE:

1. The meaning implied in 'a' has been used in g. Hence, we look at options A and D only. b – h is common to both these choices. Hence, we look at c – e is the right combination. Choice (A)
2. AG is the match in all the four choices and hence it can be ignored. f can match only with c. This match is there in choice b and d. 'Summer grinds on' in h suggests continuing for a long time (d) while '...., 'a real grind' in e suggests hard work (b). Choice (B)
3. c – e is the right match. This is found in choices B and D. So we look at the next sentence. f matches b. So choice D is the right answer. Checking further, g matches d and h – a go together. Choice (D)
4. The flash that blinds you can only be the flash of a camera bulb (or lightning which is not mentioned). Hence c – e go together. This is found only in choice B. To confirm further we look at the other sentences. catch a flash of in f means a glimpse (a) a flash of a moment in g means very quickly (d). Finally h and b match with each other. Choice (B)
5. e gels with c. This is found only in choice B. So we examine it further. f matches a. g can match d only, which h matches b. Choice (B)

6. After matching the two columns, we know that ag and be are the correct combinations. Considering this, we can eliminate choices A, C and D. Choice (B)
7. The correct combinations are ah and be, and we find this only in choice A. Choice (A)
8. The correct match is ag and bh and this is given in choice A and B. ce go together. Choice (B)
9. af and bg are the correct combinations, so choice C is the correct combination. Choice (C)
10. af and bh are the correct combinations and this is found in choice D. Choice (D)

22. INCORRECT / INAPPROPRIATE USAGE:

1. In sentence C, 'touch too loud' is incorrect. 'a touch' means slightly (a little) so, the sentence should read 'a touch too loud for my taste'. Choice (C)
2. The correct expression to suggest that 'enough time has passed' is 'in the course of time' not 'in course of time'. 'Course' in sentence A means direction. In sentence D, 'course' refers to the path a river takes. Choice (B)
3. In the first sentence 'school' is used as a collective noun. We say, 'school of dolphins'. School for dolphins is absurd. Choice (A)
4. The phrasal verb to be used in sentence C is 'read through' and not 'read up'. 'Read through' means to 'read carefully'. 'Read up' is to 'read a lot' on the subject. 'Read between the lines' is an idiomatic expression which means to look for a meaning which is not openly stated. Choice (C)
5. The second sentence should read 'due for' release and not 'due to' release... 'Due to' means 'because of' which is incorrect here. Choice (B)
6. In sentence A 'heave' means to haul or pull. In the second sentence it refers to the rise and fall of the sea. In sentence four it means to let out. In the third sentence it is meaningless. Choice (C)
7. In the first sentence 'inner life' means how he feels mentally. In the second 'inner Paris' refers to the central part of the city. In the third 'inner circle' refers to the privileged members. In the fourth 'inner efforts' is not apt. Choice (D)
8. 'A plastic smile' refers to an artificial smile, 'the plastic minds' are the impressionable minds while being plastic is being malleable or flexible. But there is no such usage as 'plastic climate'. Choice (C)
9. 'Sales pitch' refers to sales talks, 'to make a pitch' is to make a determined effort, while 'reserving its pitch' refers to the sites chosen. But you can't coat with a pitch of gold since pitch as a means tar or bitumen. Choice (D)
10. In sentence B 'mean' refers to a middle course between extremes. In C 'mean' is to signify. In D, it refers to an average. There is no such phrase as 'men of mean' (means or mean birth would be appropriate). Choice (A)

23. SENTENCE WITH AN ERROR:

1.respite is followed by with and not from..... Choice (D)
2.different from..... Choice (B)
3.as her sister's (..hair). The comparison is between Mina's hair and her sister's hair. Choice (D)
4.risen considerably..... Choice (C)

5.twice as much as what.... Choice (C)
6. ".....conventional taboos.....". Choice (B)
7. ".....blotting paper.....". Choice (B)
8. "..... the.....changes that occur....." Choice (B)
9. Replace "but also" with 'and'. Choice (C)
10.engulfed is followed by with and not in.....
Choice (D)
11. an infallible. Since the word begins with a vowel it should be followed by 'an' because population is a singular subject. Choice (C)
12. population is Choice (C)
13. not only absorb but also to discharge
Choice (D)
14. resemblance is followed by to
Choice (B)
15. who lives in Florida. The relative pronoun 'who' is appropriate here. Choice (D)
16. I have lived in Choice (A)
17. that he has no time to spare or, little time to spare Few is used for countable nouns, little for uncountable nouns. Choice (C)

24. GRAMMATICALLY CORRECT STATEMENT:

1.entrust is followed by.....to. Choice (D)
2. "from the beginning to the end". Choice (A)
3. ".....enter into an agreement". Choice (D)
4. ".....to him or his brother" is correct. Choice (A)
5. Doubt is best expressed by whether. Choice (C)

25. REPLACING THE UNDERLINED PART:

1. 'The ease with which he got through his work' refers to the manner of working which appears to be without any strain. Choice (B)
2. The underlined words means that though we have eyes we do not observe the things in front of us. Choice (C)
3. The underlined words refer to the animals in forests and plains. Choice (D)
4. The underlined words mean having the ability or capacity. Choice (B)
5. The words '... being written down ...' mean being considered or regarded as. Choice (A)
6. The expression "entirely of one's doing" mean that whatever has happened, the person concerned has done it and he alone is responsible for it. Choice (B)
7. "Hard pressed for money" means short of money. Choice (D)
8. 'To leave no stone unturned' means to work very hard, to do every possible thing. Choice (A)
9. The word 'so' indicates a comparison. He is such a meek person that.....or He is such a coward that....we need a clause in place of the underlined part and the replacement should also function as the main clause and also convey the same idea as in the original sentence. Choice (A)

10. 'To see through something' means to understand somebody's real intentions. Choice (B)

26. ERROR IDENTIFICATION: DOUBLE SENTENCE TYPE:

1. When treated as an independent sentence, the second sentence is incomplete. It is a sub-ordinate clause, which begins with 'because'. Choice (B)
2. Both the sentences are grammatically wrong. In the first sentence, the definite article 'the' has to be replaced by 'a'. In the second sentence, 'struck down' should be used and not 'struck off' because a court strikes down. Besides, names are 'struck off', orders are struck down. Choice (C)
3. Both sentences are grammatically correct. Choice (D)
4. There is no error in both the sentences. Choice (D)
5. Bombs explode when someone causes them to explode. The verb 'explode' does not take the passive form (were exploded). So, sentence I is incorrect. Choice (A)

27. FILL IN THE BLANK:

1. The sentence denotes an unfulfilled condition. The given verb 'were' is in the past tense, so we should use 'would swear' to make the sentence right. Choice (C)
2. Choice A, B and D do not make the sentence meaningful, so choice C is apt. Choice (C)
3. The idiom 'a bee in the bonnet' means an obsession, and this is correct in the context. Choice (D)
4. 'Nemesis' means retributive justice. As this is meant in the context, this is the correct choice. Choice (C)
5. Since the first part of the sentence says corruption is common, Tehelka. com (which made an issue of corruption) is aptly described in B (to make a mountain out of a mole hill means making a lot of fuss about something trivial). Choice (B)
6. Between the conjunction 'if' and 'whether' after the word ponder, whether is preferable. Although 'if' or 'whether' can be used whenever a choice is offered, verbs such as discuss, consider, ponder and decide are usually followed by whether. In option B, the Prime Minister asked (reported speech) should be followed by the verb in the past tense (was) conducive and not 'is'. 'In the name of developing backwardness' in option C makes the meaning absurd. In the fourth option 'for the sake of' is unacceptable in the given context. Choice (A)
7. Sentence A is wrong because of the incorrect conjunction 'as' in the beginning. Inappropriate word storm 'stuck' instead of 'struck' in sentence B makes it wrong. The verb evacuated cannot be used in the active voice in the given context. So sentence C is also incorrect. Choice (D)
8. Incorrect positioning of the phrase 'as part of an international agreement' makes the first option incorrect. "Known as Kyoto protocol" in the concluding part refers to the agreement and not carbon credit coming into vogue. 'Increased awareness' in sentence B is wrong (error in parallelism). Besides, the omission of comma after the word control in A and B also make them grammatically wrong. Sentence D is a clear distortion. Choice (C)
9. Brahmaputra with its tributaries is a single unit. Hence 'floods', should be used to ensure subject-verb agreement. So, option A is the obvious choice. Option B contains an error in parallelism (blocking and pushes). Option C blocking has been followed by pushing, but the sense is incomplete. Option D is also an incomplete structure. Choice (A)

10. In this question, options B and C are blatantly incorrect. (hosting long, mega carnivals thrice a month in option B and positions shopping paradises in option C). The incorrect positioning of the adverb 'now' makes option D wrong. Option A is the best choice. Choice (A)
11. In sentence A, the word 'together' has been positioned incorrectly. It is used in this sentence as an adverb qualifying the verb 'work' and should follow it. In sentence C, peasant and intellectual must work for 'their' country, not 'his' country (subject – verb agreement). The expression 'must have won' in sentence D distorts the meaning. Sentence B is grammatically correct. Choice (B)
12. A list of articles is singular and hence has to be followed by 'has been published'. So, options B and D are unacceptable. In sentence C, astonished cannot be used in the passive form. Option A is grammatically correct. Choice (A)
13. Omission of the article 'an' before idealistic makes choice A wrong. The absence of verb 'is' after idealistic in choice B makes it grammatically incorrect. Positioning of the word 'also' in choice C alters the meaning. Choice D is correct. Choice (D)
14. Sentences B and C distort the meaning completely and are unacceptable. Mix-up of tenses in sentence D makes it incorrect 'was the frequency' is in past tense. 'Bangladesh is now mentioned' is in present tense. Choice (A)
15. The correct option is C. In sentence A, 'heritage sites' which are languished is incorrect, (passive form is not acceptable here). In sentence B, 'thanks for' is wrong. The comma after languishing in sentence D conveys an absurd meaning and is wrong. Choice (C)
16. The conjunction 'only' in the second half of the sentence suggests that a contrast is highlighted. So, option C which begins with 'Against' is the best choice. 'For' and 'under' are not suitable beginnings. Besides, the 'importing of' in option A is unacceptable. Choice (C)
17. Here, the phrasal verb 'served up' has to be used to convey the intended meaning. So, option A is eliminated. Options C and D are ruled out because of the incorrect usage of the word 'help' and the sentence structure which reads 'a film on his life has been featured' instead of 'feature film'. Choice (B)
18. Option A is the best choice because the word 'wronged' which implies the victim is correct here. Option D is incorrect because of the inappropriate conjunction 'only' which distorts the meaning. Options B and C are eliminated because of the incorrect usage of the word 'wrong'. Choice (A)
19. Option A is incorrect. The sentence refers to the past and we can't say it 'can involve' as if we are talking about a person. 'Involving' in sentence C is a blatant error, 'will involve' makes D wrong. Choice (B)
20. The idea that Attenborough read Gandhi's biography in 1962 and for 20 years from then (that time), he was obsessed with the idea of retelling the story has been correctly conveyed only in option C.
The incorrect use of since, for and from and their inappropriate positioning distorts the meaning in all the other options. Choice (C)
21. The sentence conveys the idea that something sudden happened after a lull. This idea of sudden change after a calm is best expressed by 'when'. Choice (B)
22. Option A is ruled out since 'calm' and 'frantic' cannot go together. In option B, 'but' is inappropriate because firmness need not preclude calmness. Option C is also eliminated because 'although' implies that a proud man is incapable of lofty thoughts. This need not be true. Option D is the most appropriate. Choice (D)
23. 'Market' is singular, therefore, plural verbs like 'have' and 'are' are ruled out. Choice (C)
24. The words 'syndrome' in option A, 'problem' in option C are awkward. Also, China cannot start any 'bilateral' agreement 'among' other countries. Hence options A, C and D are incorrect. Choice (B)
25. Options A, B and C have too definite a tone (surely, you will). Option D is perfect because of 'probable' in it. Choice (D)
- 28. IDENTIFY THE INCORRECT SENTENCES:**
1. Sentence (a) refers to more than one person. So 'seats' is correct, not seat. Sentence (d) contains a blatant error– 'meeting deceased brother'. Choice (A)
2. 'To be made of sterner stuff' is the correct idiom. It means to have a stronger character than others while handling problems. In sentence (c), 'hasn't affected her at all' is in the present perfect tense. So 'happen' should also be used in the same tense (has happened), not just 'whatever happened', which is simple past. (b) and (c) are incorrect, making option A the answer. Choice (A)
3. In this question, the errors are in sentences (b) and (c). 'Ones' personality' in sentence (b) is an example of punctuation error. The apostrophe should be before 's' (one's). In sentence (d), 'the other' can be used if we are referring to someone specific. Since, it is a general reference, 'not another' is appropriate. Choice (B)
4. Sentence (a) has an error in the usage of preposition. 'Victim of political turmoil' not 'in'. Sentence d is incorrect because 'flee his country' is the correct usage not 'flee from'. Choice (B)
5. Sentence c is incomplete and hence incorrect. 'prohibition gave a huge boost' has to take an object (here bootlegging). Omission of article before bootlegger in sentence d makes it grammatically incorrect. Choice (D)
6. We do not enter a platform, we usually reach a platform. So sentence b is incorrect. Sentence (c) is incorrect because of the use of the conjunction 'and' in place of the 'to infinitive'. The sentence should read 'I had to wade through the crowd to reach my compartment.' Choice (C)
7. Statement (d) is incorrect. The expression 'invade into' his privacy is erroneous. He fears both "will invade his privacy" is correct. Choice (D)
8. Sentence (a) is erroneous because the adverbial form is predominantly not predominant. Sentence (b) speaks of monks (plural) and should end with 'lives' or it should be a modest In sentence (c), monks are charged is incorrect because the simple present tense implies it is a regular feature. 'In recent times' indicates that the present perfect tense (have been charged) has to be used. Choice (A)
9. In sentence (d), preposition 'in' has to be replaced by 'on' (people on the streets). Choice (B)
10. Forts and castles are marvels (plural) that remind one and not 'reminds' (error in subject – verb agreement). Choice (C)
- 29. IDENTIFY THE CORRECT SENTENCES:**
1. Sentence (b) is wrong because it should be 'a philosophical bent' (notice 'a quirk of personality in the next part of the sentence). In sentence (c) it should be ways of seeing since it talks of methods, tools (plural). Sentences (a) and (d) are right. Choice (C)
2. Sentence (a) must have the definite article 'the' before 'law'. Sentence (c) must be 'standards' (plural). Sentences (b) and (d) are right. Choice (D)

3. In sentence (a), the adverb 'actually' must be placed between the auxiliary and main verb – is actually under way. In sentence (c) it should be 'turns to'. Sentences (b) and (D) are right. Choice (B)
4. In sentence (c), it should be 'a broad spectrum'. In sentence (d), it should be 'in a number of Muslim countries....' Sentences (a) and (b) are right. Choice (A)
5. In sentence (b), it should be 'to save' (parallelism requires that two phrases or clauses having the same relationship to the verb must have the same structure). Sentence (d) must have 'than' (comparison) not instead of ; Sentences (a) and (c) are right. Choice (D)
30. **RESTATING A SENTENCE:**

1. Here the original sentence is about 'all good writing'. The author wants to stress on C things – it comes from the heart, is powerful, and touches the reader. These key elements are there in the sentence in option A. Choice (A)
2. Key words in the original sentence 'letters to cousins'....'fiction added to mundane activities' and the purpose of the writer was to 'entertain'. The essence is captured in option A. Choice (A)
3. The idea intended in the original sentence is "most men do not marry the kind of women they otherwise admire". Option C is closest to this idea. Choice (C)
4. 'All is fair.....' conveys the idea that the means do not matter. Only the end result matters. Choice (D)
5. The original sentence states that gentlemanliness stems from conscious choice and is not symptomatic of a lack of courage. This idea is conveyed in option C. Choice (C)
6. The maximum time mentioned in the original sentence for keeping a test tube on the Bunsen flame is ten minutes. Option A is ruled out because it says that the test tube should be kept on the flame for more than ten minutes. Option C says that we should remove the test tube for just ten minutes. Hence, the actual meaning gets distorted in this option too. Similarly, option D talks about 'waiting for ten minutes....'. Option B is the answer because the main idea is conveyed accurately. Choice (B)
7. The given sentence states that this year in the budget, more money was allocated to the agricultural sector than to any other sector. Only choice (3) conveys this very meaning. Choice (C)
8. The theme of the given sentence is that we know much less about the common cold than we know of many other diseases. Option D conveys this very idea. Choice (D)
9. The sentence says that aluminium is a better conductor of heat and electricity than other metals. Then the latter half says "except silver, copper and gold". So, it means that silver, copper and gold are the only metals that are better conductors of heat and electricity than aluminium. This is what option C says. Choice (C)
10. Here, the given sentence conveys the idea that a minimum balance savings accounts earns more interest. This is what option A also states. Choice (A)

31. CONCISE EXPRESSION OR BEST WAY OF WRITING OR CONFORMS TO STANDARD ENGLISH USAGE:

1. Here, B is better than D because D gives the wrong impression of a universal truth. B is the best because it is the assertion of a particular person about himself. Choice (B)
2. Option C is the most concise. Choice (C)
3. Choice A is ruled out because 'to square a circle productive assets' is verbose. Choice B is also ruled out because 'anomaly of iniquitous distribution' is not concise. Choice D does not capture the idea that is being expressed adequately. Choice C is the best. Choice (C)

4. Option A is the most concise way of conveying the central idea that more has been written about the Emergency while almost no attention has been paid to the Indian Railways strike. Choice (A)
5. The whole idea is neatly conveyed in option B. In option C, some key details like the name of the President, state funds and the year are missing. Choice (B)
6. Sentence A is incorrect because of the mix-up in tenses. The main clause (price revision has become) is in the present perfect tense and should take a present tense verb. 'Continued' is in the past tense in the sub-ordinate clause. Incorrect use of prepositions (in the higher side) in sentence B and (over a wide band) in sentence D eliminate these choices. Choice (C)
7. Sentence A is wrong because of the error in parallelism – to stay ahead and carving a niche is incorrect. It should either be 'staying ahead and carving a niche' or 'to stay ahead and carve a niche'. Improper phrasing (definition of India's fashion instead of Indian fashion) makes sentence B unacceptable. The phrasal verb 'brought about' is used when we refer to changes introduced. So, sentence C is also wrong. Sentence D has no grammatical error. Besides, the issues have been listed in the most appropriate order. The logical flow of ideas is maintained and hence this is the best choice. Choice (D)
8. 'Alternatively' is used to suggest a second choice or possibility. 'Alternately' suggests two things happening one after the other regularly. Options B and D can be eliminated on that score. The comma positioned after alternately in sentence C distorts the meaning. Choice (A)
9. The adverb 'allegedly' has been positioned at the incorrect place in sentence B. In sentence C 'alleged disappearance' of tigers is inconsistent with his having a major role. In sentence D, 'absconding of tigers' is an absurd idea. People abscond, not animals. Choice (A)
10. In sentence A, the article 'a' is unnecessary before relatively backward Orissa. In sentence B, the adverb 'by far' should be placed after 'as'. The deal must rank as and not 'must be ranked'. So, sentence C is also incorrect. Choice (D)
11. In neither nor construction, the verb agrees with the subject nearest to it. Hence intends. Further, the verb 'intend' should be followed by 'to' infinitive. Choice (C)
12. 'Despite' means 'in spite of', hence it cannot be followed by 'of'. In spite cannot be used without 'of'. Choice (D)
13. 'Several of the people' and 'several people was' are incorrect. 'Several people were' is the correct form. Choice (B)
14. Choice 'B' is wrong, as the pronoun 'you' is used instead of 'yours'. Choice 'C' is wrong, as it is the colours that are compared, not the watches. Choice 'D' is wrong as the preposition 'with' is not used with 'similar'. Hence, choice A is the correct statement. Choice (A)
15. The cumulative conjunctions 'as well as', 'and', 'both-and', 'not only-but also' are used to join two positive ideas. In choices A, B and C, wrong combinations of the conjunctions are used. (both-as well as; both-also; and also) Hence, choice D is correct. Choice (D)

32. SENTENCE ANAGRAM:

1. The last word in part b 'serious' can be followed by the first word 'attempt' in part d. Only options C & D have this sequence. Between c & d, only part c immediately states what the attempt was made for. Part a which begins with the preposition 'with' can be placed at the end. So choice C is the best. Choice (C)

2. Between part b and d, the options which begin with d can be the answer because part d refers to the main subject (a team of doctors). Option D which places c after d gives an absurd meaning (one heart transplanted to four patients). So, option B (dabc) is the answer. Choice (B)
3. In this question, the key lies in linking ba together. This link is provided only in choice C. The sequence provided in this option badc makes a logical sentence. Choice (C)
4. It is quite clear that bd should go together (political –dogma). This sequence is found in options A, B and D. part a (when our action is guided) has to be followed by part b (either by ...). This can be found only in option D. Choice (D)
5. In this question, it is clear that db (realised that she looked familiar) and ca (not remember when or where he had seen her) should go together. This sequencing is in options B and D. b at the end of the sentence makes it incomplete. So, dbca is the correct order. Choice (D)
6. Option B is ruled out because c cannot follow a. The sentence is not complete in this case. Also b cannot come after c. Option B is also ruled out because a cannot succeed b. Option C will also not be the answer as b coming after c is illogical. a follows d. Here the sentence is complete with the subject being "the power of morality" followed by the verb, which is followed by "of all intellectual powers". c precedes b. Choice (D)
7. The subject matter of the sentence is "the primary ...method of cognition : music....". Hence, b would follow a. And what does music do? "(It)....offers....automatic integration of sense data intomeaningful entity". Choice (C)
8. "...Competitiveness has reached a peak..." So, c would follow a. Also, d would come after c and b would come in the end. Choice (B)
9. The subject matter of the sentence is "The presence of corporates bodies." b would be the first line. a should follow b. c would come after d. c would be the last part of the sentence. Choice (D)
10. b cannot follow d. Hence, option A is ruled out. b cannot precede d. Hence, option C also cannot be the answer. a cannot follow c. Therefore, we rule out option D. "A biotech revolution...." is the subject matter of the given sentence. Hence, c comes first followed by b. Choice (B)
11. We cannot start the sentence with parts a, b, d because all of them have prepositions in the beginning. 'c' is the beginning part, followed by 'd' ('set up' should be followed by 'in Tamilnadu'). The reasons for the set up are given in 'b' and 'a'. b cannot be the final segment as it ends with 'and'. So, the order is cdba. Choice (C)
12. The subject of the sentence is part c and that is followed by a (committee set up by....). The phrase 'to study' (what ?) leads us to d (takeover) and the 'conclusion' is given in b. So, the order is cadb. Choice (C)
13. On observing the parts of the sentence and the given choices, it is clear that a is the beginning and the word 'busy' in 'a' leads us to 'c'. Then the subordinate clause given in b 'that they' follows and d completes the sentence. So, the order is acbd. Though b can follow a, c cannot follow b (shouting and demonstrating tells us about the M.Ps not how they deliberate). Similarly d follows b (b as the last part of the sentence sounds incomplete) Choice (D)
14. It is clear the cd go together (when decided) and ba go together (he would never enter). Between choice A and B, the latter is better because it gives the cause first and then the effect. Choice (B)
15. Here bd go together (when died) and ca go together (people suspected pollution ...). Choice (A)

33. PARAGRAPH ANAGRAM (Type – I):

1. 'a' cannot begin the para because it begins with the word 'it' and the word has not been explained in a, hence a is a continuation of a previous statement. (Choice B is ruled out). 'c' cannot start the para because it begins with 'now' and therefore does not make complete sense unless preceded by a previous statement. Hence choice C is ruled out. Between choices A and D, choice D seems to be more appropriate because it begins with 'b' which gives an introduction to what the para is about. Further 'this year' in d and 'Now' in c link the two and they must go together. Choice (D)
2. Statement d cannot begin the para because it states that there are other professions affiliated to conservation – this implies that the word 'conservation' has already been mentioned in a previous statement. Therefore choices A and D are ruled out. Between choices B and C which begin with a, only B is correct because in choice C there is no connection between statements a and b. Choice (B)
3. Choice A is ruled out because there is no clear link between 'd' and 'b'. Statements 'a' and 'c' may start the paragraph, but 'c' is a better choice as it introduces the topic of stress, whereas 'a' sounds like the continuation of a previous statement. Hence choice C is ruled out. Between choices B and D, D is a better option because 'a' follows, 'b' better than 'd' does. 'cb' talks about how stress used to be the disease of people racing down the fast lane of success, and 'a' continues in the same vein, stating that today, stress has become much more widespread than before. 'd' is an apt concluding statement as it deals with the likely cause of stress. Hence choice (D) is the most appropriate. Choice (D)
4. 'b' cannot start the paragraph because of the presence of the word 'its' which refers to something mentioned earlier. Hence choice b is ruled out. 'd' cannot start the paragraph either because of the word 'also' which implies that an alternative use of the ecosystem is mentioned in a previous statement. Hence choice d is also eliminated. Between choices A and C, C is better since 'a' follows 'e' better than 'd' does. 'a' elaborates on why medicinal plants are important. This is an explanation for what is mentioned in 'e'. Hence eacbd is the best option. Choice (C)
5. Since all answer choices start with 'b', we must choose between 'a', 'c' and 'e' to follow 'b'. 'e' is the best option as 'fumigation' can be logically linked up to 'cleaned up' in 'b'. Choices, C and D are eliminated. The difference between choices A and B is in the order of 'c' and 'd'. The sequence 'adc' makes more sense because 'a' mentions the reason for 'd' and 'c' mentions the likely impact of the actions mentioned in 'd'. Choice (B)
6. 'a' cannot be the opening line because of the word 'its' in it. b follows d. (This in b refers to ragging becoming a norm) Also, c is a better concluding remark than a. Choice (D)
7. The subject matter of the passage is 'language' and not 'mime'. Hence, a will be the first line. Also, d can't come after a. Hence, we rule out options A and B. Also, 'this method' (in c) refers to mime. Hence, c should come after b. Choice (C)
8. 'd' opens the paragraph in all four options. It is clear that both 'b' and 'c' can follow 'd'. However, 'b' should follow 'c' because 'such an approach' mentioned in 'c' refers to the militant approach mentioned in 'b'. Hence 'dcb' is a more logical sequence than 'dbc'. 'a' closes the paragraph. Choice (C)
9. 'a' cannot start the passage as the word 'also' indicates that some other statement has preceded it. Hence, option A is ruled out. Also, b can't be the first line because of the word 'it' in b. a following c is awkward. Choice (D)
10. 'a' cannot start the passage because 'so' indicates a conclusion. Hence, options A and D are ruled out. b is the opening sentence. Option C is ruled out because a cannot succeed d. Choice (B)

11. The paragraph talks about the damage caused to heritage sites by the Red Guards and not particularly about the palace mentioned in b. So d begins the para and is followed by b. 'Was not so lucky' in sentence a refers to the idea of escaping destruction in b. So dba. In sentence c, 'the statue', refers to 'the Buddha statue' mentioned in e and the ec sequence is clear. The fourth option dbaec is the best choice. Choice (D)
12. In this paragraph, b can be the opening sentence, but not the concluding sentence. As a concluding sentence, it is too abrupt. So, choice A can be eliminated. The "trade – off" in b is explained in sentence d. Between a and e, it is evident that a follows d because it introduces the 'lobbyists'. Knowing people on Capitol Hill is easier for a former legislator. This link can be established best only if e follows c and not vice versa. bdaec is the correct order. Choice (B)
13. The opening sentence is the same in all the options. 'Mild dose' in d refers to the 'herbal remedies' mentioned in b. So d has to follow b, which is the case in options A, B and C. The opening sentence talks about harmony within the system and its link with the external. Since diagnosis has to precede remedy, e should precede b. 'This was in keeping' in sentence a refers to the idea of surgery being considered a last resort in d. So, the sequencing is cebda. Choice (C)
14. The first clue to this question lies in linking sentences d and a. 'one of them' in d has to follow the 'three sleep difficulties' in a. This sequence is found only in option A and the solution becomes easy. Between c and e, either can be the opening sentence. But the ad sequence in option A makes (ceadb) the best choice. Choice (A)
15. The para is about the difference in attitudes of the Indian and the European to clouds and d introduces this. The structure of the first sentence makes it clear that the Indian's attitude has to be mentioned first. So e follows d. Cloud followed by rain is logical. So a follows d. 'For him' in c refers to the European in b. Clouds depress him and the sun is a symbol of happiness and cheer to him. Hence, sunny smile. Choice (D)
16. 'But' in a rules out a as the first statement. Hence, option A can be rejected. Option D is also ruled out because b cannot start the passage because of the word 'it' in it. Now, we need to decide whether b should come before or after a. b would come before a. The key indicator words are 'originally' in b and 'recent' in a. Choice (B)
17. a cannot start the passage because of the pronoun 'they' in it. Hence, option C can be rejected. c also cannot start the passage because of the words 'of these' in it. b is a good opening statement. Since b talks of two different things – science and religion, statement d with 'its' cannot come after b. 'It' would relate to only one thing. a can come after b because of the word 'they' in a. Also, 'these' indicates that c would come after a. The last line would be d. Choice (D)
18. The words "it, moreover, finally" suggest that b, c or d cannot start the passage. Hence, either C or D would be the answer. c cannot follow a. b logically follows a. Choice (C)
19. d cannot start the passage because of 'most of them' in it. Hence, option C is rejected. We have to now decide whether a or c is better as the opening line. c seems to be better. c would be followed by b. a would precede d. Choice (B)
20. a, b or c cannot start the passage because of the pronoun 'he' in a and b and the definite article "the" in c. Hence, either B or D is the answer. b cannot follow c because dcba is an awkward sequence. Choice (D)
21. b is the opening sentence (in all the choices) and it is followed by d (... 'lengthy documents' in b is followed by 'All of them ...' in d). This is followed by c ('Yet...' gives the exception to 'All of them') and then a (which adds one more point to what is said in c) Choice (C)
22. After reading all the statements quickly, we decide that 'd' should be the concluding statement, as it begins with 'hence'. So, we can rule out choices A and C. Between choices B and D, statement a is the introductory sentence as it has the phrase 'raises questions' and the controversy is in 'b'. So, the order is abcd. Choice (B)
23. c is the first sentence – from 'a currency' we come to 'the rupee'. This is followed by a – 'the manic existence' in c is continued in the 'rupee ruckus' in a. d follows giving specific instance of the 'rupee ruckus'. b is the concluding statement. Choice (C)
24. d is the opening sentence (in all the choices) and we find that c follows it (the proverbial wisdom of d is applied to the market place in c). a follows b – 'do so' in a refers to the action mentioned in b (pour good money after bad). Choice (B)
25. The opening statement b (in all the choices) is followed by d, 'these two views' in d refers to '... short and long-term outlook' in b. a follows d 'this' in a refers to the 'dicey situation' in d. Choice (D)
26. Only in statement c the word 'Shangri La' is explained whereas in statements a and b the word is mentioned casually. As such c is better as an opening statement. In Choice A, which begins with c, the statements are sequentially arranged to form a logically coherent paragraph. Choice (A)
27. Choice A cannot be the right answer because statement a should follow statement d because a reiterates the fact stated in Statement d – statement d states that Africa is more affected by global warming than other continents and this fact is emphasized by the findings of the study mentioned in statement a. The same reason is attributed to choice d for not being the right answer. Between choices B and C we must decide whether b follows c or the other way round. b follows c because c talks of industrial pollutions that offer protection and b says Africa not being industrialised lacks those. Choice (C)
28. While b and a seem suitable as the opening sentence of a para, a follows b - b ends with 'a new study shows' and a begins 'The study'. d follows a, the link being 'forest'. c concludes the para. Choice (B)
29. Since ba are the opening sentences in all the choices, we must decide on what follows. c is right – 'The reason for this painful paradox' as it links the situation presented in ba to the situation/solution in de. Choice (D)
30. c can be the opening sentence but d cannot follow it (... He should not stoop down ... in d cannot follow c which says vices rule the world). b seems appropriate as the opening sentence. Now be (in choices C and D) should be followed by d – '..... remains in the human level' in e is followed by 'That means'. Choice (C)
31. The words 'these influences', in statement 'a' indicate that 'a' is a continuation of an idea expressed in a previous statement. 'c' can begin the para and 'c' should be followed by 'b' as 'b' is a continuation of the idea expressed in 'c'. a follows e – the link being 'influences'. 'They' in d stands for '..... clarity of thought and perception' in a. Choice (B)
- 34. PARAGRAPH ANAGRAM (Type – II):**
1. 'a' cannot follow 1 because there is no connecting word that links 1 and a. Hence, options A and C are ruled out. Hence, either B or D is the answer. However, a cannot follow c because there is no logical connection between them. b follows c as it talks about the stones mentioned in c. d should follow b. a should follow d as it logically precedes 6. Choice (D)
2. Here, the subject of 1 is the time period between 1206 A.D. and 1526 A.D. Hence, a cannot follow 1 where the reference is to 'dynasties'. For the same reason d too cannot come after 1. Hence, by the method of elimination we arrive at the

- conclusion that b would come after 1. The answer would be option A. You may do a quick check. b follows 1 because b discusses the time period between 1206 A.D. and 1526 A.D. In b there is reference to five dynasties that ruled. c says, "Out of these five dynasties...". Hence, c comes after a. Also, d would precede 6. Choice (B)
3. 'His' in a refers to Gandhi. Hence, a follows 1. Also, d would precede 6. Such a combination is present in option A. Choice (A)
4. b would precede 6 as b refers to a device invented by Pascal while 6 is a logical sequel to b. Only option B has a combination with b in the end. One can read this option for further confirmation. Also, d, a or c cannot come before 6. Choice (B)
5. c should precede b. Look at the words, "on one occasion...." and on yet another occasion...." Such a combination is present in option D. Hence, we scrutinize this option further. a can follow 1, because the subject is Gandhi. Also, the words "all-pervasive" are there in b and d. Hence, d can follow b. Choice (D)
6. After reading all the statements, we can decide that a comes before statement 6. As per the order of the words (planning, ingenuity, cunning) in statement a, dcb is the correct sequence. Hence, the order is dcba. Choice (C)
7. After reading all the given statements, we know that a should precede statement 6 (... pinball machines in a and three shots in 6). b should follow d (Though he lost money, he was in high spirits) c follows b. Hence, the order is dbca. Choice (C)
8. c follows 1 – 'windy and very cold' in 1 makes you wish you had 'gloves and muffler'. 'But' in d links it to c (the alternative he was forced to choose). The 'brisk walk' in d leads him to 'the theatre half-an-hour before....' in a. b precedes 6 – 'Hello Dolly' is the name of the movie in matinee show. Choice (D)
9. After reading the statements we know that a precedes statement 6, and d follows b – d gives an example for what is stated in b. c follows statement 1 (power is the clue). So, the correct order is cbda. Choice (A)
10. After reading the given statements, we decide that d precedes statement 6 and a precedes d. c follows statement 1 and b follows c, as both the statements describe the restaurant. So, the order is cbad. Choice (C)
11. The words "more than 90% of land" in sentence d and "That figure climbing to 100% in sentence a provide the clue to a following d. So, option B can be eliminated on that score. The concluding sentence talks about some factors causing the damage (as doing the rest). This is linked to sentence b (some damage). So, option C which puts b at the penultimate position is right. The opening sentence talks about Spain. Sentence c which begins with "A third of the country" follows the opening sentence. The sequence is cdab. Choice (C)
12. The para deals with reasons for Africa's poverty. The idea that West is not going to help, in the opening sentence is followed by "It is Africa" which must force the change in c. "The answer is" in sentence a answers the question raised in sentence d. 'They' in 6 refers to Africans in b. So b precedes 6. cdab is the correct sequence. Choice (B)
13. The opening sentence talks of a business group's plan of becoming a multi-activity conglomerate. This is followed by sentence d, the wealth it is likely to generate if Mittal's plan succeeds. 'Changi airport' and "Rothschild" in sentence b are the "world's best names" mentioned in c. So, b follows c. "Retail project" in a is linked to the "supermarket giant" in the concluding sentence. The sequence is dcba. Choice (D)
14. The pronoun "They" in sentence b following 'human beings' in the opening sentence is logical. Also, b explains the 'strange activity' mentioned in the opening sentence. "These texts" in sentence d following sentence b is also clear. The reference to 'crisis' in sentence a is an extension of "problematic situations" in sentence d. 'Great deal of scriptural activity' in sentence c is described as being ironic in the last sentence. The correct order is bdac. Choice (A)
15. 'Others call them' in sentence a has to follow sentence b (MD calls them). So ba link is clear, and based on this clue, only option C can be eliminated. Sentence d, which conveys the idea of the generation dealing with problems too soon and meeting with a quarter life crisis explains why d has to precede 6. Besides, the words "impatient aspirers" in sentence a are linked to "way too soon" in d. So, cbad is the correct order. Choice (B)
16. The paragraph is about a group fighting for the rights of the Palestinians. 'This group' in sentence c refers to the Palestinian campaign for Freedom and Peace which has been introduced in the opening sentence. So c follows the first statement. The sixth sentence beginning with the conjunction 'But' gives a clue that it is linked to sentence b (group staying away from militant outfits). 'Involvement of women' in sentence c is followed by violent action not attracting women in sentence d. So, the sequence is cdab. Choice (A)
17. In this para, it is very clear that sentence d will be followed by sentence b – the word 'some' followed by 'others'. Similarly, sentence a following sentence c is also logical. Sentence c refers to 'a study' and sentence a specifies the study. This order can be seen only in option C. Also note that the sixth sentence is linked to the idea expressed in sentence a. Choice (C)
18. 'No proper exit route' in sentence c is linked to the 'disaster to' a small entrepreneur in the opening sentence. The pronoun 'He' in sentence b refers to 'An entrepreneur in sentence a. b follows a. So, the correct sequence in cbad. Choice (B)
19. The words 'suggests otherwise' in sentence d are regarding the impression that 'Mao has been shelved' in the opening sentence. So d follows 1. Sentence c following sentence b is clear (rough hands and clothes revealing their rural background). Reference to 'mausoleum' in sentence a and details about its location in the concluding sentence makes a the penultimate sentence. The sequence is dbca. Choice (A)
20. c is a continuation of the first sentence. 'Subsequently the growth rate halved' in sentence d makes it clear that b has to precede it 'Slump' in a is linked to 'slide' in the sixth sentence. So, the correct order in cbda. Choice (D)
21. 'a' would follow 1 and d would precede 6. c has another example, while b has the first example (of Arjuna Ranatunga). Choice (D)
22. 'b' follows '1' because it gives an example of the "best efforts to be good-looking" – mentioned in '1'. It is followed by 'a'. The key words are "Later I came to understand". Also 'c' precedes '6'. Hence (D) is the appropriate choice. Choice (D)
- 35. PARAGRAPH WITH A MISSING SENTENCE:**
1. The tone of the paragraph is optimistic throughout. Hence choice B that talks of auguring well fits well. All the other options are pessimistic, which is not in keeping with the paragraph. Choice (B)
2. Since the paragraph begins by saying you are the architect of your own future, the concluding line has to reinforce this. Both choices C and D appear to be suitable. But if we look

at the sentence before the blank it talks of preparation for the future. Hence choice D, which also talks of preparation and carries the idea forward, is the most suitable.

Choice (D)

3. The paragraph talks of the old and the new coexisting side by side. Choice C also has this idea and hence is most appropriate to end the para with. Choice D can be ruled out because it suggests that the new sticks out awkwardly.

Choice (C)

4. The paragraph begins with a 'breakthrough' and goes on to explain what it is. Choice B can be ruled out because it is too certain in tone. Choice C is appropriate.

Choice (C)

36. ODD MAN OUT:

1. 'Lawyer' is the odd man out. The others watch the proceedings and can give a verdict.

Choice (D)

2. Reading, spelling and speaking are language abilities, whereas 'counting' deals with numerical ability.

Choice (C)

3. 'Coliseum' is an arena where sports events are held. The others are places of worship.

Choice (D)

4. The process of saturation does not involve change of state from one form to the other (liquid, gas, or solid).

Choice (C)

5. Slip, skid and trip are actions which are accidental. 'Skip' is intentional.

Choice (C)

6. Breathing is an involuntary action. The others are voluntary.

Choice (D)

7. While the others are winds, 'Tsunami' is a tidal wave.

Choice (B)

8. Volleyball, Soccer and football are played with a ball only. Baseball is played with a bat and a ball.

Choice (C)

9. While the other three are machines or gadgets 'electricity' is a form of energy.

Choice (D)

10. Afforestation is the odd man. The others highlight threats to the environment.

Choice (B)

37. BEST SUMMARY

1. The extract talks about the
(1) factors which are tourist attractions (cultural heritage and beach resorts).
(2) how tourism helps local art and craft industry and promoters access to global culture.
(3) threat tourism poses to local culture and environment.

All these points have been covered best in option B and hence is the best choice. Thailand has been cited as an example and should not be included in a summary. So, option A is eliminated. Option C has mentioned tropical climate as a tourist attraction. This is a distortion. Besides, it has omitted the threat to culture. Option D has not specified beach resorts and the craft industry.

Choice (B)

2. The first option is not suitable, because 'ironically' conveys an opinion which is not part of the original extract. Peace and happiness are examples and can be omitted. The last sentence of option B is an empty statement conveying no idea. Between C and D, D is more concise and is preferred.

Choice (D)

3. Options C and D distort the ideas. In option C "when a fashion becomes outdated it is a fad". is a distortion. Fashions do not get replaced by fads as stated in option D. Option A has omitted the idea that fashion includes behaviour. It also fails to mention that fashion keeps changing. Option B is the best answer.

Choice (B)

4. The main points in this extract are (1) Charlie Chaplin's portrayal of tramp and its universal appeal (2) qualities of the tramp (3) Chaplin's skill in miming and (4) language being no barrier. All these have been effectively conveyed in option C. Option D has omitted the 'tramp'. Option B – the last sentence is a distortion. Option A is not brief.

Choice (C)

5. All the options other than option A are distorted. Democracy fails due to intelligence failure, is the distortion in option B. It 'is the perfect form of government' is the distortion in option C, and the last sentence is a distortion in option D. Option A is correct and concise.

Choice (A)

6. The last sentence in option A which states that God-like qualities neutralize the devil is a distortion. Choice C omits the idea of the god-like and the devil-like qualities in man. Choice D lists out the ideals which man has held dear. This is not done in a summary. Besides the last sentence here is also a distortion. Choice B captures all the ideas in the text in the most concise manner. These include

- (1) Man's spirit of sacrifice to uphold ideals.
(2) This spirit making up for all his failings.
(3) His challenging Nature, despite his limitations.
(4) The divine and the devil in him.

Choice (B)

7. The main ideas in this extract are
(1) Change in people's attitude to jobs.
(2) Companies adopting new recruitment procedures.
(3) Shift from the 'life time' to the contractual model.
(4) use of scientific testing tools and competency-based interviews.

All these points have been covered only in option 4 without any distortion. Option A and C seem to suggest that written tests and interviews are no longer in use. The extract talks about making the test and interview more scientific and comprehensive. Option B is incorrect because the passage does not talk about employees' preference for contractual jobs. It states that employers are shifting the model. Hence, option D is the best choice.

Choice (D)

8. In this question, note that there is a hypothetical situation presented. In a summary, the details of the hypothesis should not be mentioned. On that score, option D can be eliminated. Options B and C convey the idea that god did not intend to have a perfect world. The passage only states that god intended to introduce the suspense element in everyone's life. Option A is the correct choice.

Choice (A)

9. The last sentence in option A covers only a partial idea of what researchers claim about tea. We cannot conclude that tea drinking originated in Asia from the facts provided. So, option B is also eliminated. Option D fails to mention Europe. Choice C is the best choice.

Choice (C)

10. The ideal habitat for elephants has not been mentioned in option A. Both options B and C are distorted. All elephants other than Terai Bhabhar live in vast forest lands is not true. Biologists have not called for measures to save the elephant as stated in option C. Option D is the best choice.

Choice (D)

38. FACTS, INFERENCE AND JUDGMENT:

1. (a) is a fact because it can be proved.
(b) is somebody's opinion.
(c) This too can be ascertained and hence is a fact.
(d) is a statement which is of 'CAUSE and EFFECT' type. If this (cause)..... then this (effect). d is an inference.

Choice (A)

2. (a) is a verifiable fact.
(b) There was a loss (cause) and it could be in billions of rupees (inference).
(c) This is the opinion of a person (personal judgement).
(d) This again is a scientific fact.

Choice (B)

3. (a) is the judgement of a person. It is how he feels.
(b) Anyone can verify this statement. Hence, it is a fact.
(c) One can find out whether industries are also being subjected to powercuts or not. This can be verified. Hence, this statement is also a fact.
(d) If X happens then the effect will be Y. Hence, the given statement is an inference. Choice (C)
4. (a) Ascertainable fact.
(b) If "objects lie scattered" there may have been "a struggle preceding the murder". Hence, inference.
(c) is the author's personal opinion. Hence, judgement.
(d) (If) the safe was broken (then) the motive could be..... inference. Choice (C)
5. (a) Ascertainable fact (one can find out whether this is right or wrong).
(b) Author's perception (Judgement).
(c) More workload, little social life (Inference).
(d) This is again the author's opinion. (somebody else may disagree). Hence this statement is a judgement. Choice (D)
13. 'Obfuscation' is lack of clarity. All the pairs except Proclivity: Penchant share an antonymous relationship as the capitalized pair of words. 'Proclivity' is the tendency to behave in a particular way or to like a particular thing and 'penchant' also means having a special liking for something or a tendency to do something. Choice (B)
14. The words that can fit into the first blank are proxy, substitute and surrogate; betrayal cannot go into the blank because it means the act of cheating. And the word that can go into the second blank is entrenched (deep-rooted). 'Inveterate' is ruled out because it often goes with habits or feelings and not symbols. 'Cantonal' means regional; hence ruled out. Choice (B)
15. The words 'foreign invaders conquered and successively ruled' and 'while' indicate that the blank requires an equivalent of 'ruled by the natives', which is 'indigenous'. Inborn means "existing from birth" – it is generally used for natural qualities. The Inherent qualities of something are the necessary and natural parts of it. 'Intrinsic' means belonging naturally, essential. Hence (B), (C), and (D) do not suit the above context. Choice (A)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 1

1. 'Bucolic' means connected with country or village life and the word that means the same is 'rustic'. Choice (C)
2. While some dictionaries provide the meaning as choice (A), other provide it as choice (D). Choice (A) is closest in meaning to the original French phrase, while choice (D) is the way the phrase is normally used in modern day English, in the context of economic policy. Choice (A)
3. 'Gridlocked' in the context means becoming powerless to act in a way that the E.U likes to. The word that means the same is 'straitjacketed'. Choice (B)
4. The word that can replace the given phrase is 'laconic', 'prolix' and 'voluble' mean wordy and 'succinct' means expressed clearly and in a few words, hence it has a positive connotation. Choice (A)
5. 'Precipitate' means to make something happen faster and the opposite would be 'retard'. If something retards a process or the development of something, it makes it happen at a slower pace. Choice (B)
6. The antonymous pair is b – d. Pliant means easy to influence or convince while 'obstinate' means difficult to convince. Choice (D)
7. The idiom 'pull oneself by the bootstraps' means to improve one's position by one's efforts. Choice (B)
8. The word 'matter' can be used in all 4 sentences. 4 times
9. 'Promulgate' means to spread an idea widely. The word that can substitute it is 'promote'. Choice (C)
10. The fact that capuchins manage to find ways to live in almost any kind of habitat shows that they are adaptable (ability to adjust to changing conditions). Choice (B)
11. The word 'terminal' means certain to come to an end. The word that cannot replace it is 'lethal' which means 'able to cause death'. The decline is not causing danger, rather it is the habitat which is causing the decline. The remaining words can replace terminal. Choice (D)
12. The word that can go with all the four words is 'party'. 'Party favours' means small gifts given to children at a party; 'party line' refers to the official opinions and policies of a political party; 'party spirit' refers to the sort of mood in which you can enjoy a party and someone's 'party piece' is something that they often do to entertain people at parties, for example singing a particular song. etc. Choice (D)
16. 'Dominated' goes into the blank as it means "having a commanding or controlling influence over"
To 'tyrannise' is to use power over someone, to threaten them cruelly or unfairly.
To 'overrule' means to officially decide that a decision is incorrect. It is generally done by someone in authority.
To 'bully' is to frighten or intimidate Hence (B), (C), and (D) do not suit the above context. Choice (A)
17. Passive goes into the third blank as it means "accepting or allowing what happens without active response resistance."
'untouched' means unaffected 'unstirred' also means unmoved.
'docile' means 'ready to accept control', but is generally used for living things. Hence (A), (B), and (C) do not suit the above context. Choice (D)
18. The word 'repeat' is wrongly used in Choice (B). It should be..... repeat after her.... that means to say what she has said. Choice (B)
19. Explanation
In 1 'seemed' is appropriate since the sentence is about the way someone feels. 'Appeared' is used when we wish to present what someone understands. In 2 'stirring' is appropriate since the context indicates (using the words sleepest of sleepy) that there was not even the slightest movement. In 3, things are 'faint' in visibility, not 'light'. In 4, a bird floating on lazy wing is one that is staying aloft by gliding, wings widespread but motionless. In 5 'but' is appropriate. We use 'but for' in the sense of reason presented.
Thus 'abbab'. Choice (B)
20. 'So' is followed by 'that' and not 'so'.
'too' is not followed by 'that' and the same is the case with 'very'. Choice (C)
21. There are errors in both the sentences.
I. make fun 'of' someone and not 'at' someone.
II. Japanese should be preceded by 'the'. The reference is to the natives of a particular country. Choice (C)
22. Option (D) is the best as there are errors in the rest of the options
(A) the article 'a' is missing before 'devotee'
(B) the adverb 'incessantly' should be placed after the object.
(C) definite article 'the' should be placed before 'Almighty' as it refers to something that is unique. Choice (D)

23. There are errors in
(b) 'beneficial to' mankind' and not 'for' mankind.
'Beneficial to' and 'beneficial for' are used as follows:
Exercise is beneficial to you.
Exercise is beneficial to your health.
(d) 'is' should follow 'suffering'. Choice (B)
24. Explanation
Line a has no error.
In line b the adverb 'diligently' is wrongly placed. It obstructs the continuity of the thought "...train ourselves to lie judiciously...". 'Diligently' should be placed before 'train'.
Line c has no error.
In line d the auxiliary verb 'will' is wrongly placed. Since the statement specifies a pre-requisite (only then), it should read "...only then will we be worthy dwellers...".
Line e has an error. It needs a comma after 'lies', since the following portion represents additional information (of exception to the habit).
The corrected sentences are:
"Therefore, the wise thing is for us to diligently train ourselves to lie judiciously;"
"Only then will we be worthy dwellers"
"....where even benign Nature habitually lies, except when....". Choice (C)
25. Option (C) expresses the idea clearly and briefly.
Option (B) is unnecessarily elaborate. Option (D) does not provide all the points clearly. It is superficial.
Option (A) is very close to option (C), but is not as concise. Choice (C)
26. (c) is the beginning of the sentence as it introduces the idea/view.
(a) follows as the word "would be taking a long step".is a logical connection.
(d) and (b) follow.
(b) has a concluding tone.
Hence cadb Choice (C)
27. (b) is the opening statement as it introduces the topic.
(d) takes the idea of 'attacks via web' forward and explains how it happens.
(a) follows as the term 'malicious' that is used in (d) is explained here.
(c) gives more insight into the topic by providing more details.
(e) 'These' devices clearly refers to 'laptops and mobile devices' mentioned in (c)
Hence bdace Choice (C)
28. The option that best concludes the paragraph is option (C).
Option (A) takes the idea forward but doesn't conclude, even though it seems like a conclusion.
Option (B) strengthens the idea that light is harmful to animals but it does not conclude the para.
Option (D) talks about advancements which are related to the issue being discussed. It does not conclude the paragraph.
Option (C) has a concluding tone and is in line with '... grave ... environmental threat ...'. Choice (C)
29. The paragraph, appropriately sequenced is as follows:
(D) The tortoise is a ground-living creature that lives as close as possible to the ground without being under it.
(A) It has about as good a turn of speed as a creature needs to hunt down a lettuce.
(C) It has survived while the rest of evolution flowed past it by being, on the whole, no threat to anyone and too much trouble to eat.
We need (D) since it presents the primary subject, the tortoise. (A) follows by telling us about its very slow pace in movement and this is the reason that it poses no threat to anyone, the thought in (C).
The statement that is to be omitted is (B): "Its horizons are a few inches away". While this does tell us something about the tortoise, it does not contribute to the purpose of the paragraph. Choice (B)

30. The essence of the text is best encapsulated in choice (B) option (A) provides an example because of which it is not as concise, option (C) talks about the same thing as option (B) but the word 'imposed' means forcing on something and hence it does not go with the word 'unconsciously'. Also, 'our past experiences tend to' is a repetition of the first sentence and hence there is also a problem of redundancy in option (C) Choice (B)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 2

Explanatory notes for questions 1 to 10:

- The pronoun 'they' in 'A' and the opening words - 'on the other hand' and 'on the one hand' of sentences 'C' and 'D', respectively, suggest that statements 'A', 'C' and 'D' cannot open the paragraph. 'B' is the only sentence that can open the paragraph. Ans : BDCA
- The words 'the atrocities', 'the all-Dalit village', 'the caste related clashes' are the references to 'black chapter' and 'a remote village' mentioned in 'C'. Hence the opening sentence is 'C' not 'B'. 'It' in D refers to the 'writ petition' mentioned in A. Hence CBAD is appropriate. Ans : CBAD
- Sentence E introduces us to the idea of technological progress and economic growth. The result of this is given in Sentence A. The effects of this growth are given in sentences B and C. Sentence D concludes the passage. While B could draw attention as a possible opening sentence, B and A have no link. Ans : EABCD
- B can be the opening statement. A can follow B because the theme remains 'Russia' and the 'space programs'. Also, the idea of the collapse of the Soviet Union is further explained in D. Hence, D comes after A and C follows D. Hence BADC is the logical sequence. Ans : BADC
- Statements C and D go together, because the 'them' in D refers to the Britons who are not going out and spending money. D and B go together because both of them deal with the government's take on the situation. A is the concluding sentence. Hence CDBA is the correct sequence. Ans : CDBA
- In E, the word 'they' refers to people. Hence, B which is the first sentence of the paragraph should precede E. The idea of moving slowly is further explained in C. A is a perfect sequel to C. And D can be the closing statement. Therefore BECAD is the appropriate sequence. Ans : BEACD
- A is the opening statement since it mentions an event that is discussed in the other sentences. C follows A - 'it' in C refers to the broken arm in A. E explains the effect of the injury. D further explains it and B is a good closing statement. The appropriate sequence is ACEDB. Ans : ACEDB
- It is only statement 'C' that begins the passage by discussing 'Eco-tourism industry' in India. The possessive pronoun 'its' in D refers to the 'Eco-tourism' of 'C' and so D follows C. A, which explains why its track record is low, follows D. E carries forward the idea. The demonstrative pronoun 'this' in 'B' refers to the percentage mentioned in 'E'. Hence B is a continuation of E. Ans : CDAEB
- Sentence 'C' which speaks of the 'rich variety of wetland habitats' introduces the topic. Statement B which refers to the total area of wetlands follows C. The words "realising the importance" in A continues the idea further. Hence CBA go together. Further, ED goes together. Ans : CBAED
- 'B' is the most appropriate opening statement, since it presents an analysis of presidential and cabinet systems of government. The words 'To begin with' suggest that C follows B. A continues the idea further. 'Unlike this' in E suggests that E follows and finally D concludes. Ans : BCAED

Explanatory notes for questions 11 to 13:

11. One way of explaining a scientific term is to start with the 'known' or 'familiar' and move on to the 'unknown' or 'unfamiliar'. The passage begins by introducing cloning as 'making identical copy.....', a simple concept that the reader may know. Then the concept is further explained: 'Clones are exact replica.....'. This idea is further explained in the next sentence: 'they represent a population of genetically identical organism....'. A more unknown area is dealt with in the next sentence: 'this term is also applied to a population of viruses....'. And in conclusion, the ability to clone DNAis an important technique.... Choice (C)
12. The paragraph opens by mentioning the lessons to be drawn from Steve Jobs. The next sentence adds to what is stated in the first sentence: he asked a question expecting a particular answer. The next sentence states the reply. The sentence that follows further explains the reply. The last sentence is the concluding comment from the author: business schools will be studying the significance of his accomplishment. Choice (A)
13. d begins the passage and it talks of a present condition. It states that man has been 'mutilated'. How? We go back to the past to statement (a). The past tense 'believed' in (a) and 'was considered' in c sum up the consequence mentioned in (e). We now come back to the present and the end result is mentioned in (b) and it is the concluding statement. So the right order is daceb. Choice (B)

Explanatory notes for questions 14 to 18:

14. From the choices either 'd' or 'b' may follow statement 1. 'd' fails to follow 1 logically. Hence choices (A) and (D) can be ruled out. The words "a late spring night" in statement 1 finds a continuation in 'b'. a follows describing the scene further. Hence badc Choice (C)
15. Indeed it is 'c' alone that elaborates on the words 'the watchword in Singapore' found in the opening sentence. Moreover 'the findings' (of 'd') are the result of an 'action committee' referred to in 'b'. Hence 'd' should follow 'b'. But in choices (A) and (B), 'd' follows 'c' and 'd' cannot be the continuation of the opening sentence. Hence cabd. Choice (D)
16. As there is no reference to 'most of the mines' of 'a' in the opening sentence, it cannot be the continuation of statement 1. 'b' is fit to be the second sentence as it focuses 'mining' as one of the reasons for the threats to tiger, in continuation to the first sentence. Then 'c' explains why 'mines' have become a threat and 'a' and d elaborate on it. Hence bcad Choice (C)
17. Though d and a seem to be the continuation of the opening sentence at first glance, Choice A can be ruled out statement 'c' cannot fit in follow B, because neither can it follow d (Choice C). For, in choice (A), b says that 'a few announcements are implemented then c which follows b, says that the country looks forward to the budget speech of the Finance Minister. It is the minister who has to announce, so minister cannot follow the announcements. So also in (C), statement d which speaks of the 'sops for weaker sections', and 'concessions in income tax' should follow the Finance Minister's speech in (C). It is the minister who announces the concessions or anything. Indeed, the opening words, 'Followed by a pre-budget economic survey' refer to the 'lot of hype presentation'. Then between (B) and (D), which start with 'c', answer Choice (D) is apt as the last sentence (6) of the passage refers to the 'announcements' talked about in statement b which is the last sentence in the sequence in (D). Choice (D)
18. 'b' cannot follow '1' because there is nothing in '1' to connect with the word 'Then'. 'd' justifies what is stated in '1', thus 'd' should follow '1'. 'b' connects with 'Then', by elaborating further. 'a' then states a fact and 'c' connects with the word 'But'. Thus choice C is the answer. Choice (C)

Explanatory notes for questions 19 to 25:

19. Clearly, C opens the author's discussion on what he dislikes. Now, 'this' in A refers to 'others' lack of planning' in C. Similarly, 'this' in D also refers to the same. So we have a logical sequence in CAD. B talks about 'Indian time' which may not necessarily refer to 'lack of planning and so is the odd one out. Choice (B)
20. The topic of the passage is the fact that football produces saints sometimes with the example of Manna. This means that A, C and D are linked. D introduces the contrasting fact. C brings in the main point. A concludes the discussion. B which makes a general irrelevant statement about football is the odd one out. Choice (B)
21. Clearly, the para is about why Romney triumphed over his rivals. This is introduced in B. A explains that and D presents a contrast to that. C, by talking about 'blaming', becomes the odd one as the discussion is about taking credit. Choice (C)
22. Clearly, A follows D ('but' connects then). B concludes the discussion. C, with an irrelevant idea is the odd one. Choice (A)
23. The topic is 'silly books on Success'. Clearly, BAC is the logical link. D makes a general statement about success which is irrelevant to the topic. Choice (D)
24. Options B, C and D are about India's relations with China, but option A talks about India's intervention in Maldives. Choice (A)
25. Options B, C and D are about coaching given to employees and executives and how it is taken by them. But option A talks about its evaluation. Choice (A)

Explanatory notes for questions 26 to 35:

26. Statement D begins the paragraph by introducing the topic on which the paragraph is based – Aditya - 11 the Indian sun mission due after three years. Statement B follows D by stating a condition that the said mission would be possible only if the Advisory Committee on Space Sciences, has its way. Statement E follows B by stating that discussions to this effect are under way. Statement A follows E by further describing Aditya and mentions the brain behind conceiving and designing it. Hence statements DBEA form a sequence. Statement C can begin another paragraph but it does not form a logical sequence with DBEA. Ans : (C)
27. Statement A begins the paragraph by speaking about the avalanche on the Siachen glacier which buried ten soldiers of the Indian army. 'This was not an isolated incident', in C refers to the incident mentioned in A. Hence C follows A. E corroborates what is stated in C by citing the instance of another tragic incident. Statement D sums up what is stated in ACE by stating that avalanches are equally dangerous to both Indian and Pakistan troops. Hence ACED form a sequence. Statement B which speaks about demilitarizing the glacier, does not form a part of this sequence and is therefore the odd man out. Ans : (B)
28. Statement B, which begins the paragraph with what Mahatma Gandhi opined about the Indian cities, introduces us to main idea on which the paragraph is based. Statement D follows B by describing about the squalid urban landscapes of the 21st century. 'Since then' in D refers to the situation a century ago during the time of Mahatma Gandhi. Statement A is a continuation of D and C carries forward what is stated in D. Hence BDAC is the logical sequence. E which brings in another idea – environmental governance is the odd one out. Ans : (E)
29. Statement E states the main topic – i.e. the Munich agreement which is intended to end hostilities in Syria. Statement C follows E by pointing to the indifference which the World displayed, for many years, to the war situation in

Syria. A and D, in that order, bring out the gravity of the situation in Syria. Hence ECAD is a sequence, Statement B could start another paragraph but does not form a sequence with ECAD.
Ans : (B)

30. Statement B begins the para by stating how the sky was being observed with optical telescopes, during the time of Galileo. E follows B by mentioning the different wavelengths of the electromagnetic spectrum which were a result of the advances in technology. A carries forward the paragraph by talking about other advancements which enabled scientists to gain new insights into the working of the universe. Statement D concludes by mentioning about neutrinos which have been discovered in the last few decades. Hence BEAD make a paragraph. Statement C does not form a part of this sequence.
Ans : (C)

31. Statement D brings out the main idea i.e. the double standards faced by men and women. 'This' in B refers to the double standards mentioned in D, hence B follows D. Statements A and E, in that order, go on to explain how the double standards show up in language. Therefore DBAE form a logically coherent paragraph. Statement C which brings in another idea is the odd man out.
Ans : (C)

32. Statement A opens the paragraph by mentioning a well known fact. C, which states how alcohol destroys the liver of habitual drinkers is a mystery, presents a contrast with what is stated in A, E is a continuation of C. B follows C by stating that there is another cause for liver damage. Statement D, which does not form a part of the sequence ACEB, is the odd man out.
Ans : (D)

33. Statement C, which gives an introduction to the subsequent sentences, is the opening sentence. Statement B follows C by describing the present situation, stating that now things are not as bad (as they were in the 1940s) but Los Angeles is still the worst city in the U.S. with reference to pollution. Hence C and B form a pair. Statement E follows B by corroborating what is stated in B as it describes the situation in the southern part of the state. A follows E as it is an extension of what is stated in A. Hence statements CBEA form a logical sequence. Statement D which brings in another idea is clearly the odd man out.
Ans : (D)

34. Only statement A can begin the paragraph as each of the other sentences have to be preceded by another sentence. Statement D follows A by giving the reason why Sri Lanka seems to be sitting pretty. Statement C carries forward what is stated in D. Statement E follows C by giving one more reason why Sri Lanka seems to be sitting pretty. Therefore statements ADCE form a paragraph. Statement B which presents an idea which totally contradicts what is stated in ADCE is the odd man out.
Ans : (B)

35. Statement C talks about the genes, which most of us have, that make us as hardy as dandelions. Statement A follows C as it carries forward the same idea by comparing a few people to orchids. 'So holds a provocative theory of genetics' in B, throws light on what has been discussed in C and A. Statement E explains the 'adaptability and evolutionary success discussed in B, by giving the example of orchid children, who, with the right environment and good parenting can become successful and happy people. Hence statements CABE form a logically coherent paragraph and statement D talks about something which is entirely different from what is being discussed in CABE. Therefore D is the odd sentence.
Ans : (D)

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Explanatory notes for questions 1 and 2:

1. The paragraph narrates an incident. Statement c begins the narrative. Statement a comes next in the sequence as it carries forward the narrative. 'Their suggestions' in b refers to the suggestions which people made. Hence b is a continuation of a. 'them' in d refers to the suggestion made by people. e is a continuation of d. Hence cabde is the logical sequence.
Choice (D)

2. Only statement (b) can begin the para and it mentions "two reforms" which are detailed in (d) and (a) respectively. What happens if rural areas are supplied power at night? This is mentioned in statements (e) and (c) in that order. The practice in (e) is the result of 'a notion' in (a). Also price-realization by the farmer is the last step leading to place (c) as the conclusion.
Choice (A)

Explanatory notes for question 3:

3. B holes being revealed is unlikely to begin the paragraph, given that the cause for the craters have to be discussed first as in D. EA makes a mandatory pair of the drunk and the sober. D describes the current scenario in Chicago. BC also makes a mandatory pair with discussions of budgets and states with and without money.
Ans : EADBC

Explanatory notes for question 4:

4. Options A, C and D talk about the effects of receding glaciers and a step taken to counter one of them while option B is not directly connected to that topic. It talks about deforestation.
Choice (B)

Explanatory notes for question 5:

5. Statement C which sets the tone of the paragraph is ideally the opening sentence. Statement E which explains how Africa, captures the romance of the early days of flight is a continuation of E. Statements D and B, in that order, give examples of the charming anachronisms discussed in E. Hence statements CEDB form a logically coherent paragraph. Statement A, which speaks about airlines flying new routes, does not form a sequence with CEDB and is therefore the odd man out.
Ans : (A)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 3

Explanatory notes for questions 1 to 35:

1. Choice (C) is the most appropriate as the concluding statement because it sums up the para. The first three sentences state that industrial societies are obsessed with economic growth because they think it is a sign of progress and they believe that globalization is an effective way to achieve economic growth. Hence mass production and mass transportation of food has become a normal practice. Therefore choice (C) is the most logical when compared to the other options.
Choice (C)
2. Option (A) is the most appropriate statement to follow the second statement because the second statement states that the inefficiency of modern industry surpasses one's ordinary powers of imagination, and Choice (A), which says "therefore the inefficiency of modern industry remains unnoticed", sums up the para. The remaining options are not related.
Choice (A)
3. The sentences which precede the blank show that modern communication techniques made communication easier and helped in developing relationships that do not require face-to-face contact. Choice (B) sums up the paragraph by saying that community is being stretched over a wider area, thanks to modern communication techniques. The remaining options are not proper concluding statements.
Choice (B)
4. The sentence which precedes the blank states that employers favour long working hours. The sentence which follows the blank states that long working hours have a detrimental effect on employees. Option (B) which says that employees may not work with required concentration due to the long working hours, ideally follows the second statement and precedes the last statement which says that employees find it difficult to maintain a work-life balance due to long working hours. Although option (A) may follow the second statement, it cannot logically precede the last statement and thus does not serve as a proper link between the two statements. The remaining options are not connected.
Choice (B)

5. The first sentence points out to the increasing focus on well-being and longevity in India, the subsequent sentences illustrate this with examples. Choice (C) sums up the para by saying that these signs point to a society that is growing healthier by the day. The remaining options are not related.
Choice (C)
6. The significant idea here is that of 'paradoxical questions' followed by : (a colon), towards the end of the paragraph. One of these questions is in place, and would therefore be followed by another - paradoxical, at that. (A) is inappropriate because neither is it paradoxical, nor is it in tune with the earlier thought that writers put in 'immense effort' to help the readers 'have access'. (B) is inappropriate because it is not a paradoxical question. (C) **is appropriate** – here's the paradox – in trying to convey what their imagination and creative impulse have generated, are writers actually failing ('betraying') these elements? (D) is inappropriate as this is not in tune with the earlier thought, that indicates that writers really want to make the connections with the readers.
Choice (C)
7. The significant words here are 'those individuals that survive....', which implies that those not included in the thought of this sentence, do not survive.
(A) which talks of surviving, one way or the other is not appropriate. (B) **is appropriate** – refers to the extinction of those not included in the previous thought. (C) is inappropriate for the same reason. (D) is inappropriate because the paragraph does not evaluate or compare species on their chances of survival, it only lays down a very basic difference between those that survive and those that don't.
Choice (B)
8. The paragraph focuses on the sense of illusion that glamour exudes and points to the requirement to sustain the illusion – mystery. The paragraph would best conclude with a continuation from the idea of mystery – how it is brought about, or what role it plays. (A) is inappropriate because it explains glamour in the aspect of the focus it draws, rather than its mystery. (B) is inappropriate as there would need to be an intermediate thought to explain how mystery contributes to amelioration. (C) is inappropriate – also needs an intermediate thought to explain how mystery contributes to pleasure or inspiration. (D) **is appropriate** because it explains what contributes to the sense of mystery, and how this impacts on the viewer.
Choice (D)
9. The theme of the paragraph is that corruption in Russia has brought the public to the point where they fear the very institutions they should have faith in. (A) which sums up **is appropriate** – the irony of the situation is summed up in the example of corrupt law enforcement agencies hence it is the appropriate conclusion of the paragraph (B) is inappropriate – the statement only sums up a police state and does not necessarily relate to corruption. (C) is not as good a conclusion as A though it does draw from the irony of the situation. (D) is inappropriate because this is an example of a criminal organisation functioning in criminal ways.
Choice (A)
10. From the way the paragraph starts, we understand that the event was of considerable significance and meaning for the entire French nation. From the words 'thus began the Dreyfus affair...' we understand that the context would then move on to how the affair developed, or ended. (A) is inappropriate because it does not follow the train of thought discussed above. (B) is inappropriate because it does not focus on the French nation, and discusses anti-Semitism with relation to all of Europe. (C) **is appropriate** – tells us in what manner the affair continued, and with what impact on the nation. (D) is inappropriate as it talks only about Dreyfus and not about the nation affected by the affair.
Choice (C)
11. The paragraph says that pandemics have always existed, but what is remarkable is that today the attitude of people towards them is one of panic. The short statement 'Panic itself is a pandemic' (option C) is a perfect fit as the concluding statement. Option A talks about an unrelated point; a society obsessed to control the future in (B) and science and technology generating new uncertainties in (D) are unrelated to the paragraph.
Choice (C)
12. Blood pressure medication used by people over 70, causes dizziness, which is often a culprit in falls. A recent study has found that serious fall injuries were higher for people who took hypertension drugs. What can logically conclude this paragraph? Of the choices given, A is the ideal one – Given these findings, it is advisable that elderly patients discuss their drugs with their primary care physician. This statement is well related to the preceding sentence. B can be ruled out since diuretics (substances that tend to increase the flow of urine) is not related to the argument. Option C cannot be related to the preceding sentence. 'Activity' is a new point that has not been referred to earlier in the paragraph, so D can be eliminated.
Choice (A)
13. The paragraph in general is critical about disgruntled workers and argues that one must put some energy and some enthusiasm into one's work. (A) repeats the paragraph. (B) oversimplifies the paragraph as it stands. (D) is important but it introduces a case rather than close the paragraph. (C) with 'but while' matches the tone of the passage with 'Of course', apart from reinforcing the message of the paragraph it's a crying shame when it, is viewed as just a way to make a living and nothing more.
Choice (C)
14. The paragraph talks about the importance of transparency and reproducibility in science. Option A concludes the paragraph stressing the importance of these things in counting a scientific observation as a discovery. Option A goes well with the rest of the paragraph. Option B is an entirely different point. B talks about 'policies' which are not mentioned in the paragraph. 'Its' in D has no clear antecedent.
Choice (A)
15. Pay attention to the sentence preceding the blank. It says that in an inter-connected world, actions in one place trigger consequences elsewhere. Option C mentions the effect of this situation, so C is the best concluding sentence. Option A can probably come after C, not before it. The paragraph talks about a trend seen worldwide, so confining the situation to India alone doesn't appear quite logical, so option B is not as suitable an option as C. Option D is an easy elimination because it is a repetition of a point in the paragraph.
Choice (C)
16. Options A and C have no relation to the sentence before the blank, and these options mention the same point in different words. Option D mentions a new point that is not related to those stated in the paragraph. Option B is continuation of the preceding sentence.
Ans : (B)
17. What logical conclusion can be supported by the paragraph? Option A is a premise given. The paragraph says that in the past selection played a major role in the survival of the human species. But today with changing lifestyles it is not the case. Option B sums up the argument by saying that extreme selection is a thing of the past. C is a general statement that has little relevance here. Option D goes against the grain.
Ans : (B)
18. The passage begins by expressing the general decadence in all fields during Charles' rule. But as we proceed, it tapers down to decadence in 'art' and 'noonday' in America, which means the peak period of art in America. Hence only choice (C) follows as the last sentence and it is understood that American artists excelled in 'Baroque art'. Statements (A) and (B) are generalized and (D) is negative and does not go with 'noonday in America'.
Ans : (C)
19. The crux of the paragraph is that things are likely to get worse before getting better. Then look at the penultimate sentence which begins with 'Though the central bank has tempered its warning with the observation that risks...'. This is a clear indication that bad loans should be tackled immediately. Option B, which talks about the necessity of

tackling NPAs (Non Performing Assets), is the right option. The paragraph doesn't suggest any 'multi-pronged action', so A is ruled out. Options C and D talk about points not related to the ones mentioned in the paragraph. Ans : (B)

20. Based on the facts given, the ideal conclusion is that a lot of retirement money will be invested in stock markets. So option D is the answer. Option A talks about a related point; B has no relation to the paragraph; and it is not clear what the precedent of 'this' in C is. Ans : (D)

21. The only option that explains the sentence preceding the blank is A. If the words in the message were the same that he would have uttered as finance minister, it means the message was not different, but only the author of the message. Option B is irrelevant to the paragraph – it is just an observation. C too is irrelevant to the points in the paragraph. Option D is unwarranted in the context of the passage. Ans : (A)

22. The sentence before the blank talks about a person being in control of his life as the foundation of stress management. This point is illustrated in option D, so D is the right choice. Option A doesn't go with the preceding sentence as it is confined to just recognizing stress. B talks about locating stressors; C mentions avoiding stressful situations as the solution. Both are not related to 'being in control of your life' stated in the penultimate sentence of the paragraph. Ans : (D)

23. The author states that empathy is not unwillingness to take tough decisions for fear of hurting others. The idea that can go with this is C which states that it simply means that they are aware of, and take into consideration the impact on others. Option A talks about 'assessing' co-workers, which is not directly related to taking tough decisions. Options B and D do not go with the paragraph – 'empathy' neither agrees with co-workers nor brings people together. Ans : (C)

24. The paragraph says that though the queen is above politics, when it comes to important issues facing the UK she isn't. Before the Scottish referendum, she urged voters to think very carefully before casting their vote, and the strategy worked. Now which sentence can complete the paragraph? 'The code worked' should be followed by a positive statement about the UK. So, option C is the answer. All other options cannot go with 'The code worked'. Ans : (C)

25. The passage says that conditions are totally unfavourable to life in many parts of the cosmos. Look at the figure given in the penultimate sentence of the paragraph - one millionth of one billionth of 1 percent of the material of the universe exists in living form. What can we conclude from this? Of the given options, A is the only conclusion that can be drawn: we and all life are the exception to the rule. B and C are too general to go with the remaining paragraph. As for D, though we can be considered lucky considering the condition in other parts of the universe, the word 'luck' doesn't suit 'a cosmic perspective.' Option A is the best choice.

Choice (A)

26. The paragraph ends with a comparison of heritage and novelty and heritage gains the upper hand. Hence, it is best to play it safe, and go along with (A). The caution in (B) and (D) do not seem to be warranted if the more room there will be for old-fashioned industries. (C) essentially repeats the argument. Ans. A

27. (A) is overly optimistic as there is no indication in the paragraph to this effect. (B) is an unwarranted conclusion. The passage only mentions predicting the performance of stock markets and that sunshine is good for stock markets. (C) also cannot be concluded from the paragraph. The penultimate sentence states that Economists have long known that sunshine is good for stock markets. Hence, it is only apt to conclude that the economists in question have been blessed with new scholarship as in (D). Ans. D

28. The paragraph ends with the observation that something is odd. What is odd? That only 3 craters are found on Earth. Why is it odd? The answer is given in (D), if many big asteroids would have hit the Earth in the distant past, where have all the other craters gone? (A) arrives at a conclusion without a proper argument as such. (B) does not follow as an oddity. It is rather an inference. (C) does not clarify which craters are being referred to. Ans. D

29. (C) and (D) are poorly substantiated, the specific reasons for Vietnamese ire are not clear yet. (B) mentions a geographical imperative that can, at best, leave the paragraph dangling. (A) emphasizes the Chinese point of view with reinforcements announced that To make that perfectly clear. Ans. A

30. The second half of the penultimate sentence explains a retrospective word formation 'tobacco cigarette.' Option A completes the explanation, so A concludes the paragraph. Option B is irrelevant as 'technology enhanced drug-delivery' is not referred to in the paragraph. The precedent of 'this' in C is not clear – vaping or tobacco cigarette. Option D is totally unrelated to the paragraph. Ans : (A)

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS:

- What can be the best concluding sentence out of the four options? The penultimate sentence says that anthropogenic (relating to the origin and development of human beings) causes are the sole contributor. Option B concludes the paragraph asserting the effect of human actions. All other options talk about general points having no relevance to the penultimate sentence. Choice (B)
- The paragraph is about a trait of people with ADHD. Compared with others, they have sluggish brain reward circuits, so they find everyday life experience dull and are impatient and restless with daily routine. Option C summarises the argument and concludes it; it says their problem is that they have a set of behavioural traits that do not match others'. A is too general and talks only about lack of focus. The focus of B is on things – a thing that stimulates one may appear dull to another. Option D is rather advisory and does not go with the paragraph. Choice (C)
- The paragraph is about three surging forces simultaneously affecting our planet. These forces exert tremendous pressure on our atmosphere and environment. Going by the writer's style and nature of argument, option D is the right concluding sentence. This sentence sums up the argument precisely and beautifully - we're in the middle of three "climate changes" at once: one digital, one ecological, one geo-economical. Option A is irrelevant as it talks about the effects of the forces in various countries; 'Americans' anxieties have no relation to the argument. 'Immigration policies' is not referred to in the paragraph, so B is inappropriate. 'Resilience' has no place in the argument; hence C can be eliminated. Choice (D)
- Option B is the correct answer choice because it mentions the connection between 'warmer summers and higher ozone reading' mentioned in the penultimate sentence. A is inapt as it talks about keeping ozone pollution down, which has no connection with the preceding sentence. C is an entirely different point. Option D also has no direct relevance to the point discussed in the previous sentence. Choice (B)
- The penultimate sentence of the paragraph talks about more than one sense getting involved when we look at food. The option that completes this point is D, which mentions taste buds and tummy. Nothing in the paragraph points to confusion, so option A is ruled out. Option B is quite irrelevant to the paragraph. Option C talks about two senses getting smashed up, but nothing in the paragraph suggests this, Ans : (D)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 4

Explanatory Notes for questions 1 to 10:

1. The paragraph is about the laidback attitude of the governments towards senior appointments in regulatory bodies and apex institutions. Appointments are made at the eleventh hour. This causes inconvenience to the appointee and can affect the functioning of the bodies. Option B summarises the idea contained in the paragraph succinctly. Option A is too general as it is silent about who does the appointments and where. 'Creating a vacuum' in option C finds no support in the passage. Option D is too general and has no relevance to the paragraph. Choice (B)
2. All the information given in the paragraph points to the distinctive nature of the National Park: it is a hotspot of biological diversity; it is home to many endangered species etc. All these point to option D - The Kudremukh National Park is unique in its services to biodiversity and ecosystems. Option A distorts the central idea of the paragraph, suggesting there has been an attempt to underestimate the Park's contribution. Option B covers only one point stated in the paragraph. Option C can also be eliminated on the same grounds as in B. Choice (D)
3. The paragraph describes the position of the rich in America. Clearly, unfairness exists there, as per the instances stated in the passage. Option A is ruled out as 'exploitation' is not suggested in the paragraph. 'Money exerting influence' in B is also beyond the paragraph. Nothing about the past status is indicated in the paragraph, so 'remarkable rise in inequality' in option C cannot be considered. Option D summarises the paragraph; 'structural unfairness' in the first sentence and the examples cited in the paragraph point to this. Choice (D)
4. The paragraph attempts to trace the reason why so many people feel the need to be constantly recognised and flattered. It is likely that this behavioural trait has developed in them due to their childhood experience of excessive love followed by neglect. Answer option B summarises this – a personality of narcissism (self-love) is caused by childhood experience of excessive attention followed by neglect by unregulated parents. Option A is advisory in nature, and doesn't make an apt summary. Option C is too general as it talks about psychological disorders. Option D is not indicated in the paragraph. Choice (B)
5. According to the paragraph, people today spend a lot more time sitting than our ancestors. They spend huge sums to ensure that they don't get damaged due to excessive sitting. Still, there are chances of fatal injuries due to long sitting. Option A summarises the contents of the passage concisely. Option B focuses on moving, which is contrary to the argument. Regular ambulation (walking) is not suggested by the paragraph. 'Movement being integral to human survival' is also not related to the paragraph. Choice (A)
6. The paragraph focuses on accidents involving selfie-takers. The reason for the accidents, according to the paragraph, is people's craze for photography, triggered by the development of mobile phones with cameras. Option C best summarises the contents of the paragraph. Option A is a very general statement. Option B is a distortion because the paragraph doesn't point to 'accidents involving photographers on the rise'. Option D is inapt as a summary as it is a very vague comment on photography. Choice (C)
7. The paragraph says that simple mutations in cell division cannot be the solitary cause of cancers. External causes like diet, tobacco and alcohol are also responsible for many cancers. These ideas are best summarised in option B: although some rare cancers can be driven by genetic mutations, the most prevalent diseases are down to extrinsic factors. A distorts the ideas in the passage. Option C is not entirely true; 'bad luck' (simple mutation) also causes cancer. D is ruled out on the same grounds as in C. Choice (B)

8. The paragraph states two points: jump in the sale of mobile phones and their misuse. Option A covers only one point, and that too with a slight distortion. The paragraph doesn't support option B; 'only country' is not suggested in the paragraph. Option C covers both the points in the paragraph. The projection in option D can be an inference, not a summary. Choice (C)
9. The paragraph states that biologists have been warning about diseases like Zika for years. Climate change has forced people to move around and their pathogens have come into contact with species with no resistance. Increased movement of people and climate change have had great influence on the spread of infectious diseases. The ideas in the paragraph are best summarised in option B. The second part of option A is not supported by the paragraph. Option C has no relevance to the contents of the passage. Option D is a partial summary. Choice (B)
10. The paragraph says that the Syrian implosion could have been avoided if the government had not used force to suppress popular political demands, which in any other democratic country would have been considered legitimate. Option A summarises this idea concisely. India is cited as an example to suggest a popular movement that took place there, so a comparison is not intended. This eliminates option B. Option C is distortion of the contents of the paragraph as there is no reference to bloodshed. Option D is not supported by the passage. Choice (A)

Explanatory Notes for questions 11 to 20:

11. The passage essentially mentions that about 270m people from China are moving from one area to another in search of work and are leaving their children under someone's care. Only choice (C) brings out all the features in the apt manner. In (A), the movement of people from rural areas is not mentioned. Also, the number of people that have moved has not been specified. These two points make the choice incorrect. In (B), the entire list of guardians is not mentioned, making it incorrect. In (D), the use of Chinese people is incorrect. There could be people of different nationalities in China who have moved from one place to another. Choice (C)
12. The paragraph essentially implies that George W. Bush cracking jokes and being witty about his lack of intelligence, reminded people about his presidential stand up act. This imposed a question on the kind of work he had done for the eight years that he was a President and how it never seemed like it was fruitful during that tenure. Only choice (B) brings out all of these points clearly. Choice (A) is incorrect as the years did not go unnoticed. Rather, they were in the limelight as they were a question on the execution of his work. Choice (C) is incorrect as the choice mentions his absence. No where in the question does it mention or can be inferred that he was absent from his duties. It only says that there was a reminiscence of how his duties were executed during his tenure. Choice (D) is incorrect as we do not know if he was inefficient as a President overall or if he was lacking in the execution of his duties. Choice (B)
13. The passage talks about a meeting that was held in Bengaluru in which innovative ways of developing new products was discussed. In addition to this, ways and methods to combine traditional business with startups was also the theme. These are the only two main points of the meeting. Choice (D) is the correct choice as it covers both the points aptly. Choice (D)
14. The important points in the passage are that the Central Government reached a conclusion without proper analysis about a certain issue. Only choice (A) brings out all the points in the apt manner. Choice (B) is incorrect as the Central Government was not inconclusive but the floor test was inconclusive. Choice (C) is incorrect as the passage does not suggest if the Congress government had lost or won. The passage only suggests that the Congress Government had lost its majority. Choice (D) is incorrect as it does not indicate who or what Nabam Tuki is or on what grounds the President's rule was established. Choice (A)

15. The main points of the passage are that Make in India and Digital India may require manpower for research or any other job type. Also, Sri Lanka would benefit from this opportunity as they can provide the manpower, but it may not be only monetary benefit. Only choice (A) highlights these points well. In choice (B), the words "which may vary" are incorrect as they imply that the jobs can change, and not that there were different kind of jobs. In choice (C), only monetary benefits are highlighted. This is not correct as we cannot conclude this from the passage. In choice (D), "all the manpower" is incorrect. Choice (A)
16. The passage mentions that BlackBerry's move to software has borne fruit as the company has given some positive pointers indicating growth. Only choice (C) mentions all these points correctly. In choice (A) the use of "when the company reported" is wrong. This gives an idea as if the move to software was because of the good stocks, which is incorrect. In choice (B), the switching to software point has not been mentioned, making it incorrect. In choice (D) "its first quarter-to-quarter revenue which was due to higher stocks" is incorrect as this was not the reason for the "first quarter-to-quarter revenue". Choice (C)
17. The passage mentions that Arun Jaitley argued that privacy is not a fundamental right and the Lok Sabha legislature's primary objective was the delivery of benefits, subsidies and services to the people. He also said that gaps or flaws in law can be improved at any time. Only choice (C) highlights all these points effectively. Choice (A) is incorrect as it does not mention any of the primary objectives. Choice (B) is incorrect as Lok Sabha or House is not mentioned at all. Choice (D) is incorrect as the use of "primary objectives towards people" is incorrect as per the passage. Choice (C)
18. The passage mentions that while most animals hate cold and find ways to escape from it, some animals can bear the cold. Only choice (B) brings out these ideas effectively. Choice (A) is incorrect as it does not mention the methods and ways in which some animals escape the cold. Choice (C) is incorrect as the 'them' refers to animals who embrace cold. If the other animals are mentioned, the pronoun "themselves" should be used. Choice (D) is incorrect as the use of "some animals" and "most animals" has been interchanged, thereby changing the idea of the passage. Choice (B)
19. The passage talks about one of the objectives of "Make in India" and the steps which could be implemented to realize this objective. Only choice (A) covers all the points. Choice (B) is incorrect as it talks about "major objective" and not one of the objectives. Choice (C) is incorrect as "major improvement" is incorrect as per the passage. Also, the reason for doing any of this is not clear. Choice (D) is incorrect as it is too far fetched a conclusion. Choice (A)
20. The passage mentions that there is not only a requirement to return indigenous artworks by ethnic groups and cultures to their home countries by the West, there is also a growing consensus from different people to "share" global heritage more fairly. Only choice (B) brings this out well. Choice (A) is incorrect as it does not mention that the people who want the artworks back are countries and ethnic groups. It also incorrectly mentions that the same people want to share art. Choice (C) mentions "countries world over" and "rest of the people", both of which are incorrect. Choice (D) is incorrect as it mentions the artworks to be returned to West and not returned by West and it also mentions expansive manner which is not present in the original passage. Choice (B)

Explanatory Notes for questions 21 to 30:

21. The given passage has the following important points:
1. Dacher Keltner has specialized in the study of facial expressions.
 2. A smile is one of the most useful tools of human behaviour because it helps build kinship, strengthen social relations and makes one feel good. Only Choice (A) has these points. Choice (B) leaves out the positive effects that a smile produces and only talks

of the chemicals released. Choice (C) cannot be a summary because it is verbose; Choice (D) is also ruled out as it leaves out the aspect that smile makes one feel good. Choice (A)

22. The important points that the passage deals with are:
1. Realty is thriving in Singapore.
 2. Millionaires are queuing up to buy high-end properties.
 3. Of them, Indian millionaires are becoming dominant with rising contribution.

Choice (B) has these points. Choice (A) is wrong because it says Indian millionaires are "the most dominant" but the passage says that they are among the most dominant. Choices (C) and (D) are ruled out because it is not clear whether 'contrary to...' refers to queuing up or acquiring high-end properties. Choice (B)

23. The important points in the passage are:
1. Production and distribution are basic economic activities.
 2. They change their institutional features under the changing social conditions.
 3. Under feudalism, agriculture was the most dominant productive activity and distribution played more important role than ownership over land.
 4. Under capitalism, a small section of the people capture means of production and control others.

Only Choice (A) has these points. Choice (B) is wrong because it says capitalism aids a minority, which distorts the meaning of the passage because capitalism as a concept cannot do that. Choice (C) is ruled out as it leaves out important points. Choice (D) is also wrong because it says the means of production help a minority to control others but the passage says it is minority's capture of the means of production that helps. Choice (A)

24. The most important points expressed in the passage are:
- (1) Real India does not reside in villages any more, it resides in cities.
 - (2) Cities offer many opportunities and a variety of attractions.
 - (3) Urban India contributes most to the nation's GDP. The focus of the passage is essentially on real India residing in cities now. Only choices (C) and (D) reflect this idea. Again choice (D) can be eliminated because it has repetitive statements. All the above mentioned points are focused in option (C). Choice (C)

25. The passage essentially says that for an effective change in the format of a newspaper the publisher should:
- (1) identify its core reader group
 - (2) cater to the needs of the group
 - (3) keep them informed about the benefits of the format.
- These three are expressed only in Choice (C). Choice (A) is long-winded. Choice (B) is eliminated because it includes the example which is not important. Choice (D) is ruled out because it does not give complete information. Choice (C)

26. The focus of the passage is on the manufacturing ability of China, and how it gets affected by US economy. Choice (B) does not convey the idea properly. Choice (C) is long-winded. Choice (D) conveys the idea that the U.S. controls China's economy. Choice (A)

27. Option (B) does not qualify as a best summary because it mentions examples of major scientific breakthroughs like the 'human genome project'. Option (C) is incorrect because it distorts the idea of the original passage by mentioning that it is actually the personal attributes of the team leader which are responsible for the discovery. Option (D) cannot be called the best summary because it does not mention that the junior members in the scientific team are excluded from laurels and rewards. Thus Choice (D) does not capture all the significant points in the passage. Choice (A)

28. Option (A) does not qualify as the best summary because it mentions trivial details and examples. Choice (B) cannot be the best summary because it does not mention that doctors are unable to extend the best treatment to all because modern medicine is expensive and best treatment cannot be available to all due to paucity of funds. Option (C) is not a best summary because it mentions that the best treatment is available to only those who are wealthy, thereby distorting the original passage. Choice (D)
29. The essence of the paragraph is that
- (1) Citizens normally consider their actions insignificant in the running of the state.
 - (2) Gandhi debunked this assumption and felt that citizens should understand that their actions, though insignificant when compared to the mighty state, sustains it.
 - (3) Hence they must feel responsible for their actions.
- These ideas have been captured in choice (B). Choice (A) is incorrect as it mentions that citizens act irrationally. This is not in agreement with what is mentioned in the text. Choice (C) omits mentioning that the citizen is responsible for his actions. Choice (D) erroneously mentions that citizens are aware that the state cannot be run without their participation. Choice (B)
30. The main points in the paragraph are the following.
- (1) Detente does not happen by imposing conditions and ultimatums.
 - (2) A constructive approach must be adopted in order to solve all contentious issues.
 - (3) The less contentious issues should be tackled first and then the more complex issues should be attended to.
 - (4) Recent developments hint at a détente between India and Pakistan.
- These ideas have been captured in choice (A). Choice (B) is incorrect as it says that the more complicated issues should be tackled first. Choice (C) is incorrect as it seems to incorrectly imply that détente can adversely affect people to people relations. Choice (D) fails to mention the third point mentioned above, and hence is not comprehensive. Choice (A)

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

1. The key points in the passage are:
- (A) Banks are better off now, financially.
 - (B) This is because of low interest rates which has increased their income.
 - (C) With increased income banks have been able to wipe off the losses.
 - (D) Increase in interest rates has again led them to their traditional business, namely lending, for earning income.
- Choice (A) is right. Choice (B) is wrong because it leaves out important information. Choice (C) is wrong because it says '..... enter into lending ' whereas banks have always been doing it. Choice (D) is wrong because it says 'banks are better' – banks are not 'better' but 'better off' (better off means 'have more money'). Further they don't 'resort to' lending. Choice (A)
2. The main points in the paragraph are -
1. When we use the term 'animated films' we assume it is for children.
 2. Many animated films have adult appeal, as well as appeal to the child in adults.
 3. Many animated films have themes that appeal to both children and adults.
 4. Animated films may however, not appeal to all adults either-It is a question of choice.
- Option A is a distortion because it says the varied themes draw children whereas the original paragraph says that the varied themes draw adults.
Option B omits points 2 and 4.
Option C is the best summary as it includes all the main ideas.
Option D too is a distortion because of 'many adults' are still children. Choice (C)

3. The passage is about the role played by SPINK1 gene mutation and PRSS1 gene mutation in the development of pancreatitis. It was found that the onset of the disease was earlier in individuals having only SPINK1 gene as compared to those having only PRSS1 though mutation of PRSS1 gene was found to be playing a role in disease pathogenesis (development of the disease) in Indians. This argument is summarised in option C - SPINK1 gene mutation is the predominant cause of pancreatitis disease in Indians. Option A goes against the paragraph. Option B is a distortion since PRSS1 gene mutation doesn't cause the disease; it only helps in its development. Option D goes against the passage. SPINK1 gene is not related to digestion. Choice (C)
4. According to the passage, even though the Indian economy is growing, businesses are worried about the unavailability of skilled workforce as our engineering curriculum does not suit our needs. Option A is incorrect as a summary because the focus of the passage is on unskilled workforce, and not on improving engineering curriculum. The passage does not point to any disillusionment of Indian businesses; they are only concerned or anxious; so option B is incorrect. Option C summarises the main points of the paragraph. Option D is a general statement about education sector which is not relevant to the paragraph. Choice (C)
5. The passage mentions that the Indian government will not only continue to pursue the Pathankot investigation, but it will also make it clear to the Sharif government that they would have to show sincerity as the maximum attacks come from Pakistan. Only choice (D) brings this out well. Choice (A) is incorrect as the Indian government is not cautious of the attacks, but condemns them. Choice (B) is incorrect as "back to being engaged" goes against the idea of the passage. Choice (C) is incorrect as "continuing to engage" goes against the idea of the passage. Choice (D)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 5

Explanatory notes for questions 1 to 10:

1. The choice of the opening sentence is between (1) and (2). (1) can be ruled out when we look closely at the two sentences because (1) explains the importance of 'consistency' mentioned in 2. So 2 has to be the opening sentence. (1) follows (2). Sentences (3) and (5) constitute the story and the order is evident. (4) is the clear concluding sentence. Ans: (21354)
2. It is not difficult to identify the central idea of the passage: the passage describes the consequences of the lack of public awareness about brain death. So sentence (5) can be taken as the opening sentence. Sentence (1) describes brain death, so it should follow (5). Sentence (3) tells the reason for what is stated in (1), so (3) is the next one. Sentence (2) tells the result of the belief of most people mentioned in (3), so (2) follows (3). Sentence (4) tells the final result: the organs are not in a condition to be transplanted. Ans: (51324)
3. The paragraph talks about a particular university offering degrees which are highly sought after all over the world. The ideal way to begin the paragraph is with sentence (5), which says they export education to customers. The next sentence could be the one that describes the customers, so sentence (2) can be considered. The degree that is mentioned in (2) is further described in (3), so (3) can be the next sentence. Sentence (1) gives more information about professors mentioned in (3), so (3) is the next sentence. 'These commodities' in sentence (4) relate to 'intellect and information' in (1), and so (4) can be the next sentence. Ans: (52314)
4. 'World Conference on International Telecommunication' and 'heated debate' are key words to pick b as the opening sentence. The phrase 'some countries' is a clue to pick a as the second sentence as the sentence mentions a point of debate. (4) begins with 'some' which can easily be considered as a continuation of 'some countries' in the previous sentence. The clue to select (3) as the next sentence comes from the word 'others.' Sentences (1), (4) and (3) mention the stand taken by various countries. The concluding sentence can only be (5) as it states the result. Ans: (21435)

5. The choice of the opening sentence is limited to (2) since all other sentences begin with the pronoun 'he' which obviously refers to the driver in (2). Now the task is to order sentences (1), (3), (4) and (5). 'General' to 'specific' is a commonly accepted principle followed in description of a person or explanation of a concept. This makes us select a as the next sentence since it gives a general description of the driver. Going by the same principle, we can choose (4) as the next sentence as it talks about the 'global crisis' and 'Mexico.' 'Unemployment' and 'inability to get the right job' in e can easily be related to 'things were bad in Mexico for people like him' in (4), so (5) can be chosen as the next sentence. Sentence (3) is the logical conclusion as the driver blames the U.S for the present situation. Ans: (21453)
6. A reading of the sentences will make it clear that the topic being discussed is 'boundaries in relationships.' So the opening sentence is the one that talks about the topic in general terms. This makes us pick sentence (3), which tells us that boundaries in relationships exist all over the world. As the next one, sentence (4) can be chosen as it further explains where these boundaries exist. 'They' in (2) can be related to 'boundaries' in (4), so (2) is the next sentence. Sentence (1) explains how these 'boundaries' affect our transactions with others, and so a can be the next sentence. What is stated in (1) is further illustrated in (5) with an example. Hence (5) is the next sentence. Ans: (34215)
7. A quick reading of the sentences will suggest that the paragraph is about a recent report in The Daily Mail. So we can choose (3) as the opening sentence. The response of 'most people' suggested in (3) is explained in a and 'their brain' in (1) is the clue for choosing a. Logically, (5) is the next sentence as it gives more information about the study referred to in the previous sentences. The ironical thing explained in (2) is well linked to what is stated in (5) that the story has been echoed by a large number of news sources. So (5) should precede (2). Sentence d further explains the point mentioned in (2). Ans: (31524)
8. It is not difficult to identify (5) as the opening sentence. The beginning of (2), (3) and (4) (They, However and As a result) gives us the clue that they cannot be opening sentences of a paragraph. The pronoun 'these' in (1) makes it unsuitable for the opening sentence of a paragraph. 'They' in (2) can refer to 'most people' in (5), so (2) can be the next sentence. 'However' in (3) gives the indication that something contrary to what has been said is going to follow - 'once a follower suddenly becomes a leader' is what follows. Sentence (4) that begins with 'as a result' is a continuation of (3). Sentence (1) concludes the argument saying we have seen instances of these qualities with our managers. Ans: (52341)
9. Statement '4' is the opening sentence as it mentions the property originally owned by four generations of the Baker family in Kumarakom. Next is statement '2' as it lets the reader know that the Kerala tourism department first acquired property and the Baker Bungalow from the Baker family. Sentence '1' maintains the chronological order and tells us how the mansion was later leased to the Taj Group which runs it as a resort now. Sentence '3' mentions the features of the resort which are reminiscent of Baker's handiwork. Finally sentence '5' mentions the layout of Zuri Kumarakom that opened in 2006. Therefore 42135 is the correct sequence. Ans: (42135)
10. Sentence '5' is the ideal opening line as it introduces the reader to the 'robotic arm which is one of the most important parts of a robot's anatomy. Sentence '2' comes next because it tells us that a robot's capabilities are defined by its hand/hands. Next comes statement '4' which mentions the 'tasks' done by a robotic arm/hand. Sentence '1' mentions the word moreover strengthening sentence '4' and adding more information to it. Finally sentence '3' suggests improvement for greater dexterity for complex tasks like working with and caring for people. Hence 52413 is the correct sequences of sentences. Ans: (52413)

Explanatory notes for questions 11 to 20:

11. The arguments put forward in the paragraph suggest that Vivek is comfortable with the BPO with regard to the current salary and life-style, but he doesn't appear confident of the scope of maths in future. With regard to option B, there is no suggestion in the paragraph that he doesn't see any future for mathematics. May be, one can conclude that he is not sure. But such an option is not available. Option C is not based on facts presented in the passage. Option D is also incorrect since mathematics is a subject that he still loves. 'Wasting a few more years' in the last sentence may be related to financial aspects alone. Choice (A)
12. The expression 'putting a spotlight on the importance of mould remediation for public health' in the last sentence leads us to option C. Other options are contrary to the facts in the paragraph. Choice (C)
13. It is clear from the paragraph (especially the words "...unlike traditional market researchers...") that the anthropological researcher is also engaged in market research. The words "may seem inefficient" indicate that the contrary would follow. An indication of the efficiency of the method is presented only in B. Choice (B)
14. The very fact that the shortcomings are referred to as "struggles with challenges" implies that we do try to overcome them, and that their outcome is of significance. We wouldn't be trying if it wasn't necessary. Therefore, statements A and B are inappropriate. The paragraph is not about competition or competitive environments, so statement D is inappropriate. Statement C is appropriate— indicating that there are things we can look to for inspiration, in coping with these challenges. Choice (C)
15. While the para focuses, specifically, on how to get the best out of an individual, statements C and D are general statements presenting beliefs or perceptions about management. They would be appropriate to open the paragraph, but not to close it. While statement A presents the kind of thought that would close this paragraph – it presents an assertion of what happens, whereas it should be in the nature of what could or would happen, since all the prior statements speak of what would be expected of managers (commencing with 'should' in the first sentence). Therefore, B is the appropriate choice, indicating surprise that an uncomplicated arrangement such as that discussed is hardly followed. Choice (B)
16. The two possible answers are choice (A) and (C). Choice (A) may sound reasonable, but the passage talks about polio eradication. There is no reference to eradication in choice (A). The paragraph says polio virus can spread rapidly in places where hygiene and sanitation are poor. So vaccination is important. The logical conclusion can be choice (C) which says if enough children are immunized, the virus can't find susceptible children to infect and dies out. So choice (C) suits the context. Choices (B) and (D) are irrelevant. Choice (C)
17. The paragraph talks about India's public health policy pitted against some powerful sectors and the government's inability to tighten control on them. The ideal conclusion can, therefore, be the one that talks about the policy, and not the ones that talk about just one issue - tobacco. So choices (A), (B) and (C) are ruled out and choice (D) can be chosen as the correct conclusion. Choice (D)
18. 'A new era of Asian-style succession politics' in the paragraph gives the clue to select choice (C), which compares the House of Commons to the Lok Sabha, in the event the offspring of the senior leaders win the election. This is the logical way the paragraph can be concluded. Choice (A) is not suitable as a concluding sentence; it might fit in as an introduction. Choices (B) and (D) talk about creating a brand name, which can happen only if they win the election. So they can be ruled out as the concluding sentence in this context. Choice (C)

19. The paragraph discusses a new method of pricing being adopted by a new airline. The penultimate sentence mentions the feelings of some passengers, particularly the slim ones, about this method of pricing. Option B concludes the paragraph, endorsing the rationale behind this method of pricing. All other options are about future consequences of this system of pricing. Hence they don't conclude the paragraph. Choice (B)
20. The paragraph focuses on the Indian perception of duty. Sanatana Dharma is not practised today, and we have no clear perception of what is good and what is bad; what is good for some is bad for some others. Option D concludes the paragraph by completing the argument - what some see as duty is seen by others as abuse of duty. Option A gives a new idea, and it doesn't conclude the paragraph. B cannot be related to the argument; it is quite remote. Option C is totally irrelevant to the paragraph. Choice (D)

Explanatory notes for questions 21 to 23:

21. Statements B, C and D (in the order CDB) discuss the potential of mutual funds in making money. Statement A, however, says that mutual funds in India have gone after corporate and institutional investors. This has no relevance to the context. Choice (A)
22. Statements A, C and D (in the order ADC) talk about how Linfen in China improved living conditions by constructing vital things like public toilets. But statement B talks about the design of toilets that has changed people's perceptions. This statement does not match the idea presented in this paragraph. Choice (B)
23. Statements A, C and D (in the same order) describe a tendency among workers not to take their entitled vacation. Statement B talks about the worry of workers. This is out of context. Choice (B)

Explanatory notes for questions 24 and 25:

24. Statement (4) begins the para by giving an introduction to what follows in the subsequent part of the passage. Statement (5) follows (4) by elaborating on one of the factors which enable free speech. (1) follows (5) by citing some more instances. Statement (3) concludes the paragraph by summing up what is stated in the preceding statements. Option (2) brings in another idea which is not related to what is stated in 4513 and is therefore the odd man out. Ans: (2)
25. Statement (4) begins the paragraph by defining work as the most important institutions of society. (5) and (3) further elaborate on what is stated in (4). (2) presents a contrast by stating how work is now less generous and less certain than

what it was earlier. Hence 4532 form a sequence. Statement (1) talks about universal basic income – an idea which is totally different from what is stated in 4532. Hence (1) is the odd man out. Ans: (1)

Explanatory notes for questions 26 to 30:

26. The focus of the paragraph is on the harmful effects of sleep deprivation. It can affect metabolism, heart function, cognition and neurological activity. Option (2) summarises the paragraph. Option (1), though a close option, uses a very strong expression 'disastrous consequences', which makes it inapt. Options (3) is only a supporting point. No attempt is made in the paragraph to compare psychological consequences with bodily discomforts, so option (4) is not a summary of the paragraph. Ans: (2)
27. The crux of the paragraph is that in order to evolve into a leader, one has to reflect on the real motive of becoming a leader. This is best reflected in option (4). Option (1) is a sweeping statement which distorts the meaning of the paragraph. Option (2) goes against the paragraph. Option (3) is only a sub point to the main one. Ans: (4)
28. The paragraph says that the economy today is controlled by finance, and this has nothing to do with the real economy of output and jobs. So the offering of schemes in the budget for new derivatives etc. will not make any changes in the real economy. These points are summarised in option (1). Finance and economy being independent of each other is not suggested in the paragraph, so option (2) is incorrect. Gains from derivatives not being consistent in option (3) is not the focus of the paragraph. Option (4) is a sweeping comment not supported by the paragraph. Ans: (1)
29. According to the passage, a few leaders seek money, power and prestige, rather than valuing fair compensation for their achievements. When they get these they develop a deep desire to get more, and in the process of acquiring these, they break their ethical standards and fair conduct. Option (3) succinctly summarises these points. Option (1) is too general and sweeping, and distorts the import of the paragraph. Option (2) is not supported by the paragraph; rather it goes against the argument. The focus of the passage is not the types of leaders, so option (4) is incorrect. Ans: (3)
30. The topic of the paragraph is the consequence of the recent WTO ruling. At present it may not appear to be disadvantageous, but in the long run this will crush our solar equipment industry. The best summary of the paragraph is option (3), which highlights the detrimental effect of the ruling on our fledgling equipment industry. Option (1) covers only part of the paragraph. Option (2) is distorted. Option (4) is totally unrelated to the paragraph. Ans: (3)

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR VOCAB EXERCISES

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 1

Explanatory Notes for questions 1 to 5:

1. Integrate is a synonym of the word amalgamate (derived from the root am = love). The words imbue (instill, permeate), buttress (support) and ostracize (expel) are not synonyms of amalgamate. Choice (A)
2. Convergence is synonymous with the word confluence which is derived from the root flu = flow. Conflagration means a blaze or inferno. Choice (B)
3. The words exculpate (derived from the root culp = fault, blame) is synonymous with exonerate meaning free from blame. Extirpate is to eliminate or abolish, excoriate is to flay or criticize sharply, extradite is to bring to trial. Choice (C)

4. The words bellicose (derived from the root belli = war, fight) and pugnacious convey the same meaning. The words astute and canny mean shrewd and crafty. Oppressive means brutal or tyrannical. Choice (C)
5. The words indolence (derived from the root dol = pain, sorrow) and slothful are synonymous. Docile (derived from the root doc = teach) means passive or compliant. Lugubrious means sad or gloomy, intransigent means stubborn or obstinate. Choice (D)

Explanatory Notes for questions 6 to 10:

6. Amiability (derived from the root ami = love) is an antonym of acrimony (acr = sharp, sour) meaning bitterness. Raucousness means discordance or harshness, tyranny means severity or absolutism and irascibility means anger or acerbity. Choice (A)

7. Applaud is an antonym of bemoan meaning lament. The word bemoan is derived from the root be = to make, to have a certain quality. Berate is to castigate or criticize, deplore and bewail (derived from the root be = make) both mean to disapprove of. Choice (C)
8. Resist is an antonym of the word capitulate, meaning surrender, which is derived from the root capt = to take, hold, seize. Elevate is to raise, enumerate (number = number) is to itemize or count. Choice (D)
9. The words intermittent (sporadic) and incessant (cess = yield, to go) (constant) are antonyms. Steadfast means abiding, fitful means periodic and incessant (cess = yield, to go) means never-ending. Choice (D)
10. The word doctrinaire (derived from the root doc = teach) means rigid or inflexible. Liberal is its antonym. Rebellious (belli = war, flight) means disobedient, capricious means whimsical or arbitrary. Choice (D)

Explanatory Notes for questions 11 to 15:

11. An autocrat (derived from the root crac/crat = rule, power) lacks benevolence (derived from the root ben = good) or compassion. A recidivist (one who repeatedly relapses into crime) lacks compunction (regret). The word compunction is derived from the root com = with, together. An ascetic (abstainer, hermit) does not lack abstemiousness (abstinence, moderation). The word abstemiousness is derived from the root ab = off, away, apart.
A criminal (derived from the root crim = judge, accuse) is not lacking in acrimony (derived from the root ac = sharp, sour). A connoisseur (arbiter of taste) is not lacking in taste. Only option A conveys a relationship which is similar to that expressed in the question pair. Choice (A)
12. The words commodious, (derived from the root com = with, together) and expansive are synonyms, among the given options the words cloistered (derived from the root clois = cloister, reclusive) and confined (cramped) share a synonymous relationship. The words decadent (cad = fall, happen) and repulsive (hateful, abhorrent) squalid (filthy) and alluring (charming), defiled (polluted) and pristine (undefiled) are not synonymous. Hence only choice C is apt Choice (C)
13. The words in the question pair share an antonymous relationship. Compliant, meaning acquiescent or conforming, and are derived from the root com = with, together, is the antonym of resistant (opposed to). Among the given options defamatory (slandorous) and complimentary (flattering) share an antonymous relationship. The words debilitating (weakening) and enervating (enfeebling; exhausting), clamorous (noisy; loud) and boisterous; incessant (continuous) and relentless are all synonyms. Choice (C)
14. Euphemistic means extenuative or to make something less serious. Malapropos refers to something which is untimely or infelicitous. Only option A shares a relationship which is analogous to that expressed by the question pair. The words lucid (clear) and ambiguous (doubtful, unclear), gratuitous (done without purpose or reason) and prudent (wise; rational), disingenuous (tricky, cunning) and veracious (truthful) do not share a synonymous relationship and are hence inappropriate. Choice (A)
15. Something which is illusory (derived from the root lus = play) is characterized by deception; something which is judicious is characterized by prudence. Only choice B expresses a relationship which is analogous to that exhibited by the question pair. The word judicious is derived from the root jud = judge. The words transitory and impermanence, grandiloquent (derived from the root loqu = speak) meaning pompous, and deceit, profound and flippancy are not appropriate. Choice (B)

Explanatory Notes for questions 16 to 20:

16. Option A is absurd because if issues of environmental impacts are incontrovertible (derived from the root contra = against) or indisputable they will not fall on a spectrum between two antagonistic camps. The words incessant (cess = yield, to go) meaning relentless or continuous and polemical (hostile, bitter) do not make sense in this context, hence option D can be eliminated. Between options B and C the former is more logical because the word inimical is too strong and is therefore unwarranted in this context. Choice (B)
17. The words execrable meaning appalling, dreadful and artful (derived from the root art = skill, craft) do not make sense in the second blank hence options B and C can be ruled out. Option A is incorrect because the word ambiguous (derived from the root ambi = both) meaning vague is a misfit in this context. Further, the word ambiguous does not collocate with dispute. The words acrimonious (derived from the root acr = sharp, sour) and amicable (derived from the root ami = love) are most appropriate in the given blank. Choice (D)
18. Option A is illogical because hamfisted (clumsy) handling of a crisis does not receive adulation or applause. Proficient handling of something does not receive flak (criticism). Slipshod (careless) handling does not receive commendation (praise). Hence both options B and D are absurd. The words applause and adept (derived from the root apt = correct, fit, skill, ability) fits perfectly in the given blank. Choice (C)
19. The word resurrection meaning revival is a misfit in the first blank because it runs contrary to what is intended in the sentence. Hence, choice C is inapt. Choice B is absurd because an inflammatory (provocative) speech does not result in the termination of hostilities. The word interruption does not make sense in the first blank because interruption of hostilities is not a correct collocation. Hence choice D can be eliminated. The words cessation meaning to stop (derived from the root cess = yield, to go) and inciting (derived from the root cite = to call, to start) is apt in this context. Choice (A)
20. Although the word acerbic (derived from the root acr = sharp) may fit into the second blank the word amplify is a misfit in the first blank because it cannot be said that differences are amplified. The word incite (provoke) does not fit into the first blank because it cannot be said that differences are incited. Hence option B can be ruled out. The word 'differences' implies that the election campaign has been rancorous (bitter; malignant). Options A and C can be eliminated because the words zealous (enthusiastic) and fiery (passionate) are too mild in this context. Choice (D)

Explanatory Notes for questions 21 to 25:

21. Yes, Ambivalent (derived from the root ambi = both) means hesitant or in two minds. Hence a person who is ambivalent is indecisive.
22. Yes. The word avionics, derived from the root avi = bird, fly, is the science of, electronics when used in designing and making an aircraft.
23. Yes. An abbot is a monk; the superior of an abbey of monks who leads a cloistered existence.
24. No, an agnostic is a person who believes that it is not possible to know whether god exists or not. The word agnostic is derived from the root cogn/agnos = to know.
25. An ungrateful person is called an ingrate (derived from the root grat = please). Choice (D)

Explanatory Notes for questions 26 to 30:

26. The word absolve (derived from the root ab/abs = off, away, apart, down) means to forgive. Pardon and reprieve are its synonyms. Abjure meaning renounce or reject is the odd one out. Choice (C)

27. The word armistice (derived from the root arm = weapon) is synonymous with truce and ceasefire, Armada (also derived from the same root) refers to a large group of army ships sailing together and is hence the odd man out
Choice (B)
28. The word anarchy (derived from the root arch = rule) is synonymous with mayhem and lawlessness. Cataclysm meaning disaster is the odd word in this context.
Choice (C)
29. The word concord (derived from the root con = with, together) is synonymous with, accord and harmony. Combat meaning fight is the odd word here.
Choice (D)
30. The words approbation (derived from the root appro = correct, fit), approval and applause are all synonyms. Appropriation, meaning allotment or grant, is the odd man out.
Choice (D)
42. It is too far-fetched that insatiable consumption of resources would lead to cataclysms (a sudden disaster like a flood or a war). Upheavals (bedlam, chaos) or incursions (raid, invasion). (The word incursion is derived from the root cur = run.) But it is quite likely that it would lead to crises (times of great danger or difficulty).
Choice (A)
43. The expression 'run amok' is most apt in this context. To run amok is to get out of control. The words viciously (brutally), tempestuously (turbulently) and menacingly (threateningly) are overstated and are therefore inappropriate in this context.
Choice (B)
44. An assumption is not championed, cultivated or endorsed. But it is appropriate to say that an assumption is fostered.
Choice (D)
45. The word noxious (poisonous) cannot be used with way of thinking. Hence choice D is inappropriate. The word quirky is redundant because it conveys the same meaning as the word strange. The word calamitous (catastrophic) is also too strong in this context when compared to the word destructive.
Choice (C)

Explanatory Notes for questions 31 to 38:

31. Statement D is incorrect because the expression 'bound in' is incorrect. The correct expression is 'bound up in'. To be bound up in something is to be very busy with something or very interested or involved in something.
Choice (D)
32. The expression 'on all accounts' is incorrect in choice D. The correction is 'by all accounts' or 'from all accounts' which means according to what other people say.
Choice (D)
33. The usage of screen is incorrect in choice B. The correct phrasal verb to be used here is screen off meaning to separate part of a room etc. from the rest of it by putting a screen around it.
Choice (B)
34. The use of the phrasal verb cut up is incorrect in choice B. The correct phrasal verb is cut off meaning to cause a person to be or feel alone.
Choice (B)
35. Choice C is incorrect. Blame is pinned on someone and not at someone.
Choice (C)
36. The use of 'off' after face is incorrect in choice C. The correct expression is vanish or disappear off the face of the earth.
Choice (C)
37. The word rank should be used in the plural in choice A. To rise through the ranks is to reach a high position in an organization, society etc.
Choice (A)
38. The expression act out is incorrect in choice D. The correct phrasal verb is act up which means to behave badly.
Choice (D)

Explanatory Notes for questions 39 to 45:

39. The word revered (worshipped) is too strong and unwarranted in this context. The words denounced and condemned run contrary to the idea implied in the paragraph where a parallel is drawn between the dysfunctional thinking which prevailed in the erstwhile Nazi Germany and the present situation where dysfunctional thinking has resulted in the abuse of natural resources. This is best brought out by the word institutionalized. Dysfunctional thinking was institutionalized (considered normal) in Nazi Germany.
Choice (B)
40. Only the word ravenous brings out the voracious consumption of resources, which the paragraph intends to convey. The word restrained (restricted) and unwarranted (unjustified) are absurd in this context. The word exorbitant is not used while talking about the consumption of resources.
Choice (C)
41. 'Inordinate consumption of resources' is an incorrect expression. Hence option B can be ruled out. Among options A, C and D, D is most appropriate because it brings out the extent of greed which is seen in the consumption of resources.
Choice (D)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 2

Explanatory Notes for questions 1 to 5:

1. The word approbation (derived from the root appro = correct, fit, skill, ability) means approval or consent. The word endorsement is synonymous with it. The words denunciation meaning censure or blame, obsequiousness (ob = against) meaning flattery, and condemnation which means disapproval are inappropriate in the given context.
Choice (B)
2. The words contravene (derived from the root contra = against) and flout are synonymous. Debunk (de = down, out, away, apart) is to demystify, refute is to contradict and acquiesce is to agree or comply.
Choice (D)
3. The word itinerant, derived from the root iter = between; among, means travelling or nomadic. The word peripatetic is synonymous with it. The word languid means lazy. Capricious means whimsical. Erratic means unstable or unreliable.
Choice (C)
4. The word malodorous, derived from the root mal = bad, means rotten or foul-smelling. The word putrid is synonymous with it. Alluring means fascinating or enchanting. Redolent means fragrant or aromatic.
Choice (C)
5. Ludicrous, derived from the root lud = play, means absurd or ridiculous. The word risible is synonymous with it. Incredulous (cred = belief) means doubtful. Disjointed (dis = not, apart, away) means displaced and conceited means arrogant or haughty.
Choice (A)

Explanatory Notes for questions 6 to 10:

6. The words aggrieve (derived from the root griev = heavy) and please are antonyms. Mollycoddle is to overprotect. Beguile is to entice or mislead.
Choice (B)
7. The words gregarious (greg = herd, crowd) and taciturn (reserved) are antonyms. Odious means obnoxious or repulsive. The words imperious and hubristic both mean arrogant.
Choice (B)
8. Coldness is the antonym of bonhomie, meaning geniality. The word bonhomie is derived from the root - bon = good. Bondage means servitude. Malice (mal = bad) is rancour or animosity.
Choice (B)
9. Outstanding (exceptional) is the antonym of mediocre (of medium quality), the word mediocre is derived from the root med = middle. The words prosaic and pedestrian mean dull and monotonous. Exceptionable means offensive or disagreeable.
Choice (B)

10. The word prolix (derived from the root lix = speak, speech) means wordy. Concise is its antonym. Turgid means bloated or inflated. Periphrastic and discursive mean bombastic or long-winded. Choice (C)

Explanatory Notes for questions 11 to 15:

11. Catholic (derived from the root hol = whole).
 12. Abdicate (derived from the root dic = to say)
 13. Fidelity (fid = faith, trust).
 14. Depravity (de = down, out, away, apart)
 15. Gratuity (from the root grat = pleasing).

Explanatory Notes for questions 16 to 20:

16. Tortuous and sinuous (sin = curve) both mean twisted or circuitous and are synonyms. Circumspect (circum = around) and cautious are synonyms. obsolete means antiquated and caustic and scathing both mean critical in a bitter or sarcastic way. Pugnacious in (B) means war-like, belligerent, whereas amatory (am = love) means related to sexual desire. They have no connection. Choice (B)
17. A misanthropic (mis = bad, hate) person (one who hates human beings) has rancour, 'a hatred and desire to hurt others'. Similarly one who is prudent (wise) has circumspection (wisdom); an embodied person can be called an incarnation and a cloistered person lives in seclusion. Incredible means unbelievable and disbursement is the distribution of money. Hence, the answer is (D). Choice (D)
18. 'Regicide' (cide = to kill) refers to the act of killing a king, 'fratricide' refers to the act of killing one's brother, 'parricide' refers to the act of killing one's parents, and 'uxoricide' refers to the act of killing one's wife. But 'filicide' refers to the act of killing one's children and not siblings. Choice (C)
19. 'Trojan Horse' is a symbol of perfidy. Except (D), all pairs have the same relationship. 'Trojan horse' in history refers to a large hollow wooden horse filled with Greek soldiers and introduced within the walls of Troy by a stratagem. So, now Trojan Horse means someone or something intended to defeat or subvert from within usually by deceptive means. 'Perfidy' (fid = faith, trust) is the quality or state of being faithless or disloyal. Cornucopia is a curved goat's horn overflowing with fruit and ears of grain that is used as a decorative motif emblematic of abundance. This is a synonym of 'bounty' 'Chimera' is a fire-breathing she-monster in Greek mythology having a lion's head, a goat's body and a serpent's tail. It also means an 'illusion' 'Phoenix' is a legendary bird which according to one account lived 500 years, burned itself to ashes on a pyre, and rose alive from the ashes to live another period. 'Frankenstein' is the character in Mary W. Shelley's novel Frankenstein who creates a monster by which he is eventually killed Choice (D)
20. Jettison, derived from the root jet = to throw, means to discard or throw. Bowdlerize is to remove something which is improper or offensive from a text. The word expurgate is synonymous with bowdlerize. Elucidate (explain) and explicate, disgorge (expel; pour out) and regurgitate also convey the same meaning. The word inculcate (culp = blame) means to accuse or blame. Absolve (solv = loosen, free) meaning pardon or forgive is not synonymous with inculcate. Hence only choice A does not exhibit the same relationship as the capitalized pair. Choice (A)

Explanatory Notes for questions 21 to 25:

21. 'Lexis' (lex = read, speak) means vocabulary and 'logomachy' refers to a dispute about words. Deportment (port = to carry) meaning demeanour might fit into the first blank but the word 'eugenics' (eu = good) – the science of improving mankind by controlled breeding – is a misfit in the second blank 'Epistemology', is the science of knowledge.

Polemics means – controversial argument. Except (A) the other choices do not have any relevance to the context. Choice (A)

22. All choices except B are irrelevant. 'Lucubrate' means to study at night and 'luminary' means a 'celebrity'. 'Amnesia' (mnem = remember) means loss of memory, usually, due to brain injury, shock, fatigue, repression or illness. 'Alumnus' is a past student of a school, college or university. Perspicuity might fit into the first blank but the word protagonist (central character in a play etc.) is a misfit in the second blank. The word ergophobia (phob = fear) (fear of work) and democrat (one who practices social equality) are illogical. Choice (B)
23. 'Lector' refers to a reader in a church service or a lecturer in a foreign university who gives instruction in his native language. 'Jetsam' means discarded material, in other words, 'worthless things'. 'Nestor' refers to a wise old man, but 'stygian' refers to 'darkness'. So (B) is not a meaningful choice. 'Progenitor' means ancestor but 'congenial' means 'pleasant' or 'compatible', which makes it a wrong choice. Choice (D)
24. The word 'but' clearly indicates that the blanks are to be filled with two contrasting words. She is docile or tractable, but her job requires her to be rigid. 'Doctrinaire' (doct = teach) means to be 'dogmatic'. 'Naïve' means marked by unaffected simplicity. Insouciant means light-hearted unconcern or nonchalance. 'Caddish' means discourteous or ungentle manly in behaviour. 'Judicious' means having, exercising, or characterized by, sound judgment. 'Gregarious' (greg = crowd, flock) means of or relating to social groups. 'Prescient' (scien = to know) means omniscience (scien = to know) or foresight. Choice (C)
25. The clue word 'although' suggests that the second blank should be filled with a word that means 'similar', because 'although' counters the word 'difference'. Similarly, the first blank needs a word that is synonymous with 'wisdom'. Amity means friendly relations between nations. 'Dour' means stern, harsh. It can also mean obstinate, unyielding gloomy and sullen. Sagacity or 'sagacious' means one who has a keen sense of perception and discerning, 'cognate' is of similar nature or generically alike, 'prudence' is the ability to govern and discipline oneself by the use of a reason. 'Morose' means having a sullen or gloomy disposition. The words declivity (clin/cliv = slope, lean) meaning a downward slope and infallible (fal = deceive) are illogical in the given context. Choice (B)

Explanatory Notes for questions 26 to 30:

26. The words diffidence (derived from the root fid = faith, trust), reticence and reserve convey the same meaning. Effusion (derived from the root fus = pour) is the odd one out. Choice (D)
27. Foreboding (fore = before), premonition and presentiment convey the same meaning. Caveat is the odd word. Choice (B)
28. Entreaty (en = in, into), appeal and imploration convey the same meaning. Insinuation (sin = curve) is the odd man out. Choice (C)
29. Diaphanous (derived from the root dia = across) is a synonym of gossamer and translucent. Turgid does not belong to this group. Choice (A)
30. Amorphous (morph = shape), nebulous and vague convey the same meaning. Nascent (is the act of being born) is the odd one out. Choice (B)

Explanatory Notes for questions 31 to 38:

31. The expression 'quick in the draw' is incorrect in choice B. The correct expression is 'quick on the draw' meaning to be quick to understand or react in a new situation. Choice (B)
32. The use of the article before home makes choice D incorrect. The correct expression is '.....home to'. Choice (D)

33. The use of the word effect is incorrect in choice (A) context. The correct word to be used here is affect, meaning to produce or change in somebody and something
Choice (A)
34. Option D is erroneous. The correct expression is work yourself into the ground meaning to make oneself tired or ill by working hard.
Choice (D)
35. The expression '-----give the game off' is incorrect in choice D. The correct expression is '----- give the game away' which means to spoil a surprise or a joke by telling someone something that should have been kept secret.
Choice (D)
36. The expression 'form up' does not make sense in choice (C). The correct expression is 'shape up' meaning to develop in a particular way, especially in a good way. Choice (C)
37. The expression 'drop off from' is incorrect in choice (C). The correction is '-----drop out of'.
Choice (C)
38. In choice A the word edge should be followed by to or in. To have an edge to in one's voice is to have a small but noticeable amount of annoyance in one's voice.
Choice (A)
2. The word seminal (sem=seed) means highly original and influencing the development of future events. The word influential is clearly its synonym. Hypothetical, derived from the root hypo = under, too little (assumptive, debatable), pervasive (prevalent) and pertinent (relevant) are misfits in the given context.
Choice (A)
3. The root in the word insurgent is surg = rise. The word rebel is synonymous with it. Insurgent can be used both as a noun and as an adjective. If used as an adjective, the words rebellious, insurrectionary and dissatisfied are synonymous with it. An infidel is an agnostic or a non-believer. A rationalist is a free-thinker. A pacifist is a peace-lover.
Choice (D)
4. The word taciturn (tacit = silent) means cold or reserved. The word reticent is synonymous with it. The words hostile, hubristic (arrogant) and congenial (affable) are not relevant in this context.
Choice (A)
5. The word subvert, derived from the root vert = to turn, means undermine or weaken. Intimidate (tim = fear) is to coerce or bully. Condescend is to demean oneself. Vilify means abuse or curse.
Choice (B)

Explanatory notes for questions 6 to 10:

Explanatory Notes for questions 39 to 45:

39. The passage states that evil is not self-sustaining and that it cannot survive on its own. Hence it is obvious that its enduring existence requires the acquiescence (acceptance) of the good. Hence choice (B) is apt. The words ratification (approval), corroboration (confirmation) and patronage do not make sense in this context.
Choice (B)
40. It is stated that the irrational survives by feeding off the rational hence it can be said that it survives parasitically. The word triumphantly which is a positive word does not make sense here. The words haplessly (derived from the root hap = by chance) and dispassionately (derived from the root dis = apart) are inappropriate.
Choice (D)
41. It is stated in the paragraph that an irrational idea gains influence by covering itself with rationality, therefore it is obvious that it gains influence fraudulently (deceitfully). Hence choice A fits the blank perfectly. The words fallaciously (erroneously), forebodingly (menacingly) and errantly (guiltily) can be easily eliminated.
Choice (A)
42. It is obvious from the passage that an irrational idea covers itself with a veneer (façade) of rationality. The words edifice (building, structure) modicum (small amount) and protection do not make sense in the context.
Choice (C)
43. Only the word defend (protect) fits in the blank most appropriately. The words obscure (vague), strive and conceal (hide) are inappropriate in comparison.
Choice (B)
44. The words blatant (flagrant) and covert (secret) which have a negative connotation are misfits in the given blank. Only the word unequivocal, derived from the root meaning unmistakable is most appropriate here. The word categorical meaning emphatic is inapt in this context because here the emphasis is on identifying evil as evil without doubt or ambiguity.
Choice (D)
45. The word impotent meaning powerless or worthless is most appropriate in the given blank. The words indisposed, crippled (immobilized) and incapacitated (indisposed, immobilized) are inappropriate in comparison
Choice (C)
6. The word desultory is derived from the root sult = jump, leap. Desultory means aimless or haphazard. Methodical is its antonym. Superficial (super = above) means cursory, haphazard means aimless or uncoordinated. Choice (B)
7. The word tactile is derived from the root tact = touch. It means perceptible or palpable. Intangible is the antonym of tactile. Robust (strong); enervating (debilitating) and insouciant (easy-going) are inappropriate in the given context.
Choice (C)
8. The root in the word tremulous is trem = shake, fear. Tremulous means quivering or shaky. The word steady is its antonym. The words irresolute (undermined) presumptuous (arrogant) and obdurate (adamant) are not pertinent in the given context.
Choice (D)
9. Urbane is derived from the root urb = city. It means polished or sophisticated. Boorish meaning uncultured or unrefined is opposite in meaning to the word urbane. The words suave (stylish, elegant), rational(pragmatic) and antiquated (ancient) are not suitable in this context. Choice (C)
10. The word convivial is derived from the root vita / viva = life, alive. The meaning of convivial is welcoming, friendly. The word unfriendly is its antonym. The words jovial, vivacious (lively) and flamboyant (flashy; dazzling) are not related.
Choice (D)

Explanatory notes for questions 11 to 15:

11. Quintessence (derived from the root quin = five), epitome and embodiment are synonyms. Metaphor, which is a figure of speech in which a term or phrase is applied to something to which it is not literally applicable in order to suggest a resemblance, is the odd one out.
Choice (A)
12. The word corroboration, derived from the root robor = strength, is synonymous with validation and confirmation. Elucidation (clarification) is the odd one out.
Choice (B)
13. The words conjecture (derived from the root – ject =to throw) surmise and speculation convey the same meaning. Exposition meaning explanation is the odd one out.
Choice (D)
14. The word commiserate derived from the root miser = wretched, pity, means to empathize or console. Wheedle (wax; cajole) is the odd word in the category.
Choice (B)
15. The words premonition (derived from the root mon = warn) forboding and portent are synonyms. Exhortation (persuasion) is the odd word.
Choice (A)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 3

Explanatory notes for questions 1 to 5:

1. The word sacrilege, derived from the root sacr = sacred, holy means blasphemy or disrespect. The word profanity (pro = ahead, forth) is synonymous with it. Castigation means severe reprimand or criticism.
Choice (B)

Explanatory notes for questions 16 to 20:

16. The words undermining (subverting, weakening) and obliterating (effacing) cannot be used with fundamental rights. It cannot be said that fundamental rights are undermined or obliterated. Hence options A and D can be eliminated. The words suppressing and demolishing can fit into the second blank but the word risible (rid/ris = laugh) (laughable) does not make sense in the first blank. The words ludicrous (lud/lus = play) and demolishing are most appropriate. Choice (C)
17. The first words of options A, B and D are possible in the first blank but the word abating (subsiding) is a misfit here. Hence option C is ruled out. Options B and D can be eliminated because the words deterioration and erosion cannot be used with habitats. Only option A is apt. Choice (A)
18. The structure of the sentence suggests that the words which fit into the two blanks are contradictory. Among the given options only the words suave (agreeable and courteous) and stern (harsh; severe) present a contrast which is intended in the sentence. The words charismatic (charming) and grim, urbane (dignified) and gaunt (haggard), debonair (sophisticated) and deadpan (emotionless) are inappropriate in comparison. Choice (A)
19. The words lectern, (derived from the root lect = read speak) which refers to a stand for holding a book, notes etc when you are reading in a church, giving a talk etc does not fit in this context. The words rostrum, podium and platform are synonymous meaning 'a raised horizontal surface'. However, the term platform has a sense of being a place or means/opportunity for public expression. Hence 'C' is most suitable. Choice (C)
20. Only option A is most logical. Mutually exclusive qualities are best described as dichotomies. But mutually analogous (related) qualities are not chasms (braches), mutually complementary (harmonizing) qualities are not polarities (conflicts) mutually reciprocal (correlative) qualities are not disjunctions (polarities). Hence options B, C and D are illogical. Choice (A)

Explanatory notes for questions 21 to 25:

21. A pedagogue (teacher; instructor) teaches, a pontiff sermonizes (preaches). An arbitrator negotiates but not an arbiter. A lyricist (a person who composes songs) does not sing. Clairvoyant (a person who is able to see future events) and apprise are not related. Choice (C)
22. Seismic means of or related to earthquakes. Fluvial means pertaining to rivers. Option B is incorrect because the word pluvial is an adjective pertaining to rains. Pluvial clouds refer to rain clouds. Fluvial means connected with rivers. Insular means of or related to islands. Funicular refers to a railway on a steep slope, used to transport passengers up and down in special cars by means of moving a cable. Choice (A)
23. An iconoclast (a person who strongly opposes generally accepted beliefs) is associated with scepticism (disbelief), a sophist (one who uses fallacious arguments) is associated with casuistry (a way of solving moral or legal problems by using clever arguments that may be false). A heretic (a person holding a belief or opinion that is against the principles of a particular religion) is not associated with conformism, a jingoist (one who believes that his country is best) is not associated with idiosyncrasy (physical condition peculiar to an individual), an ideologue (a person whose actions are influenced by a belief in a set of principles) is not associated with cynicism (the belief that people only do things to help themselves rather than for good or honest reasons). Choice (B)
24. An imbecile (a dullard, an ignorant person), lacks intelligence, similarly a hedonist (a pleasure-seeker) lacks abstemiousness (self-denial; restraint). Tact is an essential quality of a diplomat. The word virtuoso (a person who is extremely skilled at doing something) and ethics; felon (a criminal) and erudition, (learning) are not related. Choice (D)

25. A prodigal (a spendthrift) lacks thrift (economy), a reprobate (an immoral person) lacks morality. The words desperado (a person who does dangerous things without caring about himself or other) and fear, maverick (a non-conformist) and rebellion, ascetic (a person who renounces physical pleasure) and abstemiousness (renouncing things which give pleasure) are not analogous to the original pair. Choice (C)

Explanatory notes for questions 26 to 30:

26. Yes. The word sanctuary is derived from the root sanct = sacred holy. It refers to a safe haven or an asylum.
27. Yes. Prescient means prophetic or psychic. It is derived from the root scien = to know.
28. No. Proscribe is derived from the root scrib = write. It means to ban something or to make something illegal.
29. Yes. A somnambulist is a sleep walker. The word somnambulist is derived from the root somn = sleep.
30. Yes. The word contentious is derived from the root tent = stretch. Contentious means arguable or debatable.

Explanatory notes for questions 31 to 38:

31. The use of 'out' after keep is incorrect in choice D. The correct expression is '.....keep from' meaning to manage to prevent yourself from doing something. Choice (D)
32. The error lies in option C. The correct expression is 'match up with something meaning to be the same or similar. Choice (C)
33. The expression 'light up' does not make sense in choice A. The correct expression is 'light upon' which means to find or think of something unexpectedly. Choice (A)
34. The phrasal verb 'jump at' is incorrect in option A. The correct phrasal verb to be used here is 'jump on', meaning to criticize someone as soon as they have done something wrong or said something that you disagree with. Choice (A)
35. The expression 'look ahead' is incorrect in choice D. 'Look ahead', meaning to think about what will happen in the future and plan for these events, does not make sense in this context. The correct phrasal verb is 'look forward'. The expression ('look forward + verb + ing) is used at the end of a formal letter to say you hope to hear from or see someone soon, or that you expect something from them. Choice (D)
36. Choice A is incorrect. The use of the article is incorrect in the expression 'take issue with' meaning to disagree strongly. Choice (A)
37. '.....slow off the mark' is the correct expression in choice C. To be slow off the mark is to be slow to act or react to an event or situation. Choice (C)
38. The phrasal verb lead up is incorrect in choice D. The correct expression is 'lead off' meaning to start something. Choice (D)

Explanatory notes for questions 39 to 45:

39. Totalitarianism can be described as a threat (a danger) to mankind but it cannot be described as a plague (epidemic, disease) torment (agony, anguish) or burden. Hence only option B is apt here. Choice (B)
40. The passage precisely speaks about totalitarianism (tyranny, dictatorship) hence option A fits the blank perfectly. The words sovereign (ruler), emperor and baron are inappropriate in comparison. Choice (A)
41. Choice A is most appropriate in this context it is correct to say that horrors are perpetrated. The words executed (performed; accomplished) or worked (brought about) do not collocate with horrors. The word interpreted is clearly out of context. Choice (A)

42. Only option D is most appropriate in this context. "Altruists" justify the horrors perpetrated by them by saying that they are doing so for the common good. The word propitiate (appease), sustain (aid, approve) and establish don't make sense in this context. Choice (D)

43. Throughout the passage the author states that collectivism is a threat to individual rights. Collectivism is one of the spiritual weapons which have enslaved (Coerced' compelled) men. The words enriched and empowered which are positive words are misfits in this context. The word embittered (irked; irritated) does not make sense here. Choice (D)

44. Those rights which men cannot be deprived of are inalienable rights. Only option C suits the blank most appropriately. The words ineluctable (inevitable ; inescapable) injudicious (jud = judge) and intangible (impabable) are inappropriate in comparison. Choice (C)

45. The word which fits into the blank should contrast with the word evildoer, hence benefactor is the appropriate word here. The words reprobate (outcast), puritan (prude) and debauchee (libertine; sybarite) do not suit the context. Choice (A)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 4

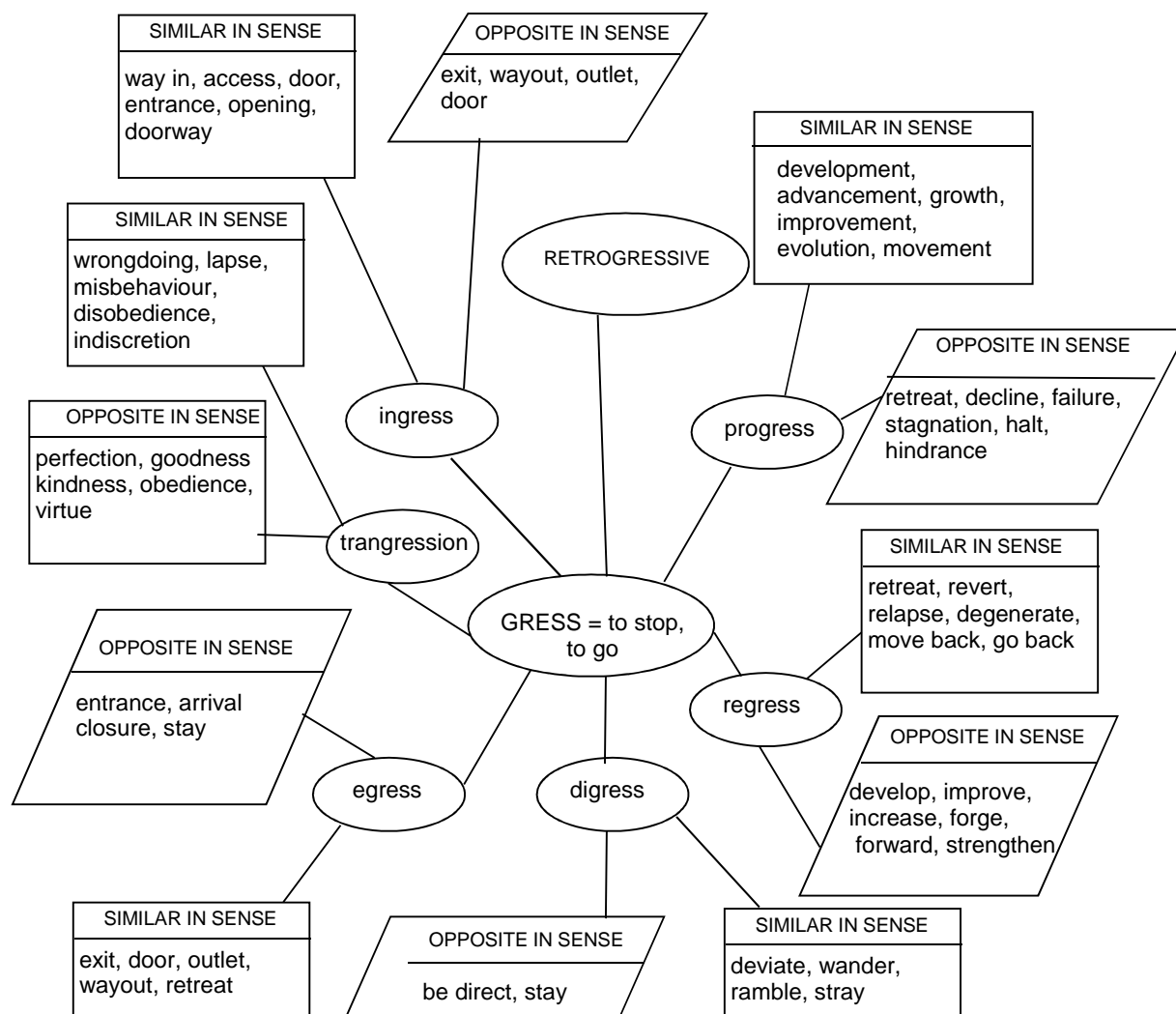
Explanatory notes for questions 1 to 20:

innocuous – positive, weak – neutral, insipid – negative
innocent – positive, flat – neutral, banal – negative
painless – positive, unobjectionable – positive,
safe – positive, sapless – negative, jejune – negative,
innoxious – positive

1. Only the word insipid, which means bland or tasteless, fits into the given context.
2. Innocuous is the appropriate word in the given context. A remark which is innocuous is not intended to offend or upset anyone.

Set –II

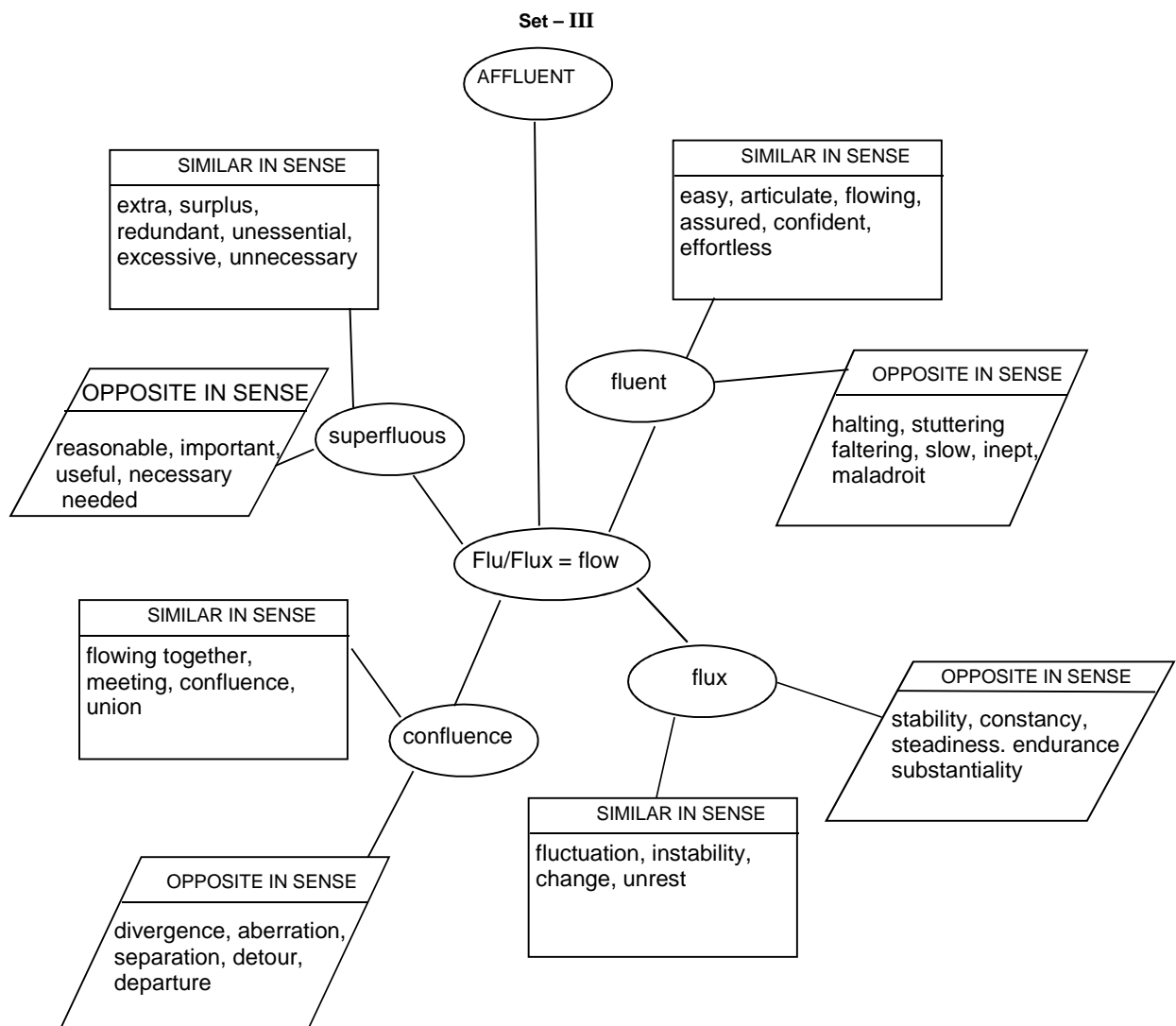
3. Only the word vicious (violent, cruel) collocates perfectly with the word criminal. All the other words are inappropriate in comparison.
4. It is stated that the person led a depraved (immoral) life earlier and he now intends to turn over a new leaf. This contrast intended in the sentence is best brought out using the word virtuous (moral, principled). Opposite of a depraved life is a virtuous life



5. The words punctilious (precise, proper) and meticulous (thorough, scrupulous) clearly indicate that perfection is the appropriate word to fit into the blank
6. Lapse meaning a small mistake, especially one that is caused by forgetting something or by being careless, is the correct word which brings out the meaning intended in the sentence.

I Clin/cliv = slope, lean	II De= down, out away, apart
(a) <u>inclination</u> : leaning, slope	(a) <u>depart</u> : go away, leave
(b) <u>recline</u> : lay down stretch out	(b) <u>deprecate</u> : express disapproval, criticize
(c) <u>incline</u> : slant, gradient	(c) <u>deplete</u> : reduce in quantity or numbers
(d) <u>proclivity</u> : penchant, predilection	(d) <u>defamatory</u> : spoiling the good repudiation
(e) <u>declivity</u> : declination, descent	(e) <u>deface</u> : spoil the appearance of
III Mis = wrong, bad, hate	IV Dis = not, apart, away
(a) <u>misanthrope</u> : one who hates mankind	(a) <u>discordant</u> : clashing, inharmonious
(b) <u>mishap</u> : an unlucky accident	(b) <u>disparage</u> : underrate, vilify
(c) <u>misconstrue</u> : to intercept incorrectly	(c) <u>dissuade</u> : prevent, hinder
	(d) <u>disparate</u> : contrasting, diverse
	(e) <u>disseminate</u> : disperse, spread
	(f) <u>distend</u> : amplify, expand
	(g) <u>dissipate</u> : squander, waste

7. It is quite obvious from the context that his income was so meagre that it was hardly enough for him to lead a decent life. This meaning is brought out only by the word comfortable.
8. 'Scanty' is the only word, among all the given options, that collocates with the word rainfall.



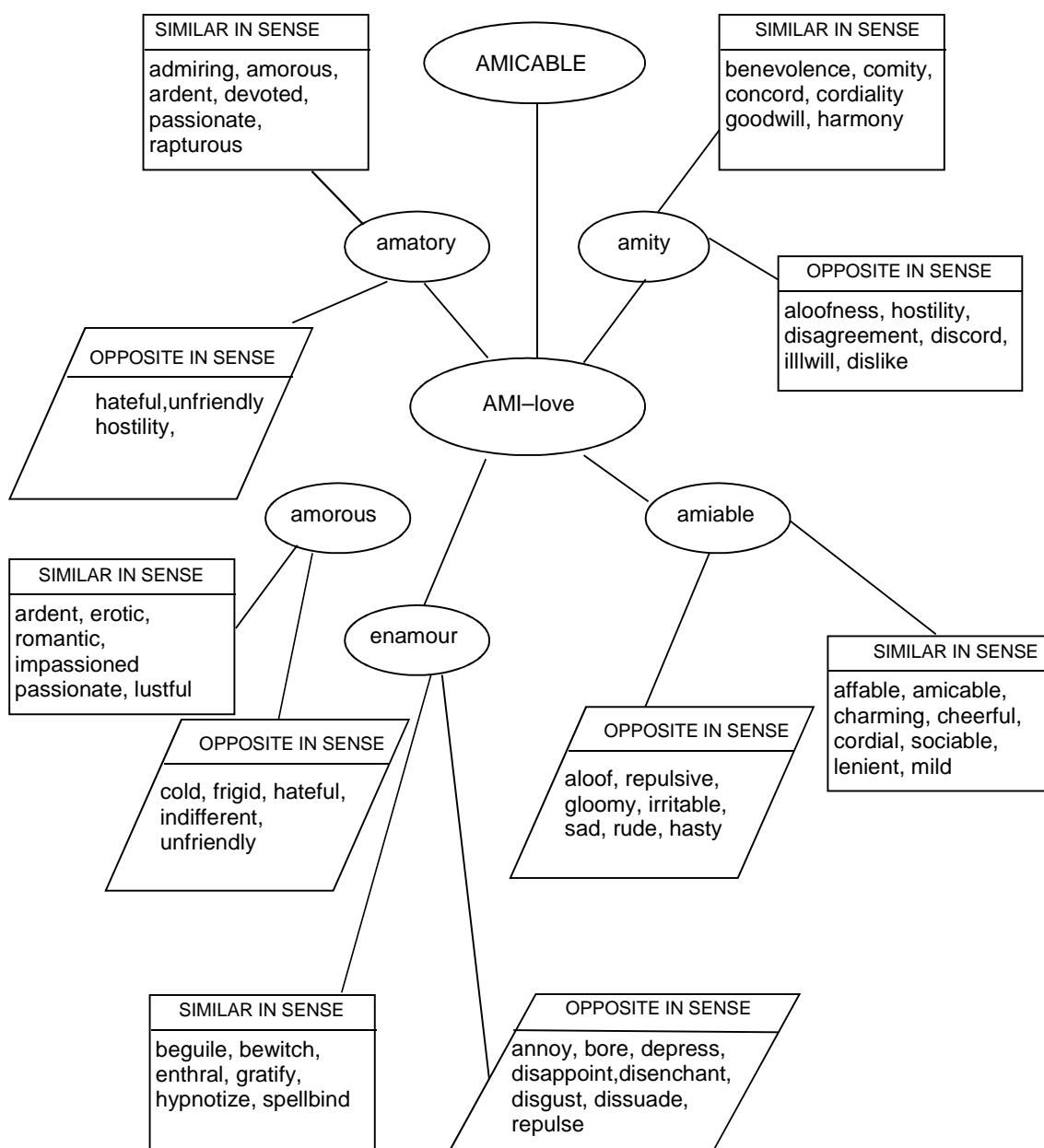
9. 'Detour', which means a longer route that you take in order to avoid a problem or to visit a place, is the appropriate word to be used in the sentence.
10. Only the word 'confident' is the appropriate word to fill the blank

HOMEWORK EXERCISE (SET – III)

I art/ arti = skill, craft	II fid = faith, trust
(a) <u>art</u> : painting, skill	(a) <u>confidence</u> : sure, positive
(b) <u>artificial</u> : false, insincere	(b) <u>diffidence</u> : shyness, reverse
(c) <u>artifice</u> : pretense, deception	(c) <u>prefidious</u> : disloyal, treacherous
(d) <u>artifact</u> : relic, object	(d) <u>fidelity</u> : loyalty, faithfulness
(e) <u>artful</u> : crafty, devious	
(f) <u>artless</u> : simple, natural	
III co/com/ con = with, together	IV super / sur = above
(a) <u>compatriot</u> : fellow citizen	(a) <u>supercilious</u> : arrogant, haughty
(b) <u>coalesce</u> : unite, come together	(b) <u>supersede</u> : succeed, displace
(c) <u>compliant</u> : acquiescent, conforming	(c) <u>superfluous</u> : extra, redundant
(d) <u>complicity</u> : involvement	(d) <u>surfeit</u> : excess, surplus
(e) <u>concord</u> : agreement, treaty	(e) <u>insurmountable</u> : insuperable insolvable
(f) <u>concur</u> : agree, assent	

11. Halcyon meaning peaceful and happy is the appropriate word to be used in the given context.

12. Only the word turbulent (agitated, disturbing) collocates with childhood and fits appropriately in the given context



13. 'Spellbound' is the appropriate word to be used in this sentence. To hold someone spellbound is to hold someone's attention completely.
14. 'Harmony' which means a state of peaceful existence and agreement is the appropriate word to be used in the given context.

HOMework FOR STUDENTS (SET – IV)

I been = good	II cord/card = heart
(a) <u>benefit</u> : advantage, gain	(a) <u>accord</u> : agreement; treaty
(b) <u>benevolence</u> : kindness, charity	(b) <u>discord</u> : disagreement dissonance
(c) <u>benediction</u> : blessing	(c) <u>cordial</u> : pleasant; genial
(d) <u>bonafide</u> : genuine	(d) <u>cardinal</u> : basic, fundamental
(e) <u>benign</u> : kind	
III be = to make, to have a certain quality	IV en = in, into
(a) <u>belittle</u> :disparage, decry	(a) <u>enter</u> : go into; go through
(b) <u>belated</u> : late, delayed	(b) <u>entice</u> : attract; beguile
(c) <u>bemoan</u> : lament, be wail	(c) <u>encumber</u> : burden; hamper
(d) <u>befriend</u> : make friends with	(d) <u>endemic</u> : widespread; prevalent
(e) <u>bewilder</u> : confuse, baffle	(e) <u>ensconce</u> : entrench; establish
(f) <u>bequeath</u> : leave, donate	(f) <u>entreat</u> : plead, beseech

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 5

Explanatory notes for questions 1 to 20:

- Something comes into effect i.e., something begins to happen. Hence a
Only the word 'currant' meaning a small black dried grape without seeds, makes sense here. Hence a
The word venal meaning corrupt is the apt word here. Therefore b Eminent - meaning famous is the right word to be used here. Hence aaba. Choice (B)
- Only the word allusion (something that is said or written that intentionally makes you think of a particular thing or person) makes sense here. Hence (b)
The word 'conscience' meaning the part of you that judges the morality of your own actions and makes you feel guilty about the bad things that have done, is the appropriate word to be used here. Therefore a.
The word wreath (an arrangement of flowers and leaves in a circular shape) is the apt word in this context. Therefore a.
To cite is to speak or write words taken from a particular writer or written work. Hence only a is apt here. Hence baaa. Choice (A)
- Only the word elicit which means to obtain or produce something, especially information or reaction makes sense here. Hence a
The word 'conscious' is apt here. a conscious effort is a determined effort. Hence a
The word counsel meaning advice is appropriate in this context. Therefore b. The word officious meaning overbearing fits the context appropriately. Hence b. Hence aabb. Choice (D)
- An ingenious person is one who is very clever and skilful. Only a makes sense here.
Only the word flair which means the natural ability to do something well makes sense here. Hence a.
To compliment someone is to praise someone. Only a makes sense here.
A prerequisite means something which must exist or happen before something else can exist or happen. Hence only b makes sense here. Hence aaab. Choice (C)
- Turgid style of writing refers to that style of writing which is pompous or bombastic. Hence only a makes sense here. The word 'tortuous' which means with many twists and turns is the more appropriate word in the given context. Therefore a.
The word proscribe (to ban; prohibit) is apt here. Hence a.
The word principle meaning a moral rule or standard of good behaviour is apt here. Hence aaaa. Choice (A)
- Portent is a noun meaning an omen or prophetic sign of the future. Potent is an adjective meaning strong and powerful. Only a makes sense here.
The word equitable meaning fair and reasonable is the most appropriate word in the given context. Hence b.
An inflammatory speech is something which is intended or likely to cause anger or hate. Hence only b makes sense here. Only the word exiguous in b(meagre; inadequate) suits the given context. Hence abbb. Choice (B)
- The word alter (change) makes sense in the given context – a.
The word forbear which means to prevent yourself from saying or doing something is most appropriate in the given context – a.
Only the word ascent (rising to a particular position or higher rank) is apt here – a.
The word stationary (static) makes sense here. Therefore only a is apt. Hence aaaa. Choice (A)

8. If you wait for something with bated breath you wait for it in an anxious or excited way. Hence a
Only the word appraise which means to assess or estimate suits the given context. Hence a
Balmy weather refers to weather which is pleasantly warm. Therefore b
A serial killer is one who repeatedly commits the same serious crime, using the same method. Only a makes sense here. Hence aaba. Choice (A)
9. To defuse is to make a difficult or dangerous situation calmer by reducing or removing its cause. Obviously b suits the context.
The word oral which means of or relating to the mouth is apt here – a.
The word discreet meaning secret is apt in the given context – a.
To pore over something is to look at and study something carefully – b.
Hence baab. Choice (C)
10. Censure is to criticize or reprimand someone for wrong doing. Hence b.
The word palate which refers to the top part of the inside of the mouth also refers to a person's ability to taste and judge good food. Hence only the word palate suits the context. Therefore a
To broach a subject is to begin a discussion of something difficult. It is obvious that only a suits the context.
The course of a meal refers to a part of meal which is served separately from the other parts. Only a suits the context. Hence baaa. Choice (B)
11. The word amoral means not concerned with or affected by morality, immoral means 'not conforming to accepted standards of morality. Only the word immoral suits the given context – a.
The word complacent meaning smug or self-satisfied is apt in the given context. Hence a.
Only the word aisle referring to a long narrow space between rows of seats in an aircraft cinema or church makes sense here – a. Only the word breach which refers to a split or rift makes sense in the given context. Hence b. Choice (B)
12. The word cue (hint) is most appropriate in the given context – a. Only the word draft which means a piece of text, a formal suggestion or a drawing in its original meaning, containing the main ideas and intentions and not the developed form is apt – b.
Only the word curb meaning control is apt in the given context. Hence a
To ensure is to make something certain to happen. Only a makes sense here. Hence abaa. Choice (C)
13. The word duel which refers to a deadly context between two people is the most appropriate word in the given context. Hence a
To hail from is to come or have been born in a particular place. Hale means sound or healthy. Only a is apt in this sentence. To hoard is to stack up on food money etc. hence (a) hoarding is apt.
Foreword (a short introduction to a book) is the appropriate word here. Hence a.
Hence aaaa. Choice (B)
14. The word mitigate (make less severe) is apt in the given context. Hence b
Only the word career (an occupation undertaken for a substantial period of a person's life) makes sense here. Hence a
If someone is loath to do something they are unwilling to do something. Further, only 'loath' is followed by the preposition to and not 'loathe'. Hence a
A diary is a book with spaces for each day of the year in which you can write down things you have to do in the future. A dairy is a farm where milk products are produced. Only a suits the context. Choice (A)
15. The capitol refers to the legislative building where the U.S. congress meets. Hence b.
The word notable meaning eminent is apt in the given context. Hence a.
Raze means to completely destroy a city, building. Only a makes sense here.
The word devise meaning design, frame etc. suits the context – b. The word device is a noun and devise which is the verb form make sense. Hence baab. Choice (B)
16. The word precedent which refers to an action, situation or decision which has already happened and which can be used as a reason why a similar action or decision should be taken, is appropriate in the given context. Hence b.
The word signatory, which refers to a person, organization or country which has signed an agreement suits the given context. Hence b
To declare something formally is to make something public or official. Hence a
Plain in this context refers to pure, downright. Plain bad luck means sheer bad luck. Hence a. Hence bbaa. Choice (D)
17. To avenge is to do harm to or punish the person responsible for something bad done to you or your family in order to achieve a fair situation. Only avenge makes sense here. Hence a.
Shear means to cut off. The word sheer, which means utter in the given context, is apt in the sentence. Hence a.
The word refer is more apt in the given context. To refer somebody to someone means you direct someone to a different person for information, help action, often to a person with more knowledge. Only b is apt in this context.
Braze is to solder or create with metals such as bronze. Braise meaning to cook(usually meat) slowly in the liquid is appropriate in the given sentence. Hence b. Choice (B)
18. The word demure meaning shy and bashful is apt in the given context. Hence a. Aggravate meaning worsen is apt in the given context. Hence a.
To adopt is to take another person's child into your own family and legally raise him or her as your own child. Hence it is appropriate to say an adopted son and not adoptive son. Hence a. Restful refers to having a quiet and soothing quality. Only a makes sense in this context. Hence aaaa. Choice (B)
19. The word mettle meaning spirit and strength in the face of difficulty is apt in this context. Hence a. Auger is a tool for making holes. Augur means to predict or forecast. Hence a. Metier meaning profession suits the context perfectly. Hence a
Adept (skilful) is apt in this context – a. Choice (D)
20. The word elusive (difficult to find, catch or achieve) is apt in this context. Hence b.
Grisly (causing horror or revulsion) is apt in the given context. Hence a
The word quiet meaning making little or no noise suits the context appropriately – a.
A sceptic is a non-believer. A person who doubts the truth or value of an idea or belief. Only a suits the context. Hence baaa. Choice (D)

Explanatory notes for questions 21 to 35:

21. Only choice C is correctly spelt. The correct spellings of the remaining words are 'persuasive', 'unflinching' and 'prestigious'. Choice (C)
22. Except the word 'resilience' all the remaining words are incorrectly spelt. The corrections are 'accommodation', 'somersault' and accomplishment. Choice (D)
23. The correct spellings of options A, B, and C are 'clamorous', 'parochial' and 'precocious'. The word 'mammoth' is correctly spelt. Choice (D)

24. The correct spellings are 'manoeuvre', 'precipitate' and 'legitimize'. The word 'aggrandize' is correctly spelt.
Choice (B)
25. Except the word 'acrimonious' all the remaining options are incorrectly spelt. The correct spellings are 'fractious', 'fraudulent' and 'narcissic'.
Choice (C)
26. The correct spellings of options, A, C, and D are 'finesse', 'virtuosity' and 'squalor'. Choice B does not need any correction.
Choice (B)
27. Option A is correctly spelt. The correction in the remaining options are 'avaricious' 'adventurous' and 'posthumous'.
Choice (A)
28. Except the word 'preposterous' all the remaining words are incorrectly spelt. The correct spellings are 'pusillanimous', 'timorous' and 'diminutive'.
Choice (D)
29. Only 'primeval' is correctly spelt. The remaining options are 'medieval', 'coeval' and 'alluvial'.
Choice (B)
30. Only 'deciduous' is rightly spelt. The remaining words are 'stupendous' 'tremendous' and 'horrendous'.
Choice (B)
31. The word 'tempestuous' is correctly spelt. The correct spellings of the remaining options are 'conscientious', 'licentious' and 'malicious'.
Choice (A)
32. Options A to C are incorrectly spelt. The corrections are 'ambiguity' 'magnificence and 'solicitousness'. Choice D is correct.
Choice (D)
33. Only choice B is correctly spelt. The remaining corrections are 'deferential', 'providential', and 'consequential'.
Choice (B)
34. The corrections are 'paean', 'panegyric', and 'acclamation'. The word 'extolment' is correctly spelt.
Choice (D)
35. Options A to C are incorrectly spelt. The corrections are 'euphonious' 'diaphanous' and 'mellifluous'.
Choice (D)

Solutions for questions 36 to 40:

36. The word 'ephemeral' is correctly spelt in Choice (B)
Choice (B)
37. Option A is correctly spelt.
Choice (A)
38. The correct spelling is given in choice C.
Choice (C)
39. Choice (D) has the correct spelling
Choice (D)
40. Choice A is spelt correctly.
Choice (A)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 6

Explanatory Notes for questions 1 to 10:

1. The phrasal verb 'square off' meaning to prepare to fight, compete or argue with someone is appropriate here.
Choice (B)
2. 'Cut back' is to do less of something or use something in smaller amounts. Hence option A is most suitable.
Choice (A)
3. The phrasal verb "fall apart" is most appropriate, in the given context. If an organization, system or agreement falls apart, it fails or stops working effectively.
Choice (C)
4. 'Lay aside' meaning to keep something usually money, for use in the future is apt in the given sentence. Choice (A)
5. The phrasal keep off, meaning not to eat, drink or use something that can harm you, is apt in the given sentence.
Choice (A)

6. Hold back is the correct phrasal verb to be used in this sentence. If you hold back something such as tears or laughter, you make an effort to stop yourself from showing how you feel.
Choice (D)
7. 'Catch up' is most appropriate in the given sentence. If you catch up on friends you have not seen for some time, you talk to them and find out what has happened in their lives since you last talked together.
Choice (C)
8. If a quality 'runs through' something it is in all parts of it. Hence the phrasal verb run through is apt in the context.
Choice (A)
9. The phrasal verb 'pull down' meaning to destroy a building is apt in this sentence.
Choice (B)
10. To roll something back is to reduce the cost or price of something. Only option C is logical in the given context.
Choice (C)

Explanatory Notes for questions 11 to 20:

11. To put on means to wear. Thus, the answer is 'in the process of wearing'. It is never used in the context of on oneself. dressing up someone else. One always 'puts on' something
Choice (C)
12. To zero in on something means to zoom in on it, separate it out as distinct and inspect closely. Thus, the answer is 'narrowed down to'.
Choice (B)
13. The idiomatic phrase 'boils down to' means 'can be summarized as'.
Choice (A)
14. 'Brush up on' means to improve or refresh one's knowledge on something. Thus, the answer is 'refresh'. Choice (C)
15. Burn out is fatigue, frustration, or apathy resulting from prolonged stress, overwork, or intense activity.
Choice (C)
16. To call upon means to formally invite or request.
Choice (B)
17. To clamp down on means to act strictly to prevent something. Thus, the answer is 'take strict action in order to prevent'.
Choice (A)
18. To dress up means to wear elegant clothes, for a special occasion.
Choice (D)
19. To clam up means to become very quiet and reserved and keep to oneself. Hence, the answer is 'to be very quiet'.
Choice (B)
20. Back down means to withdraw or concede defeat. Thus, the answer is retracted, meaning to go back upon.
Choice (D)

Explanatory Notes for questions 21 to 35:

21. Rifle means to search with the intention of stealing or taking. Riffle is to shuffle or flip quickly through papers. Only a is apt. Piquant means pleasantly tart or spicy. Pique is to arouse or provoke. Only a makes sense here. Esoteric means likely to be understood or enjoyed by only a few people with a special knowledge or interest. Exotic means seeming exciting and unusual because it is connected with foreign countries. Only a is apt. Ambiguous is used to describe a phrase or act with more than one meaning or it is used to refer to something that is unclear. Ambivalent means uncertainty and having conflicting attitudes and feelings. Only b makes sense in this context. Therefore a a b is a sequence.
Choice (A)

22. Flout is to violate a rule or law. Flaunt is to show something you are proud of to other people. Only a makes sense here. To work for the common good is to do something for common good so that it helps everyone. Hence b
Perpetrate, meaning to commit a violent or harmful act, is the appropriate word in the given sentence. Hence a
Meritorious (Excellent; worthy) is the appropriate word to be used in the given sentence. Meretricious meaning tawdry or having little worth or value does not suit the given context. Hence b
Choice (A)
23. Beside means next to or adjacent to. Besides meaning in addition to is the appropriate word here. Hence b.
Historic is usually used to describe something that is so important that it is likely to be remembered. Historical usually describes something that is connected with the study of history. Hence b is appropriate in this sentence.
Connive in something is to seem to allow something wrong to happen. Conspire is to agree together especially secretly, to do something wrong, evil or illegal. Only a is correct.
Pander is to do what somebody wants or try to please them, especially when this is not acceptable or reasonable.
Pamper is to take care of somebody very well and make them feel as comfortable as possible. Only a makes sense in the given context. Choice (A)
24. Bemused is to show that you are confused and unable to think clearly. Amused is to be entertained. Only a makes sense here. Ethereal describes something that is light, airy and intangible. Ephemeral refers to anything lasting for a short period. Only a is appropriate in the given context.
Accede is to agree to a request, proposal etc. To exceed something is to be greater than a particular number or amount.
An ascetic is a person who renounces all material comforts, often for religious devotion. Aesthetic refers to the philosophy of beauty or the pleasing qualities of something. The former is appropriate in the given sentence. Hence a.
Choice (D)
25. Concurrent means existing or happening at the same time. Consecutive means following one after another in a series. Only a is appropriate in this sentence.
Discreet is to be careful in what you say or do in order to keep something secret or to avoid causing embarrassment or difficulty for somebody. Discrete means independent of other things of the same type. Only b makes sense in the given context.
Abhorrent is causing hatred, especially for moral reasons. Aberrant means not usual or not socially acceptable. Only a is more appropriate in the given sentence.
Anecdote is a short, interesting or amusing story about a real person or event. Antidote is a substance that controls the effects of a poison or disease. Only a is logically appropriate in the given sentence. Choice (B)
26. Alleviate is to make something less severe.
Ameliorate is to make something better. Only a is precise in the given context.
Eager means very interested and excited by something that is going to happen or about something that you want to do. Anxious means feeling worried or nervous. Only b makes sense in this sentence.
Certainty refers to a thing that is certain. Certitude is a feeling of being certain. The former is appropriate in this sentence. Hence b
Lightening is a verb that means to reduce the weight of. Lightning, which refers to the electric discharge in the sky, is the exact word to be used in this sentence. Hence a
Choice (D)
27. Viscous means thick and sticky. Vicious means violent and cruel. Only b makes sense here.
Aide is a person who helps another person, especially a politician, in their job. Aid refers to money, food etc, that is sent to help countries in difficult situation. Only b makes sense in this sentence.
- Healthy means having good health and not likely to become ill/sick. Healthful means promoting good health. The latter is apt in the given sentence. Hence b
Credible means something which can be believed or trusted. Creditable means deserving praise or approval. Only b is appropriate in the given sentence. Choice (D)
28. Childish means silly or immature. Childlike means simple and innocent. The latter is appropriate in this sentence. Hence b
Voracious means eating or wanting large amounts of food or wanting a lot of new information and knowledge. Vociferous means expressing your opinions or feelings in a loud and confident way. Only b is logically appropriate in the given sentence.
Stature refers to the importance and respect that a person has because of his/her ability and achievements. Statute, meaning a law that is passed by a parliament, council, etc is the appropriate word to be used here. Hence a
Faint means very small; possible but unlikely. Feint (especially in a sport) refers to movement that is intended to make your opponent think that you are going to do one thing when you are really going to do something else. The word faint makes sense in the given sentence. Hence a.
Choice (B)
29. Adverse means negative or unpleasant and not likely to produce a good result. Averse means not liking something or wanting to do something. Only a is appropriate in this sentence.
Foul means unpleasant or very bad. Fowl is a bird that is kept for its meat and eggs. Only a is correct in this sentence.
Cache refers to a hidden store of things such as weapons. Cash is money in the form of coins, notes, etc. Only a is the appropriate word to be used here.
Whole means complete or in one piece. Whole grain means made with or containing whole grains, especially wheat. Only a is correct in this sentence. Choice (A)
30. Wreak is to cause great damage or harm to somebody or something. Wreck is to damage or destroy something. 'Wreck havoc' is an incorrect collocation. Therefore option b does not make sense here. Hence a
Afflict is to affect somebody or something in an unpleasant or harmful way. Inflict is to make somebody or something suffer something unpleasant. Only b is more appropriate in this sentence. Between means happening between two people. Among means involving three or more people. Only a is correct in this context.
Dissenting means having or expressing views that are different from those that are officially accepted. Descent refers to the action of coming or going down. The former is correct in this sentence. Hence a
Choice (B)
31. Its is a determiner which means belonging to or connected with a thing, an animal or a baby. It's which is a short form for it is or it has, is the correct option to be used here. Hence b
Sleight of hand refers to the skilful movements of your hand that other people cannot see. Slight, meaning very small in degree, does not make sense here. Hence a
The word archaic means old and no longer used. Arcane means secret and mysterious and therefore difficult to understand. Only a makes sense here.
Decent means of a good enough standard or quality. Descent refers to ancestry. The latter makes sense in the given sentence. Hence b
Choice (B)
32. Vain refers to something that does not produce the result you want. Vane is a blade that is moved by wind or water and is part of the machinery in a windmill. Only a is apt in this sentence.
Altogether means in total. All together means all in one place or all at once. Only a is suitable in the given sentence.
Avenge which is a verb, means to punish or hurt somebody in return for something bad or wrong that they have done to you, your family or friends.
People avenge something or average themselves on somebody. You take revenge on a person. Only a makes sense in this sentence.

Broach is to begin talking about a subject that is difficult to discuss especially because it is embarrassing or because people disagree about it. Broach is a piece of jewellery that can be fastened on clothes. The former is the appropriate word to be used in this sentence. Hence a Choice (D)

33. Acumen is the ability to understand things quickly and well. Acuity is the ability to think, see or hear clearly. The former is appropriate in the given sentence. Hence b
Allusions means containing references to another person or subject in an indirect way elusive is difficult to find, define or achieve. Clearly a suits the context.
Who's is the appropriate word to be used in the given sentence. Who's who refers to the list or book of facts about famous people. Whose is used in questions to ask who something belongs to. Only a is appropriate in this sentence. Portable refers to something which can be carried from place to place. Potable refers to water which is safe to drink . Hence b Choice (D)

34. Reluctance is the feeling of hesitation before doing something because you do not want to do it or you are not sure that it is the right thing to do. Reticent is being reserved or uncommunicative. The latter is apt in the given sentence Hence b.
Through means past or beyond. Thorough means done completely with great attention to detail. Only b is apt in this sentence.
Ascent is the act of climbing or moving up.
Assent means official agreement to or approval of something. Only b makes sense in this sentence.
Breath, which is a noun, refers to the air that you take into your lungs and send out again. The word breathe which is a verb and refers to the act of breathing does not make sense in the sentence. Only a is appropriate in this sentence. Choice (B)

35. Conscience is the part of the mind that tells you whether your actions are right or wrong. Conscious means being aware of something. Only a is apt here.
Principal means most important or main. Principle is a moral rule or a strong belief that influences your actions. Clearly a suits the context.
Already means before now or before a particular time in the past. All ready means completely ready or ready in all aspects. Only b is apt in this sentence. Rational refers to the behaviour, ideas etc, that is/are based on reason rather than emotions.
Rationale is the principles or reasons which explain a particular decision, course of action, belief Only b is appropriate in this sentence. Choice (C)

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Explanatory Notes for questions 1 and 2:

1. The idiom, by the skin of one's teeth means, just barely or very narrowly. Thus, the answer is 'very narrowly'. Choice (B)
2. To keep one's nose to the grindstone means to work doggedly or persistently. Hence, the answer is 'works very hard'. Choice (A)

Explanatory Notes for questions 3 and 4:

3. Option (A) 'stand in' means to take the place of someone temporarily, Choice (B) 'stand down' means to step down. Choice (C) 'stand over' means to overlook, Choice (D) 'stand back' means to let something happen. Choice (B) is the apt choice. Choice (B)
4. Option (A) means to accede to or support a plan or suggestion and is apt here. Option (B) means parts of something that break off and drop. Option (C) means 'to fall'. Option (D) means to be tricked. Choice (A)

Explanatory Notes for question 5:

5. Balk is to place an obstacle in the way of, hinder, thwart. Balk is to be unwilling to do something or become involved in something because it is difficult, dangerous etc. The latter is apt in this sentence. Hence b
Incredible is impossible or very difficult to believe. Incredulous is not willing or not able to believe something. The latter is apt in this sentence. Hence b
The noun practice means repeated performance or systematic exercise for the purpose of acquiring skill or proficiency. Practise is the verb form of practice. The former is appropriate in the given context. Hence a
Waive means to refrain from claiming or insisting on. Wave is a disturbance on the surface of a liquid body, as the sea or lake, in the form of a moving ridge or swell. Only a fits into the given sentence. Choice (A)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 7

Explanatory Notes for questions 1 to 5:

1. The words 'apart from', 'a famous victory' are clear-cut clues to a positive note. Except Choice (A), the rest of the answer choices are a mixture of both positive and negative words. 'Garnering' is obtaining or collecting something, such as information, support etc; it is 'gathering' or 'acquiring'. Though 'bestowing' is awarding, granting, giving or presenting, 'rebuffing' is an abrupt or unkind rejection. 'Denying' and 'thumbing down' are synonyms. Choice (A)
2. The connections between physical, emotional and mental health are accepted (regarded favourably) not regulated (control or maintain the rate or speed) nor acclaimed (praise enthusiastically) or disproved (prove to be false). Regular exercise is to achieve optimal (best or most favourable) health. It is definitely not minimal (minimum amount) or even maximum (regulated cannot fit in the first blank) or salubrious (health giving) health. Choice (B)
3. The sentence talks about medicine and micro-organisms, like bacteria. You would want a medicine to destroy the bacteria not replicate (reproduce), fortify (invigorate, encourage) or nourish it. Antibiotics is apt in the first blank. Nutrients and capsules are not medicines. Steroid is unsuitable since we don't want to replicate bacteria. Choice (A)
4. The context of the sentence, even with the blanks indicates that interest rates have dropped (lowest level) and that this was a deliberate attempt to tackle deflation. This context would need 'reduction' and 'prevent'. Choice (C)
5. A food recipe can be learnt from a set of instructions but hospitality cannot. Since a contrast is implied 'unlike' is apt in the first blank. Further 'only through example' implies that the word in the blank is imbibe (absorb) rather than instruct (teach, direct) or observe (perceive, notice) or learn (acquire knowledge or skill). Choice (D)

Explanatory Notes for questions 6 to 10:

6. The word has been inappropriately used in Choice (D). The appropriate usage is 'pitched in with' which means to contribute. Choice (D)
7. The word 'right' is inappropriately used in Choice (D). The right phrase is 'in her own right' not "in her own rights". 'In her own right' means "as a result of one's own claims, or efforts". Choice (D)
8. The word 'rate' has been inappropriately used in choice A. The rate of something is not the correct expression to be used. When the price of something is referred to, it is indicated by the word 'cost'. Choice (A)
9. The word 'stop' has been inappropriately used in choice B, because the word stop should be followed by the preposition 'over' in order to mean a 'halt'. Choice (B)

10. The word 'ill' has been inappropriately used in choice D. The correct expression to be used is a 'sick child'.
Choice (D)

Explanatory Notes for questions 11 to 15:

11. 'Spurt' refers to a sudden increase in something for a short period of time. Therefore 'surge' is the best substitute. Cascade (to flow downward in large quantities), torrent (a large amount of something that comes suddenly and violently) and flurry (an occasion where there is a lot of activity and excitement) are clearly unsuitable as replacements.
Choice (A)
12. 'Whittled down' means to reduce by repeated actions and the word that conveys this sense is 'eroded'.
Choice (C)
13. 'Conciliatory' means to reconcile and the word propitiatory meaning placatory, is similar in meaning to the word conciliatory.
Choice (A)
14. 'Trounce' means to defeat decisively and the word that conveys this meaning is 'rout'.
Choice (D)
15. 'Incontrovertible' means 'indisputable' or 'conclusive'.
Choice (A)

Explanatory Notes for questions 16 to 20:

16. 'Vituperative' and 'scurrilous' both mean bitter and abusive. 'Pristine' is synonymous with 'immaculate'. Both mean 'perfectly clean.' Reclusive (isolated, solitary) and melancholic (gloomy), loud tenacious (inflexible) and strident (loud, hoarse) are not synonymous.
Choice (A)
17. 'Influential' and 'impuissant' (impotent) are antonyms. Similarly intransigent (obstinate) and ductile (adaptable) are antonyms. The words taciturn (curt; reserved) and stupefied (astonished), diaphanous (thin, transparent) and awkward, salacious (indecent) and gratuitous (spontaneous) are not antonyms.
Choice (B)
18. 'Ballista' is a catapult for hurling boulders. 'Trebuchet' is a weapon used for hurling stones. A harpoon is a long, heavy spear attached to a rope, used for killing large fish or whales. A boomerang is a curved stick that when thrown in a particular way, comes back to the person who threw it. A bazooka is a long tube-shaped gun, fixed from the shoulder, that is used to shoot missiles at military vehicles.
Choice (D)
19. 'Bureaucracy' is the form of government run by the state officials. 'Hierocracy' is a rule by priests. 'Democracy' is run by elected representatives and not the constitution. 'Dictatorship' may or may not be by a 'monarch'.
Choice (C)
20. 'Vigilantes' work to promote morals in their community. 'Arbiters' work to settle 'disputes'. An 'abbeter' gives assistance, an 'emperor' rules, an 'acolyte' is a 'follower'.
Choice (C)

Explanatory Notes for questions 21 to 25:

21. Both 'resorts' and 'haunts' fit in the blank. 'Resort' is a holiday place. 'Haunt' is a place of frequent visit since it is enjoyable. Keeping in mind the tone of the passage and the words 'clubs of colonial affectations', 'haunts' will be the most appropriate word.
Choice (C)
22. 'Galling' and 'exasperating' can be ruled out since they mean 'annoying'. The passage is not discussing, 'erudite' or learned people but it refers to the 'privileged' people which means respected and admired, and 'hallowed' conveys this meaning.
Choice (C)
23. After the word 'hallowed', the only word that would suit the blank is 'urbane'. It means polished and high-class. The other three words do not pertain to the paragraph.
Choice (D)
24. The word that suits the context is 'inertia'. It means to be unwilling to move or be active. It is in keeping with the idea of 'haughty resistance to criticism'. It also takes the preposition 'against' after it.
Choice (B)

25. 'Abjuring' and 'abdication' can easily be ruled out. They mean renounce or give up. 'Spurning' means to reject. The clubs are averse to reform and continue their old practices, unmindful of others opinions. 'Ensconced' conveys this idea.
Choice (B)

Explanatory Notes for questions 26 to 30:

26. Balmy means 'warm', barmy means foolish and crazy. Broach is to open a sensitive topic. A brooch is a large decorative pin or clasp. To canvass is to propagate one's idea while canvas is a surface for painting. Bough refers to a branch of a tree and bow refers to the hull of a ship. Hence baab is the correct sequence.
Ans: baab
27. Censure is harsh criticism and to censor is to ban. The critics don't have a right to ban a movie hence censure fits better. Complacent is self satisfied and complaisant is extremely acquiescent. To titivate to become more attractive which makes more sense here than titillate which means to tempt. 'Palate' is one's appreciation of various tastes whereas palette is a paint mixing board. abaa is the appropriate sequence.
Ans: abaa
28. Immure means to confine and inure is to make insensitive. The residents were more likely to be confined to their houses than become insensitive to them. Dual is for two people and a duel is a fight. Wreath is a circular floral decoration usually adorned on a tomb. Wreathe is surround. Imply is to state indirectly and infer is to conclude. Therefore the correct sequence is aaaa.
Ans: aaaa
29. Eschew is to oppose and espouse is to support. To minister is to attend to someone's needs. Administer is to supervise. Inculcate is to blame and exculpate is to absolve or free from blame. Pursuit is the act of chasing or striving. Perusal is careful reading. C is correct. Therefore the correct sequence is aabb.
Ans: aabb
30. To beseech is to beg and bespoke is custom made. Conflate is to create by mixing and conflagrate is to set fire to. Indigence is poverty and indolence is laziness. As the sentence talks about inheriting and finances indigence is more appropriate. Inept is unskilled and adept is skilled. Since it drew flak, the performance was inept. Option C is correct. Therefore the correct sequence is aaaa.
Ans: aaaa

Explanatory Notes for questions 31 to 35:

31. 'Collate' means to analyse and compose or to assemble from different sources. "mustered", 'composed' and examined will fit the blank, but "encumbered" which means to burden can be ruled out.
Choice (A)
32. 'Fragmented' means disconnected. The inappropriate word is 'immoderate' [excessive]. Shattered, splintered broken all mean fragmented.
Choice (C)
33. "Bereft" means deprived. "emitted" is the inappropriate word which means to send out or put out. 'Devoid', 'robbed' and 'divested', all mean deprived.
Choice (B)
34. "Beset" means to attack persistently or to cover round with. Since the mention is to ignorance, it will take the latter meaning. Ignorance can 'besiege' [to crowd around oppressively] it can 'perplex' [puzzle or bewilder] and it can enclose [shut in on all sides]. But it cannot 'exert' [strive].
Choice (B)
35. 'Stultify' means to make ineffective or futile esp. as a result of tedious routine. 'Benumbing' [paralyzing], 'constraining' (limiting) and 'hampering' (hindering) can fit the blank. 'Stirring effect' would mean a result of motivation. It does not fit the context.
Choice (B)

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Explanatory Notes for questions 1 and 2:

1. **extending and identified:** When we consider the two words together the only right option is D. In other choices, one word may appear to be correct as 'relating' in option A, but the other one will not suit.
Choice (D)

2. Poor state of food and nutrition 'security' is to be 'addressed.' 'Value', 'shares' or 'standard' cannot be 'addressed.' Options like 'directed', 'attended' and 'focussed' do not go with 'on a war footing.'

Choice (A)

Explanatory Notes for questions 3 and 4:

3. The words *eclat* (confidence; flair) and *panache* (self-confidence) share a synonymous relationship. Among the given options the word *rectitude* (integrity) and *probity* (morality) share a synonymous relationship.
Choice (A)
4. The words *humane* (compassionate) and *fiendish* (wicked; cruel) are antonyms. Among the given options the words *defamatory* and *complimentary* are antonyms.
Choice (B)

Explanatory Notes for questions 5:

5. **fulminate** – to burst out in anger : appropriate
culminate – to bring to a close : inappropriate
flounder – to struggle, to have difficulty coping : appropriate
founder – to sink, to fail : inappropriate
integrity – having high standards of ethical and moral behaviour : inappropriate
honesty – speaking the truth : appropriate
house – the residence : appropriate
home – the residence and the circumstances and relationships within : inappropriate
egotist – a braggart, one who thinks he's the centre of attention : appropriate
egoist – one who is self-centred and does not think of others : inappropriate
 Therefore the correct sequence is aabaa Ans: aabaa

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR GRAMMAR EXERCISES

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 1

- Army is a collective noun that takes the singular verb. Hence the correction is army has is poised.
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-I; Rule 2)
- Youth represents a stage of life and hence is an uncountable abstract noun. Hence it takes the singular verb. Hence youth is wasted is the correction.
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-I; Rule 4)
- Courage is an abstract noun, hence should go with the singular form of the verb. The correction is Courage makes us
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-I; Rule 2)
- Aircraft is a noun that has the same form for the plural as it has for the singular. Hence aircrafts is incorrect. Hence the correction is twenty fighter aircraft
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-I; Rule 6)
- The noun cattle is always used in the plural. Hence the correction is cattle have gathered
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-I; Rule 10)
- Information is uncountable hence takes the singular. Hence the correction is is relevant.
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-I; Rule 7)
- Machinery is a noun that is always used in the singular. Hence the correction is There is no machinery for
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-I; Rule 7)
- Scissor is incorrect. It is used only in the plural. Hence the correction is scissors that he has are not very sharp.....
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-I; Rule 8)
- Measles appears to be in the plural form, but is actually singular in usage because it is the name of a disease. Hence the correction is measles is a disease that generally afflicts
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-I; Rule 9)
- Six-hundred runs is considered as one unit and hence takes the singular form. Hence the correction is six-hundred runs is
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-I; Rule 11)
- Uncountable nouns like advice are used with expressions like a piece of in the singular and with much and a lot of, plenty of in the plural. Therefore, the correction is a piece of advice.
(Refer Q 6)
- The correction is was felicitated because the poet who is also a politician was felicitated. If the given sentence reads the poet and the politician, then, it takes the plural because it shows that the reference is to two different people.
- The sentence talks about one workshop that belongs to both Raju and Ravi. Hence the possession should be indicated by adding an 's' (apostrophe and s) to Ravi. Hence the correction is Raju and Ravi's workshop
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-I; Rule 14)
- The error in the sentence is because of the apostrophe ('s) to the word Robert's. The intended idea is Robert, the author's view. It is because, when two nouns refer to the same person, the possessive sign is added to the latter.
(Refer to V02; Unit-I; Section-II; Rule 15)
- It is incorrect to say novel's first part because inanimate things do not take an apostrophe. The correction is 'the first part of the novel'.
- The correction is sisters-in-law. It is a compound noun. Hence, the plural is formed by adding 's' to the first word. Father-in-law's is correct because the possessive of a compound noun is formed by adding apostrophe ('s) to the last word of the compound noun.
(Refer to V02; Unit-I; Section-II; Rule 16)
- The correction is the Prime Minister of Israel's plan. When a noun or a title consists of several words, the apostrophe and s ('s) is attached only to the last word.
- The error is because of the absence of the apostrophe ('s) to the word 'Charles'. The 'correction is Prince Charles' friend because Charles is a proper noun which ends with 'es' hence the apostrophe is used but 's' is omitted.
- Bradman be'comes the common noun in the sentence because when the article is placed before a proper noun it becomes a common noun. The intended idea is that Sachin Tendulkar is the best player of this age. The correction is the Bradman of
(Refer to V02; Unit-I; Section-II; Rule 1)
- The sentence has two errors. The first error is the mismatch. The correction is a mismatch. The second error is an information. The correction is 'the information' i.e., the idea expressed is there is a mismatch in the information sent, hence the correction.
- The words heroine of the novel defines the name Isabella. Hence, the heroine of the novel is the correction. Using the definite article indicates that the reference is being made to someone in particular.
- The correction is the Atlantic. It is the name of an ocean, hence should be preceded by the.
(Refer to V02; Unit-VIII; Section-II; Rule 36)
- The sentence has two errors (1) furniture is never used in plural (2) ... there is no room not place.

24. The word team is a collective noun but the words split into two groups indicate that the members of the team are being talked about separately, hence the correction is they were split
(Refer to V02; Unit-I; Section-II; Rule 2)
25. Public is a noun that always takes the plural form of the verb. Hence the public have been
(Refer Q 5)
26. The correction in the sentence is a band of robbers has because band is a collective noun and it should take the singular form of the verb.
(Refer Q 1)
27. six scores boxes is incorrect. The correction is six score boxes. Nouns used in counting (score), when preceded by numerals, are unaltered in the plural.
(Refer Q 10)
28. The correction is two loaves of bread or two slices of bread because it is an uncountable noun and is referred to in parts.
29. Some uncountable nouns like whereabouts can be used with a plural verb as well as a singular verb. Hence whereabouts is correct. The sentence requires no correction.
30. The correction is for goodness' sake. It is because the last syllable of the word ends with 's' and is followed by sake. Hence, the apostrophe is used but 's' is omitted. Hence the correction.
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 17)

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

1. The correction in the sentence is Raju, my cousin's letter.
(Refer Q 16) Choice (A)
2. The expression ten year's experience is incorrect. It is a plural noun; hence the ten years' apostrophe is after 's' – ten years' experience.
Choice (D)
3. The correction is a Gandhian revolution because the reference is to a type of revolution.
Choice (B)
4. The word economics in the context does not refer to a subject but to the economic details of the situation, hence should be preceded by the.
Choice (D)
5. The error is in the expression the London University. The correction is the University of London. If it is written as London University it does not take any article.
Choice (B)
6. The error in the sentence is goes to the church. The sentence should read goes to church because when a place is visited or used for its primary purpose, it does not take the. In the second part of the sentence the church is correct because it refers to the particular church which has been referred to in the first part of the sentence. Choice (A)
7. The correction in the sentence is the Nilgiris because, the names of mountains, rivers, oceans, hills etc take the definite article.
(Refer to V02; Unit-VIII; Section-II; Rule 37)
Choice (B)
8. The correction is ... colourful stone-material nouns have no plural forms.
Choice (D)
9. Jury, a collective noun, needs to be looked at on a 'divided entity as the members all con's take a simple seat. 'Their seats' is correct.
Choice (B)
10. A collection of crows is called 'a murder' It requires an article: 'a murder:
Choice (B)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 2

1. The error is in the ordering of the pronouns. When we talk about a failure or negative, the order is 1st person, 2nd person and 3rd person. Hence the correction is I, you and Michael must take the blame
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 2)
2. The sentence has two errors. One is in the ordering of the pronouns. When we talk about something good or positive, the order is II person, III person, I person. The second error is because of the use of the pronoun I. It should be me. The idea intended is as follows.
Whom does the management plan to congratulate?
You, Mary and me. Hence the correction.
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 3)
3. The error is because of the use of the pronoun me. The correction is It was I It + be verb always takes the subjective case of the pronoun (i.e., I, we, you, he, she, it, they and the be-form verbs are is/was/are/were have been, has been had been).
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 9)
4. When neither nor or either or are used in the sentence, the verb agrees with the second subject. In this sentence, the second subject members of the team is plural and hence the verb should be have. The correction is members of the team have
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 7)
5. The error in the sentence is due to the word that. The correction is than those because her house is being compared with the houses of her friends and relatives. The appropriate pronoun is those of. Hence the correction.
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 17)
6. The error in the sentence is in the usage of the pronoun me. The pronoun to be used is I. When a personal pronoun is connected by a conjunction with some other word in the subjective case, it must also be in the subjective case.
(Refer Q 3)
7. The correction is It is art because it refers to art. That, as given in the sentence is erroneous because it is an adjective and not a pronoun.
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 16)
8. The correction is him and her because if a sentence begins with let, it takes a pronoun which is in the objective case.
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 10)
9. The correction is one finds because the pronoun must be consistent throughout the sentence.
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 11)
10. The sentence has two errors. The first correction is now it's being —. The pronoun it takes the apostrophe ('s) because the context does not require the possessive case. The intended idea is it is. The second correction is its deliberate destruction i.e. The usage of apostrophe is erroneous as the possessive case is intended.
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 8)
11. The correction in this sentence is reminds. Each and every are distributive pronouns which take the verb in the singular form.
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 5)
12. The correction here is everyone does not get what is due to him. The pronouns everyone, everybody take singular form of the pronoun.
(Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 22)
13. The words taught her own are erroneous. The correction is taught herself i.e. she learnt without anyone's assistance.
14. The correction is by its arm because child is of Common Gender i.e. it is a noun that denotes either a male or a female.

15. The sentence has two errors. The first correction is guests whom.... not who because the word guests is the object of the sentence. Hence we use whom which is also in the objective case. The second correction in the sentence is enjoyed themselves. The verb enjoy is transitive which can be used reflexively. In the context enjoy is used to denote an action which cannot be done to anyone or anything. Hence it takes the self pronoun i.e. enjoyed themselves. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 13; Rule 14)
16. The sentence has no error. The pronoun none can take both the singular and plural forms of the verbs. Hence no correction is required. Further, the pronoun he is appropriate in the context. The sentence conveys the idea that of all the men I know, he is less inclined i.e. it is in the subjective case not the objective case.
17. The first correction is each other. When there are only two people being referred to, each other is used. The second correction is My grandmother and I. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 19 (1))
18. The correction here is he cannot help. The subject of the sentence is anyone. It does not take one but he (when the gender is not specified). (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 22)
19. The correction is that I have ever read. The pronoun that is used to refer to the book. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 17)
20. The correction is has to help. (Refer Q 4)
21. The first error in the sentence is because of the wrong placement of the pronoun each. The correction is each happy with _____. The idea intended is that each boy was happy. The second error is because of the plural form of the pronoun (their) when each is used in a sentence, it takes the singular. Hence his prize is the correction.
22. It is incorrect to say each of us did not like The correction is None of us liked the movie.
23. The correction is whom I trust the most. The relative pronoun who refers to the first part of the sentence. He is my brother, which is the subject and the next part of the sentence should take the relative pronoun whom because he is the one whom I trust the most. i.e. it is in the objective case. Hence the correction. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 15)
24. The error in the sentence is stories of her's. The possessive case of the pronoun and does not take the apostrophe('s). Hence the correction short stories of hers (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 8)
25. The correction in the sentence is which but not who because the relative pronoun should agree with its antecedent i.e. the noun which immediately precedes the relative noun. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 16)
26. The correction in the sentence is everyone of us must remain accountable because the subject of the sentence is Each of us. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 5)
27. The correction here is one another. When the reference is to more than two persons, one another is used. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 19)
28. The correction is is important. (Refer Q 11)
29. The correction is it is they..... (Refer Q 3)
30. The relative pronoun who refers to the noun boys which is plural, hence 'have' (i.e., when the relative pronoun becomes the subject of the sentence, then the verb agrees in number and person with the antecedent of the relative pronoun). The correction is boys who have

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

1. The corrections are one's knowledge and throughout one's life. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 11) Choice (C)
2. The correction is applicable because either means anyone of the two, hence it takes the singular form of the verb. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 18) Choice (C)
3. The correction is It is they Choice (A) (Refer Q 3)
4. The correction is have ever lived, because the relative pronoun who refers to the word novelists which is plural. Hence takes the plural form of the verb. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 12) Choice (C)
5. The correction is whom because the reference is to the girl who is the object of the clause all of us thought so highly of. For a better understanding you can go about like this. Who thought highly of the girl? (all of us) All of us thought highly of whom? (The girl). Who should be changed to whom. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 13) Choice (A)
6. The correction is who they say because the relative pronoun refers to the noun in the subjective case. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 12) Choice (B)
7. The sentence has two corrections. The first is was asked because every takes singular form of the verb. The second correction is his or her text book. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 5) Choice (B)
8. The correction in the sentence is if it excludes because the reference is to account which is the singular. Choice (D)
9. It should be 'to practise'. Choice (D)
10. The correction in the sentence is home-made. The word self-made does not convey the intended meaning. Choice (C)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 3

1. The correction is '**Some primitive societies believe that heavenly bodies are divine beings**'. 'Believe' is a '**verb of perception**'. Hence it is incorrect to use it in its continuous form. Hence the correction.
2. The correction is '**This flower smells sweet**'. Verbs associated with the senses are not used in the continuous tense. Hence the correction.
3. The correction is '**She is a gifted sportsperson who has been displaying her talent on the tennis court for the past two years**'. When an action starts in the past and is continuing till the present, the present perfect continuous tense is to be used. In the given sentence the words '**for the past two years**' suggest that the action started sometime in the past and the verb '**displaying**' suggests that the action is still going on. Hence, the present perfect continuous form '**has been displaying**' should be used. The sentence can also be corrected as, '**She is a gifted sportsperson who has displayed her talent on the tennis court for the past two years**'.
4. The correction is '**My brother is not at home, he went out in the morning**'. In the given sentence, '**in the morning**' indicates the past tense. Hence '**has gone out**' which is in the present perfect is incorrect.
5. The sentence can be corrected in two ways, '**Since its inception, the organization has relied heavily on the sincerity of its employees**'. (or) '**Since its inception the organization has been relying heavily on the sincerity of its employees**'. The sentence takes the present perfect tense (has relied) or the present perfect continuous tense (has been relying) because of the word '**since**'.

6. The correction is **'Ten people had been recruited and five of them have resigned'**. The idea expressed is a sequence of events. The second part of the sentence requires a different tense from that used in the first part of the sentence. Hence the correction is **'had been recruited'** and **'have resigned'**.
7. The correction is **'I have visited England and I know the place quite well'**. When we refer to an action which is completed and the effect of which is felt now, we use the present perfect tense i.e., (have + visited).
8. The correction is **'A major change since the first stock market boom of the 1990s has been the readiness of the corporate sector to take risks'**. The explanation given for question (5) holds good.
9. The correction is **'Last week, a web-based newspaper covering issues pertaining to South Asia, featured an interesting report on Baluchistan'**. The given sentence is erroneous because of inconsistency in the tense. i.e., when adverbs of past time like **'last week'** are used, the sentence should be in the simple past tense. Hence **'has featured'** is incorrect, it should be **'featured'**.
10. The correction is **'This obscure village is on the Indo-Bangladesh border where people had to walk across paddy fields before the border road was constructed a couple of years ago'**. The sentence refers to two past situations which require the verbs in their past form. Hence **'had to walk'** is correct.
11. The correction is **'It is high time the teachers completed the syllabus and started revising it'**. When the phrase **'It is high time'** is followed by a verb in its past form it expresses the idea of an action not happening when it was supposed to. Hence the correction.
12. The correction is **'He had just entered the class when the bell rang'**. The given sentence talks about two actions. The first completed action is **'he entered the class'** and the next completed action is **'the bell rang'**, which is in past tense. When the reference is to two past actions, the first completed action should take **'had'** (past participle).
13. The correction is **'As soon as the teacher saw what the boy had done, she admonished him'**. The explanation given for question (12) holds good.
14. The correction is **'I will have completed my work by this time tomorrow'** because, with the use of **'by'** context in the sentence is about a completed period of time in the future. Hence the future perfect tense should be used i.e., (will/shall + have). If the **'by'** were to be left out, the sentence would simply be **'I will complete my work tomorrow'**.
15. The correction is **'Although most of us wish that employment opportunities would increase, not many new projects are being initiated by the government'**. The sentence refers to a desire. Hence **'would'** should be used in the sentence. We are talking about a possibility, which is more appropriately expressed using **'would'**.
16. The correction is **'Today, we live in a mind-boggling diversity, where, industrial and social development has created many different kinds of occupations'**. In the given sentence **'industrial and social development'** indicates a single idea. Hence the singular form of the verb should be used.
17. The correction is **'A class of engineers, called 'knowledge engineers', is emerging to support the experts who are employed as independent consultants'**. The subject of the sentence is **'class'** which is a collective noun and takes the singular form of the verb i.e. **'is emerging'**.
18. The correction is **'The captain, along with the members of his team has protested against the changes effected by the board in the selection process'**. When two subjects are combined using the connective **'along with'**, the verb agrees with the first subject. In the context, the first subject is singular. Hence the correction.
19. The correction is **'More than two-thirds of the earth is covered with water'**. The error is one of subject-verb concord. The reference is to area, hence it takes the singular form of the verb.
20. The correction is **'This is one of the most interesting novels that have been published this year'**. The word **'that'** in the sentence refers to **'novels'** which is plural. Hence, a plural verb is required.
21. The correction is **'Who hung this picture on the wall?'** When **'hang'** is used to refer to the hanging of someone or the punishment given to a person, then both the past form and the past participle form will be **'hanged'**. But in the given sentence, the reference is to pictures. Hence both the past and the past participle forms would be **'hung'**.
22. The correction is **'Did anyone raise an objection to what you said?'**. **'Rise'** means **'to get up'** or **'to come up'** which is intransitive (i.e. does not require an object after it). In the given sentence **'raise'** is the appropriate verb. It means **'to bring something to someone's attention'**.
23. The correction is **'She knew that her end was near and lay on her deathbed, praying to the Almighty'**. The verb **'lay'** is the past tense of the intransitive verb **'lie'**. (lie, lay, lain). Hence the correction.
24. The correction is **'When I entered the house I found that everything had been stolen'**. The sentence is in the passive voice. Hence, the verb should take the past participle form of the verb.
25. The correction is **'She said that she was busy and could not meet anyone that day'** because **'told'** is a transitive verb which requires an object after it. But in the given sentence, the object is missing. Hence the correction is **'she said that she was busy.....'**.
26. The correction is **'The students were happy when the principal promised them a holiday'**. **'Promised'** is a transitive verb which requires a direct object and an indirect object. Hence the correction is **'promised them'**.
27. The correction is **'In the olden days, people lived in small caves on the mountainside'**. The word **'live'**, when used in the continuous form does also mean **'to exist'** which is awkward in the given context. Hence the correction.
28. The correction is **'Bread and butter is the staple food of most people in Europe'**. The error is one of subject-verb agreement. The correction is **'Bread and butter is'**. It is a single phrase which refers to a single idea. Hence it takes the singular verb.
29. The correction is **'Thorough knowledge of Mathematics as well as English is very important for you to do this course well'**. This is because the subject of the sentence is **'knowledge'** which is abstract and uncountable. Hence, it takes the singular form of the verb.
30. The correction is **'While I was in Bombay, I used to play golf every week'**. (or) **'While I was in Bombay, I played golf every week'**. As given in the sentence, **'was playing'** is incorrect because the reference is to a regular action of the past. Hence, it should be expressed in simple past.

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

1. The correction is **'If I were you, I would not accept the proposal'**. Using **'was'** is incorrect because we are talking about an imaginary situation. Hence the sentence takes **'were'**.
Choice (A)
2. The correction is **'If you made your bed in the morning, your room would look better when you get back in the afternoon'**. The verb in the if-clause (if you made your bed in the morning) is in the past tense i.e. **'made'**. Hence, the verb in the main clause (your room would look better) should take **'would'**. The sentence can also be corrected like this **'If you had made your bed in the morning, your room would look better when you get back in the afternoon'**.

- have looked better when you got back in the afternoon'. The explanation is that when the verb in the main clause is 'would have', the verb in the if-clause will be 'had made'. The distinction between the two is that the former looks at the past as a lesson for the future, whereas the latter only looks at are unfulfilled past. Choice (C)
3. The correction is 'If she ate fewer sweets she would lose weight'. The given sentence is a conditional. When the verb in the main clause (she would lose weight) is 'would' then the verb in the if-clause takes the past tense. The if-clause never takes 'would'. Also see 16 above. Choice (A)
 4. The correction is 'I wish I had invested my money in the stock market'. In the given context we are talking of a hypothetical situation. Hence 'had invested'. Choice (B)
 5. The correction is 'How I wish there were more useful books in our college library'. The sentence expresses a wish and therefore the past form of the verb is used. Hence the correction. Choice (B)
 6. The correction is 'If her mother had let her she would have stayed longer'. The explanation given for question 16 holds good. Choice (A)
 7. The correction is 'If you finish your work, we can attend the seminar in the conference hall'. The 'if-clause' suggests a condition that should be fulfilled for something else to take place. Hence, the verb in the 'if-clause' cannot be in the past tense. Also see 16 above. Choice (A)
 8. The correction is 'Mathur feels that if his father had allowed him to go to school, his fate would have been different'. 'If had' in the subordinate clause and 'would have' in the main clause go together. Hence the correction. Another way to correct the sentence is, 'Mathur feels that if his father allowed him to go to school, his fate would be different'. Choice (A)
 9. The correction is 'For all its intellectual power and empirical success as a creator of wealth, Free Market Economics rests on a fallacy, which economists have quietly agreed among themselves to overlook'. The error is one of subject-verb concord. The reference is to 'Free Market Economics' which is the subject of the sentence and is in the singular. Hence the correction is rests on a fallacy. Choice (C)
 10. The correction is 'The leader of the party accompanied by his wife and children is staying in Delhi until after the meeting'. The subject of the sentence is 'the leader' which is singular. Hence, the correction is "is staying in Delhi". When two subjects are combined using the connective "accompanied by" the verb agrees with the first subject. Choice (C)
4. The sentence should read 'I don't know where Jane is. She could be at home'. This is because we are talking of a probability, not a certainty.
5. The sentence should read 'Jeniffer missed her class today. She might have had some work'. This is because we are talking of a possibility. 'Should have' is used when the reference is to a past obligation that is unfulfilled.
6. The sentence should read 'I would have gone on a trip to America if I had had enough money'. The part of the sentence 'If I had had enough money' suggests that 'would have gone' is the appropriate option. In the given sentence the first 'had' is a helping verb (Past participle of 'have') and the second 'had' is the main verb which indicates possession.
7. The sentence should read 'If I had a bicycle, I would ride it everyday'. The 'had' represents possession; 'If' represents condition and therefore needs to be followed by 'would'.

Explanatory Notes for questions 8 and 9:

8. I. 'Should' is used to indicate a recommendation, advice, or an obligation. It is also used to indicate expectation. Hence, **Joseph should study tonight**, indicates that it is an obligation, advice, recommendation or an expectation.

II to IV:

- 'Ought to' indicates a moral obligation, a piece of advice, or a recommendation 'Had better' indicates that, if the given suggestion is not accepted, or acted on, consequences await. 'Supposed to' indicates a moral obligation or a responsibility.
- V. 'Must' indicates that something is very important. When 'must' is used the person usually has little choice and should do as told.
 9. I. 'Could have' indicates a past possibility or ability (when used as the past form of 'can')
 - II. 'Rajani should have gone to the post office.' This means that she did not go. She was supposed to go, but she did not.
 - III. 'Rajani would have gone to the post office' indicates that Rajani did not go to the post office (there must have been some reason for this). It is because some condition (not mentioned in the sentence) was not met.
 - IV. 'Might have' indicates that the speaker is not sure of the occurrence or non-occurrence of the event.
 - V. "Ought to have" indicates a past unfulfilled moral obligation.

Explanatory Notes for questions 10 to 14:

1. The sentence should read 'Mary did not attend office yesterday. She may have gone for a picnic'. We are talking of a possibility, which is expressed using 'may'.
2. The sentence should read 'She did not finish her work and this angered the teacher. She should have done her work'. The given sentence says that she did not finish her work, although she was expected to do the work. (Hence 'should have' is the most appropriate). 'Should have' is used to suggest past unfulfilled obligation or expectation.
3. The sentence should read 'Sheela was supposed to be here at 8 o'clock. She must have forgotten about our meeting'. Must + have + past participle (V₃) [here forget is (V₁), forgot is (V₂) and forgotten is (V₃)] is used to mean a conclusion that can be drawn based on an event in past.
10. The correction is 'He is a spoilt child, and is used to disobeying his elders.' This is because 'be-form + used to' takes the "-ing" form of the verb. It conveys the idea of 'accustomed to doing something'.
11. The correct sentence is 'You had better hurry if you don't want to miss the train'. 'Had better' does not take the 'to + verb' form. Although 'had' appears to be in the past, 'had better' expresses strong advice for the future. Hence, the structure of the sentence should be.
Subject + had better + verb.
Or
Subject + had better + not + verb. (for negative sentences)
12. The correction is 'She had better not go alone to see him'. For explanation refer to question (2).

13. The correction is 'She said that she would rather play golf than cricket'. 'Would rather' expresses preference. Although it appears to be in the past, it expresses preference in the present and in the future. It does not take the 'to + verb' form.
14. The correction is 'Larry said that he liked the way I had my beautician do my hair.' 'Had' is a causative verb (i.e., someone else is the cause for the work to be done) in the context. In such cases it takes the present tense form.

Explanatory Notes for questions 15 to 30:

II and III:

Both 'Has to' and 'must' mean the same. Both are used to indicate the imperative.

15. The correction is 'The petitioners wanted to see a responsible government official'. The verb 'want' does not take 'that' but it takes the 'to + verb' form.
16. The correction is 'His mother forbids his studying late into the night'. (or) 'His mother forbids him to study late into the night'. Forbid takes 'to' (or) 'the possessive form' of the noun/pronoun + the 'ing-form' of the verb. (We forbid someone to do something and not from doing something. It does not take an 'ing' form of the verb).
17. The correction is 'She makes all the students do their work'. 'Make' does not take the to + verb form. It takes the plain form of the main verb.
18. The correction is 'The management wants every employee to be sincere and hardworking'. The verb 'want' should not be used with a 'that clause'. It should be used with the to-infinitive (to + verb).
19. The correction is 'Someone should help her because she does not know how to perform the task'. 'Know' when followed by an infinitive (to + verb) it expresses ability. (Hence, the structure should be subject + know how + to + verb) In the given context we are talking about the ability to do something.
20. The correction is 'His speech was difficult to follow'. Here 'follow' means to understand, 'to be followed' is incorrect, because 'difficult' takes (to + verb) form. It does not take 'to be' because the 'be – verb' does not follow 'to' after the adjective 'difficult'. (Hence, the structure should be difficult + to + verb).
21. The correction is 'He stopped smoking because he is afraid that it may affect his health'. 'Stop' does not take a 'to + verb' form after it. It takes the 'ing' form of the verb. AS is the sentence means that the halted somewhere to smoke, but the following reason would be incongruous.
22. The correction is 'All of us at the office have been looking forward to meeting our new colleague'. The verb phrase 'look forward to' takes the 'ing-form' of the verb.
23. The correction is 'The counsellor asked me if I would mind waiting'. The phrases 'do not mind' and 'would mind' take the 'ing' form of the verb.
24. The correction is 'Most interviewers insist on recruiting people who make a favourable impression'. The verb phrase 'insist on' takes an 'ing-form' after it.
25. The correction is 'Her parents tried to dissuade her from marrying an old man'. 'Dissuade' takes the preposition 'from' and the gerundial (ing – form which acts as a verbal noun) form of the verb.
26. The given sentence says that most children enjoy doing something. 'Enjoy' does not take the to + verb form. It takes the 'ing form' of the verb. Hence, the correction is 'Most children enjoy playing board games and participating in sports'.

27. The correction is 'I am thankful to you because you helped me (to) get this job'. (or) 'I am thankful to you because you helped me in getting this job'. In the given sentence, 'help' is used as a causative verb. In a causative verb, the person does not perform the action directly. It takes the plain verb form, or 'help + in + v-ing'.
28. The correction is 'While I was walking in the garden, I heard the clock strike ten'. The given sentence conveys the idea that, while the clock was walking in the garden, it struck ten, which is absurd. In the given sentence, we don't find any noun or pronoun to which the participle 'walking' refers. Hence the correction.
29. The correction is 'While I was going round the corner, I saw a horrible sight' or 'he / she / they (were)'. For explanation refer to question (29).
30. The correction is 'The doctor suggested that I (should) use these medicines regularly'. This is because the verb 'suggest' should be used with a 'that.....' clause. It cannot be used with the to-infinitive.

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

Explanatory Notes for questions 1 to 10:

1. The correction is 'I was displeased at your coming late'. 'Coming' in the given sentence, is a gerund (i.e. a verb acting as a noun). It should be preceded by the possessive case of the pronoun. Choice (D)
2. The correction is 'I think you should let your hair grow'. 'Let' does not take the to + verb form. Choice (D)
3. The correction is 'As she does not want to make the issue public, she avoids meeting people'. The error is due to the wrong usage of the verb. The verb 'avoid' is incorrectly used with the to-infinitive. It should be used with the gerund (a verbal-noun) i.e., the ing-form. Choice (D)
4. The correction is 'I hope this book helps you (to) understand the concept better'. The explanation given for question (28) holds good. Choice (C)
5. The correction is 'I like the way Ramesh makes his son do his homework neatly'. 'Make' does not take the to + verb form. Choice (D)
6. The correction is 'You had better meet the principal if you want to be sure of securing admission to this college'. Although 'had' appears to be a past tense word, 'had better' expresses advice for the future. It should not be followed by a to-infinitive or a past form of the verb. Choice (B)
7. The correction is 'Although these boys are twins they don't tend to think alike'. 'Tend' takes the 'to + verb' form. It does not take the 'ing' form of the verb. Choice (D)
8. The correction is 'It is not necessary that you take an entrance examination to secure admission to a business school'. 'Must' is redundant. Hence the correction. Choice (B)
9. The correction is 'In today's competitive world, even small businesses had better advertise on T.V. in order to be able to compete effectively'. For explanation refer to question (2). Choice (C)
10. It should be than practising. (Refer to V02; Section-II; Unit-II; Rule 1 (a)) Choice (D)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 5

1. The errors are "often bear highest costs of -----". The adjective form of 'environment' is 'environmental'. The second error is that – an adjective, when used in superlative degree should be preceded by the definite article 'the'. Hence, the sentence should read. "It is the poor and vulnerable communities that often bear the highest costs of environmental degradation".

2. The correction is "the safest form -----". Two comparatives, or two superlatives don't go together. Also, the word 'airlines' is used here to refer, to the type of passengers and should therefore be 'airline'. Hence the sentence should read "Though flying is the safest form of travel it terrifies 40% of airline passengers".
3. The correction is "will be felt sooner than -----". The comparative degree of 'soon' is 'sooner' not 'more soon'. Hence the sentence should read "The effects of climate change will be felt sooner than scientists expect and the world must learn to live with the effects".
4. The correction is "no one listened to it more keenly". The question sentence conveys the idea that the speaker's grandfather listened to jazz more loudly; which is absurd because listening cannot be done loudly. The music can be played loudly. Music can be listened to keenly. Hence the sentence should read "I used to listen to jazz, but no one listened to it more keenly than my grandfather".
5. The correction is "the more hard working" of the two. When only two things or two people are being compared and if the sentence consists of the phrase (of the two) the structure would be the + Adjective in the comparative degree. Hence the sentence should read "Though both the brothers are successful businessmen the younger one is the more hardworking of the two".
6. There are two errors: 'Valiant' can be used either before 'efforts' or before 'British', but cannot be placed between 'British' and 'explorers'. The second error is "more clear". It has to be 'clearer' as the comparative form of 'clear' is 'clearer' and not 'more clear'. The comparative 'clearer' is appropriate since they want to make the picture 'clearer' than what it was before.
7. The correction is 'debilitating ailment'. 'Debilitated' is a verb hence it is not appropriate in the context. 'Ailment' is the noun which should be qualified and hence 'debilitating' would be the appropriate qualifying word. Hence the sentence should read "Depression is a debilitating ailment which can destroy the quality of our lives and the lives of people close to us".
8. The correction is "as contemptuous as we are -----". "As much contemptuous as -----" is an inappropriate usage. Hence the correction. The sentence should read "I have not come across any other society as contemptuous as we are of countries that have done well "Better" is inappropriate as no comparison is being made with that word.
9. The correction is 'democratic temperament'. 'Democratic' is the adjectival form which conveys the idea that the author's attitude reveals an inclination or predilection for the principles or ideas of democracy. Hence the sentence should read "The author's attitude reveals a democratic temperament worthy of admiration at a time when intolerance has become the dominant philosophy".
10. The correction is "little known poet". The idea conveyed would be a poet little known i.e. not known. 'Less known' is incorrect because 'less' is the comparative degree of 'little', which is not appropriate in the context.
11. The correction is "Man is unique among -----". 'Unique' is an adjective which means distinct or different from others. It does not take 'more' or 'most' before it i.e. it does not exist in comparative or superlative degrees. Hence the sentence should read "Man is unique among all beings because he has a personality beyond the body, mind and intellect."
12. The correction is "an imposing ten foot-tall black stone idol". The phrase ten-foot-tall is an adjective qualifying stone. Hence, it does not take the plural form i.e. when a noun is preceded by a compound word, the latter becomes an adjective and would be singular. Hence the sentence should read "At the entrance to the Ashram, we find an imposing ten-foot-tall black stone idol of Lord Krishna on a pedestal".
13. The correction is "only a few brave souls or 'few brave souls' -----". "Few brave souls" means that hardly any brave people exist and would not need 'only'. When the adverb 'only' is used, the idea to be expressed is that some do exist i.e. 'a few brave souls -----'. Hence, the sentence should read. "There are only a few brave souls in the world who dare to conceive the truth and follow it to the end" or "There are few brave souls....."
14. The question sentence has two errors.
 1. The usage 'more high' is incorrect. The comparative degree of 'high' is 'higher'. Hence, the correction is 'higher at present -----'.
 2. The second error is 'than in the poor ones'. It has to be 'than in the poorer ones' since a comparative is required in that context.
15. The correction is "..... he believes are less than his brother's (savings)". The sentence has two errors. One is the usage 'lower than'. The correction is "less than". The second correction is "his brother's". The comparison is between 'his savings' and his brother's savings'. Hence the sentence should read. "Len wants to increase his savings, which he believes are less than his brother's".
16. The error is the use of the word 'expedite', which is a verb. It should be 'expeditious'. Also, the second correction would be "is 'the' easier and more expeditious of the two solutions". 'Easier more expeditious' is regarded as a single adjective phrase describing the solution and hence 'the' should precede the phrase. The sentence should read "Allocations of funds to train intelligent people who would be capable of becoming leaders is the easier and more expeditious of the two solutions."
17. The correction is "among the perfectly executed --". Adjectives like 'unique' 'perfect' do not have the comparative or superlative forms. Hence, the sentence should read "The Milkmaid" is among the perfectly executed works of Ravi Varma.
18. The correction would be 'opposing forces' as 'opposing; ideas, forces or tendencies are totally different from each other. 'Opposed' would be the past participle and 'opposing', the present participle. Since the forces are always different from each other, opposing should be used.
19. The correction is 'little surprise' and not 'a little surprise'. 'Little surprise' in this context would mean that it is not surprising at all that the festival has become dear to Tamil Nadu because of reasons mentioned in the sentence.
20. The sentence has two errors. One is the usage 'less side effects', since the reference is to 'side effects' which are countable, the usage 'less' is incorrect. The correction is "fewer side effects". When the reference is to number we use 'few' and when it is to quantity we use 'less'. The second error is the usage "preferred than". 'Prefer' is followed by 'to' not 'than' Hence, the correction is "preferred to chemical drugs by many". Hence, the sentence should read. "Traditional Chinese medicine comes from natural herbal sources and is believed to have fewer side effects and is preferred to chemical drugs by many."
21. The correction is "inferior to that of the westerners". The adjective 'inferior' takes 'to' not 'than'. The sentence should read. "It is time the world understood that our intelligence is by no means inferior to that of the westerners". The comparison is between the intelligence of Indians and that of the westerners.
22. 'Economical' has to be replaced with 'economic'. 'Economical' – providing good service or value in relation to the amount of time or money spent; low-cost, inexpensive. 'Economic' is connected with trade, industry and development of wealth of a country an area or a society. Hence, 'economic' is the appropriate adjective in the given context.

23. The adjective 'fine' should be replaced with 'finest' as the context demands an adjective in the superlative and not in the positive degree. Also, 'the countries', leads to the superlative.
 24. Since two things are being compared, the comparative 'more' has to come in. Hence, 'opine that it is more difficult....'
 25. The sentence should have 'latter' (the second of the two options) and not 'later' (the comparative form of late) – The sentence should read '..... was prepared for the latter when
 26. The sentence should have the comparative and not the superlative degree since only two things are compared. Hence, "..... it is more important (not most)."
 27. 'Prejudices' should be preceded by an adjective – 'religious' and not religion, which is a noun.
 28. The word 'most' should be deleted. It should be '..... one of the few sources of water'. The comparative and superlative for few are 'fewer' and 'fewest'.
 29. The correction is 'a little quiet thinking' and not 'little quiet thinking'. 'Little quiet thinking' would mean hardly any quiet thinking, which is not what the sentence is intended to convey. 'A little quiet thinking' would mean 'some quiet thinking' and hence is appropriate in the given context.
 30. The right adjective is 'impressive'. 'Impressionable' means 'easily influenced or affected by something or somebody'. Something that is 'impressive' impresses you, for example because it is great in size or degree, or is done with a great deal of skill.
7. The correction is 'richer . . . than we realize'. The adjective should be in the comparative degree in the above context.' Choice (C)
 8. The sentence has the structure 'not so much this as that'; hence 'as' must precede 'that' "..... with this criticism as that they" Choice (B)
 9. The sentence takes the superlative 'the greatest' and not the comparative 'greater'. The sentence should read '..... it is of the greatest importance to' Choice (A)
 10. It should be 'most travellers' not 'more travellers'. Choice (B)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 6

1. Here, 'rapidly' is the adverb of degree and it should be placed before the adjective i.e., changing. An adverb of degree modifies an adjective or another adverb and it is placed before the adjective or adverb. Here, the correction is . . . rapidly changing moods'.
 2. The error lies in the positioning of the adverb. When we have verb + preposition + object, the adverb can be either before the preposition or after the object. But if the object contains a number of words we put the adverb before the preposition. Hence, here, the correction is 'He looked suspiciously at the . . .'
 3. Further is used to denote place or position rather than distance. When used figuratively 'further' denotes distance, as in the given context. Farther is used to denote distance. Hence, there is no correction required.
 4. The error lies in the positioning of the adverb. The adverb should be placed after the verb. Hence the correction is ' . . . is universally taken . . .'. Or 'universally, the increase in levels'
 5. Here, the adverb is used to modify the adjective 'unique'. Because according to the sentence honey is unique in terms of nutrition. Hence the correction here is '.....nutritionally unique'.
 6. The adverb 'scarcely' is used erroneously here. 'Scarcely' can mean almost not and is used as 'Scarcely ever', 'Scarcely any' or 'Scarcely . . . when'. The correct adverb which should be used here is 'rarely which denotes the adverb of frequency.
 7. The error lies in the usage of 'before' instead of 'ago'. 'Ago' denotes a period of time from the present, dating backwards whereas 'before' as an adverb means earlier or in front of. Here, the reference is to billions of years backwards. Hence the correct adverb here is 'ago'.
 8. The adverb of quantity 'such' is used here erroneously. Here, the reference is not to quantity. The correct adverb to be used here is 'so'.
 9. The sentence is erroneous because of the word 'highly'. 'Aims highly is an incorrect expression. The correction is aims high.
 10. The adverb 'visibly' should precede the adjective 'upset' which it modifies. Hence ' . . . visibly upset'.
 11. The adverb 'very' should not be used before a comparative adjective (higher). The correction is ' . . . much higher'.
 12. The sentence is erroneous due to the usage of the wrong adverb. The correction is 'far and wide'.
 13. When the reference is to a higher degree than is natural, proper or expected 'too' should be used and not 'very'.
 14. The adverb of frequency is always placed between the subject and the verb. Hence the correction is, 'He and his wife seldom see eye to eye'.
1. The correction is "No other architecture seems -----" The question sentence suggests that the 'mighty citadels' are being compared with themselves. Hence the sentence should read "No other architecture seems to express so forcefully the spiritual longings of humanity as these mighty citadels of faith towering over town and country." Choice (A)
 2. The correction is "the only source of energy or the major source of energy" as an adjective should precede 'source of energy', without which the sentence would be incomplete. Choice (B)
 3. The correction is "with the historical background". Historic means that which is important in history, or likely to be considered important at some time in the future. Historical would mean connected with the past. Hence, 'historical' is the suitable adjective in the above context. Choice (A)
 4. The correction is "these changes are faster than at any other time after birth". The comparison is between the changes that occur during infancy and those that occur at any other time after birth, hence the correction. The sentence should read "The changes in the overall size of a child's body are the most obvious signs of physical growth and during infancy, these changes are faster than at any other time after birth." Choice (D)
 5. The words '..... made engineering studies of the famous two bridges' is incorrect. It should be '..... studied the engineering of the two famous bridges' Choice (B)
 6. The sentence combines the comparative (bigger) and the superlative (most imminent). The correction should be '..... that its biggest and most imminent military threat' Choice (C)

15. The sentence is erroneous because of the word 'quiet' which is actually an adjective. The correction is 'quite'.
16. The correction here is 'twenty years ago'. The reference here is to a period of time from the present dating backwards. Hence the appropriate adverb is 'ago'. The sentence should read "I visited Delhi twenty years ago".
17. If a past participle is used in the purely adjectival sense, it is modified by 'very' and not by 'much'. Hence the correction is '...very learned man.'
18. The adverb 'fairly' is used only with favourable adjectives and not with unfavourable ones. The appropriate adverb here is rather.
19. 'Scarcely' should be followed by 'had' or did. The correction here is 'Scarcely had the train arrived on the platform when the people started rushing towards it' or scarcely did the train arrive when the people start rushing towards it.
20. The adverb 'enough' should always follow the adjective which it modifies. The correction here is '... smart enough'.
21. The error lies in the positioning of the second adverb 'extremely'. Here the correction is '... extremely penitent about it'.
22. The sentence implies that stress has a negative effect on productivity. Hence the adverb 'negatively' should follow the word which it modifies '... Stress affects productivity negatively ...'.
23. The adverb 'since' is used erroneously. Since as an adverb refers to a time in the past until a later past time, or until now. The correct adverb which should be used here is, ago. Ago, which denotes a period of time from the present dating backwards, is appropriate here.
24. Although both 'fairly' and 'rather' mean moderately, 'fairly' is used with favourable adjectives and 'rather' is used with unfavourable ones. Here, the reference is to the heat of the tropical plains and contains the idea of being unfavourable. Hence the appropriate adjective would be 'rather' and not 'fairly'.
25. The adverb 'much' is used erroneously. The correction is 'very'. 'Very' qualifies adjectives in the positive degree and much qualifies them in the comparative degree (much more essential).
26. The sentence is erroneous due to the usage of the wrong adverb 'fairly'. 'Fairly' is used to denote moderately and hence does not fit into the context. The sentence implies that no more than a few years before the birth of Christ the earth was battered by an earthquake, hence the appropriate adverb which should be used here is 'barely'. Barely is used to denote 'not more than'.
27. The error lies in the positioning of the adverb. The adverb 'historically' can either begin the sentence – 'Historically, Britain has been ...' – or it can be 'Britain has historically been a ...' in order to mean from the point of view of history.
28. The adverb should follow the adjective. The rule is adjective + enough + infinitive. Hence the correction is '... well enough to ...'.
29. The adverb 'enough' which means sufficient is always placed before the adjective or adverb. Hence the correction is '... fast enough to keep pace ...'.
30. The word 'increasing' should be replaced by the adverb of degree i.e., increasingly, because it answers the question how seriously is it treated?
31. When there are two or more adverbs after a verb (and its object), the normal order is adverb of manner, adverb of place and adverb of time. Hence in this sentence the correction is 'The minister categorically denied his involvement in the scam at the meeting with media persons last night'.
32. You value something 'highly' and not 'deeply'. Hence the adverb 'highly' should replace 'deeply' in order to make the sentence grammatically correct.
33. The adverb 'sometimes' modifies the adjective awful and hence it should precede the adjective. Hence the correction is "... sometimes awful consequences'.
34. The adverb 'far and away' which means beyond comparison is misplaced. It should be placed after 'is'.
35. The error lies in the usage of the adjective instead of the adverb. The adverb 'dearly' should replace the adjective 'dear' in order to indicate how a mere episodic response will affect the country.

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

36. The error is in the adverbial phrase – the correct phrase is '... market democracy will reign supreme ...'. Here, the word 'supreme' qualifies market democracy.
37. The error lies in the use of the incorrect adverb. Here 'barely' is used instead of 'rarely'. Barely is used for degree whereas here, the reference is to frequency hence 'rarely' (i.e., not often) should be used in order to make sense.
38. The error is in the adverbial phrase. The correction is '... understandably so ...'.
39. The error lies in the positioning of the adverb. 'Appreciably' which is an adverb of manner should always be placed after the verb. The correction is '... raised appreciably'.
40. Here, the adverb 'farther' which denotes distance is inappropriate. The adverb further, which is used to refer to development, progress etc., would be appropriate.
41. 'Fairly' is used to express approval, while 'rather' is used to express disapproval. Here, the reference is to an unfavourable adjective. Hence, 'rather' is appropriate here '... these rather esoteric phenomena'.
42. The adverb 'much' is used erroneously. Much qualifies adjectives in the comparative degree and not in the positive degree. Hence the adverb 'very' would be appropriate here.
43. The error lies in the placement of the adverb, mostly. It is correct to say 'mostly mountainous country'.
44. The sentence presents a contrast between what scientists now believe and what they believed earlier. Hence the adverb once in the last part of the sentence should be placed before 'thought'.
45. The sentence is erroneous because of the usage of the modifier 'more'. 'So' is more appropriate.
46. The adverb 'much' is used erroneously. When the reference is to a higher degree than is desirable, natural, proper or expected, the adverb 'too' should be used and not much '... too rapidly ...'.
47. The sentence is erroneous because of the word 'justly'. The word 'justly' which means 'in a morally fair manner' does not make sense in this context. The correction is "... supplied key insights just at the right moments".
48. The sentence is erroneous because of the word 'presently' which refers to the time of speaking or writing. Here the reference is to contemporary secular societies hence the appropriate adverb to be used here is 'today's secular societies'.
49. The adverb 'enough' is always placed before the noun. Hence the correction is enough 'room'.
50. The correction is 'at present' and not 'presently'.

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 7

1. When two clauses presenting similar or connected ideas are put together, the correct conjunction to be used is 'and' not 'but'. In this sentence losing weight and preaching about the virtues of diet and exercise are related ideas. Secondly, diet and exercise help in losing weight not diet or exercise.
2. The correct conjunction to be used in this context is yet. When 'yet' is used in a sentence it conveys the meaning in spite of. 'Yet' like 'but' 'and' 'or' is a coordinating conjunction which joins two main clauses. Yet, deprived of power himself
3. As to help is erroneous. For helping me is appropriate to join the clauses. 'For' in this context means in order to.
4. The correct subordinating conjunction to be used in this context is 'whether' and not 'if' which denotes a condition rather than a choice.
5. This sentence should begin with the subordinating conjunction 'if' to indicate the two contrasting situations introduced by 'things were no better . . .
6. The error is in the use of the subordinating conjunction 'though' with 'even', which implies that the valley is beautiful in spite of the fact that it is out of bounds. Hence the use of 'yet' in place of 'even though' conveys the right meaning that in spite of being a beautiful spot, it is out of its locational disadvantage.
7. When we wish to combine two ideas the compound conjunction 'as well as' or the conjunction 'and' should be used, and not the preposition 'with'.
8. Some conjunctions are used in pairs and are called correlative conjunctions. 'Both' should be used with 'and' not 'or'. Hence the sentence should read 'sources say..... both curtailing productions to increase shortages and prices and that a cartel is at work.....'
9. The correlative conjunction 'not only' should be followed by 'but also'. Hence the sentence should read not only the individuals who have delivered them but also the people.....
10. The 'wherever they are' should be followed by here, there, OR somewhere else. Hence at home, in hotels, or on the road.
11. 'Not only.....but also' is the correlative conjunction and should be used together. Hence 'setting out not only technological goals but also is the correction
12. 'Whether...or' is another correlative conjunction used with two conditional statements. Hence the sentence should read.....whether you are confronting hurricanes in the east or fires and earthquakes in the west.
13. 'Even if' is the correct compound conjunction to be used to indicate the meaning of 'in spite of'. 'Even though' is erroneous.
14. 'Neither..... nor' is a compound conjunction that we use to indicate two negative ideas. 'Neither followed by 'or' is erroneous. It should be used with nor.
15. The error is in the positioning of the compound conjunction 'either.....or'. The 'either' should be placed after the verb when the verb is applicable to both clauses. Hence the correction is..... 'they die either in the womb or just after birth'.
16. One should know one's capacity for loss before one starts trading not after.
17. The conjunction to be used when we make comparisons is 'than' and not 'then'.
18. The conjunction 'until' refers to a time frame. The given sentence however, indicates a condition. Hence 'unless' should be used in place of 'until'.
19. The given sentence denotes a continuation of the protest till a certain time. Hence the correct conjunction is until and not unless which denotes a condition.
20. The correct compound conjunction to be used in this context is 'so that' and not 'such that'.
21. 'Idea of' death and resurrection would be apt since the ideas are presented in the sentence. Idea about something is an opinion or belief about something, which is not suitable in the given context. Choice (C)
22. 'Commented upon' would be apt in the given context. You comment 'on' or 'upon' something. Also, you have a comment to make 'about' something. Commented 'by' in the above context makes the sentence incomplete. 'At' and 'against' are not used with comment. Choice (C)
23. 'Viewed in' the perspective of another culture is apt in the above context. Viewed beside, beyond and despite do not suit the context. If viewed outside the perspective they will not disclose any unexpected meanings. Choice (D)
24. 'Since' is the right preposition as the chasm which started at that time is continuing to widen. 'has been' points to the right choice. Choice (C)
25. 'Making regular small savings' is the behaviour 'of' the customer. The blank cannot accommodate any of the other prepositions. Choice (B)
26. 'Stand on' something is to have a particular attitude or opinion about something or towards somebody. Choice (C)
27. 'Most of the activity' suggests that 'concentrated in' (a particular place) is the right option. 'Concentrate on' would mean to give all your attention to something. Along would mean by the side of, on the edge of something and hence would not be apt in the above context. Concentrate is not used with over and with. Choice (C)
28. Since you sell something 'to' someone, 'to' would be the right preposition in the above context. Choice (D)
29. 'The most' authoritative points to the answer. 'Of' all the tomes, 'History...was the 'most' is apt. The rest of the prepositions will not bring out the intended meaning. Choice (C)
30. No preposition is required after tackle. Choice (D)
31. To 'restore something to' its former condition, is to bring it back to the way it used to be. Choice (A)
32. 'Reflect on' would be the right combination. It means 'to think carefully and deeply about something'. Choice (C)
33. Oscillation is a regular movement between one position and another. Hence 'between' would be the right preposition. Choice (D)
34. Something is directed 'towards' the purpose of achieving a desired result. Choice (C)
35. If something is 'named after' somebody or something, it is given that name. Hence, 'after' is the right preposition in the given context. Choice (D)
36. The words 'new', 'extending' and 'traditional' indicate that the right preposition is 'beyond'. Choice (B)
37. To ban somebody or something 'from' doing something is to forbid somebody to do something, go somewhere etc., especially officially. Hence, 'from' is the right preposition in the above context. Choice (C)
38. The essence of the sentence is that the trends that are mentioned are spreading quickly 'across' Asia and also other parts. Hence 'across' would be apt. Choice (C)

39. 'Poised for' would be apt. 'Poised for' would mean set (poised to do something and poised for something). Poised 'on' and over are also used, but will not suit the context.
Choice (A)

40. 'Insight into' something would mean an understanding of what something is like.
Choice (C)

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

41. The correct conjunction to use in this context is the concessional 'although' rather than the conditional 'if'.
42. The context suggests that a decade will pass before the positive change is likely, and not 'in' a decade. Hence the sentence should read "after a decade....."
43. To explain a reason why something happens, we use the subordinating conjunction 'as'. 'While' denotes an ongoing action and cannot be used in this context. So the sentence should read Smaller towns have been quietly depopulated as their educated population
44. The sentence suggests that the conditional conjunction 'if' should be used and not 'when' which is a subordinating conjunction denoting time.
45. The subordinating conjunction 'though' is appropriate in this context in place of 'in as much as' which is used to cite a reason rather than concession.
46. The correction requires the use of the conjunction 'and' in place of 'for' to join the two ideas of outer space being a unifier and the last refuge.
47. To express a reason or a cause and as an equivalent to 'because' or 'for' we must use the conjunction that. Hence the sentence should read "we are in such a rarefied atmosphere that...."
48. The sentence should read "It is for this reason that I asked him to leave both the offices of President and Chief of Army Staff and to pave the way for the composition of an interim government". This is because 'both' should be used with 'and' not 'or'.
49. The present perfect continuous tense of the verb 'sell' indicates the use of since rather than 'after' as the subordinating conjunction. 'Since' when used as a conjunction in this sentence should be preceded by the verb in the present perfect tense, (have been selling) followed by a verb in the simple past tense (released).
50. Soviet cinema collapsed when state funding disappeared at the close of the communist period is the correction. We use the conjunction 'when' to indicate something happens to interrupt something.
51. The correction is 'convinced of' the report's veracity.
52. The correction is – 'approve of.' The preposition is missing in the original sentence.
53. The correction is 'imposed on or upon'.
54. The correction is 'dissuade his/her students from' and should be followed by the 'ing' form of the verb. Hence from reading
55. There is no correction.
56. The correction is 'pleased with'.
57. The preposition 'against' should be removed from the sentence since it is redundant.
58. The correction is 'agreeable to him'.
59. There is no correction.
60. The correction is 'fault with'.

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 8

1. The blank needs the words suggesting a 'method' and only option 2 does it. Option (A) would mean the description of the scenario is further detailed of which 'the resurgent India' is a part of it. Option (B) means a method or way of doing something. Option (C) means to say what you've noticed or understood. Option (D) is inapt as it needs to be across the country and cannot be followed by the word 'which'.
Choice (B)
2. Option (A) means to say what you've noticed or understood. Option (B) means to put something with something else and this is apt in the context. Option (C) means until a future point in time. Option (D) refers to the present time.
Choice (B)
3. Option (A) means up to this point. Option (B) is used in comparison to refer to the degree of something and fits the context. Option (C) would mean as the situation may be and does not logically follow in the context. Option (D) is used to give permission.
Choice (B)
4. Option (A) means a method or way of doing something. Option (B) describes a plausible situation. Option (C) means to say that you have noticed or understood. Option (D) means in any situation or condition or whichever way it is analysed and is apt in the context.
Choice (D)
5. Option (A) means a correct route. Option (B) is likely to achieve. Option (D) is correct because the preposition 'of' following 'in' would mean 'during'. Option (C) is used to show that what you are saying is generally known or accepted.
Choice (D)
6. The blank has to be filled with words that mean because of something. Option (A) states an information vital to the topic being discussed. Option (B) means because of something. Option (C) means in the course of time. Option (D) is used to make comparisons.
Choice (B)
7. Options (A) and (B) means in connection with. Option (C) means not affected by something and is right in the context. Option (D) means in this particular way.
Choice (C)
8. Options (A) to (C) are incorrect grammatical use of prepositions with the word 'mistake'. Option (D) fits aptly.
Choice (D)
9. Option (A) means considering the present situation; as things are. Option (B) means in the same way as someone or something and is right as it links Maria and other working women. Option (C) means something done to help everyone. Option (D) is used to say what you have noticed or understood. The link between 'working women' and 'Marie' is not suitably established as a result.
Choice (B)
10. Option (A) means 'as stated by' which fits the idea in the blank. Option (B) means the consequence of what is stated earlier. Option (C) means with the passage of time. Option (D) is used to compare.
Choice (A)

Explanatory notes for questions 11 to 35:

A Phrasal Verb provides a meaning (as a whole) which may be different from the meaning of the words combined in it.

11. The blank in the given statement must be filled with words that suggest to pass the baby to someone who will, from then on take responsibility of the child. Option (A) suggests an idea of passing on of knowledge, a possession or a skill to one belonging to a younger generation. Option (B) means the person handed over responsibility and control to the one who is being given and is opt. Option (C) means to dole out or give out something. Option (D) means something that is given to a person in authority.
Choice (B)

12. The blank must be filled with words that suggest that one wants to escape from an unpleasant situation. Option (A) means one achieves success even when there are difficulties and obstacles. Option (B) means to change or escape from a situation and fits the context. Option (C) – 'break in' – means to enter by force or to interrupt someone by some sudden remark. Option (D) – 'break off' – means to remove something by force or to stop doing something suddenly. Choice (B)
13. The blank ought to be filled with words that means to leave with the speaker. 'Come across' means to find by chance. So Option (A) is ruled out. option (B) when used intransitively means to leave with the speaker and is appropriate here. Option (C) means to succeed or to happen as arranged. Option (D) means to enter when used in the transitive sense. Choice (B)
14. Option (A) means to fail to do something fast enough or on time. Option (B) means to use something for help because no other choice is available and fits the sentence. Option (C) means parts of something that break off and drop to the ground. Option (D) means to break. Choice (B)
15. The blank has to be filled with words that mean to be free to leave and only option (B) means that. Option (A) means to circulate or move or travel in a general sense. Option (C) means to be acquitted or receive no punishment. Option (D) means to finish a piece of work, or finish successfully. Choice (B)
16. The blank has to be filled with words that mean to consider the past. Option (A) means to be watchful or to beware. Option (B) means to consider the past events and so is right. Option (C) means to take care of something. Option (D) means to examine a number of things, often in order to select some of them. Choice (B)
17. The blank has to be filled with words that mean to receive teaching from someone. Option (A) means to sit with a straight back. Option (B) means to be present in a meeting or class. Option (C) means to receive teaching from someone. Option (D) means to discuss something. Choice (C)
18. The blank has to be filled with words that imply to do nothing. Option (A) means to support or defend something. Option (B) means a group of people who agree strongly on a particular matter and take action together about it. Option (C) means to be much better than other similar thing or people. ... Option (D) means to allow something unpleasant to happen without doing anything to stop it and is the right choice. Choice (D)
19. The blank has to be filled with words that mean to encounter a lot of obstacles. Option (A) means to incur say bills and to increase them by continuing to buy things and put them down to one's account. Option (B) means to meet someone accidentally. Option (C) means to encounter difficulties or opposition and is the right choice. Option (D) means to pursue. Choice (C)
20. The blank should be filled with words that imply to seek refuge in a particular place. Option (A) means to remove or extract. Option (B) means to attribute wrong identity or qualities to someone. Option (C) means withdraw remarks, accusations etc. Option (D) means to find safety in something and hence is suitable here. Choice (D)
21. The blank means to stop something. Option (A) means to stay level or equal with a person or thing. Option (B) means to continue to talk in an annoying way about something. Option (C) means to refrain from walking or from coming too close. E.g. keep off the grass. Option (D) means to prevent something from entering a place and so is right. Choice (D)
22. The blank has to contain words that refer to the act of filing in details required in the form. Option (A) means an act of filling up (ex: petrol in car). Option (B) means to complete a form by writing information on it. This fits the blank. Option (C) means to become larger, rounder or fatter. Option (D) means to make something completely full. Choice (B)
23. The blank has to be filled with words which means to be present in every part of something. This is the meaning of option (C). Option (A) means that which often occurs. Option (B) means trying to avoid being captured. Option (D) means to run away. Choice (C)
24. Option (A) means to rise. Option (B) means to be successful in your career. Option (C) can be followed by preposition – on, in, or with something and it means to manage to live or do a particular thing using the money, knowledge, equipment, etc. that you have and so it fits the context. Option (D) means to give serious attention to something. Choice (C)
25. Option (A) is an incorrect grammatical construction. Option (B) means to be aware of something. Option (C) if used, would then refer to the speaker sleeping and not the baby. Choice (D)
26. Option (A) means to visit for a short time. Option (B) means to enjoy something that is going to happen and is the right word since the sentence says 'show off'. Option (C) means to admire. Option (D) means to hope. Choice (B)
27. Blank has to be filled with words that mean to come into fashion once again. Option (A) holds good. Option (B) means to appear or to arrive. Option (C) means to be conscious again. Option (D) means to be understood. Choice (A)
28. The blank has to be filled with words that mean to 'reduce'. Option (A) means to interrupt. Option (B) means to lessen and so is right. Option (C) means to remove a part of something. Option (D) means to stop working. Choice (B)
29. Option (A) is used in the sense of cutting down (for e.g. a tree). Option (B) means to cut off part of something with a sharp tool and fits the sentence. Option (C) means to cut up something into pieces with an axe, knife or other sharp instrument, Option (D) meant to aim blows at something with a heavy sharp tool as an axe. Choice (B)
30. Option (A) 'stand in' means to take the place of someone temporarily, Choice (B) 'stand down' means to step down. Choice (C) 'stand over' means to over-look, Choice (D) 'stand back' means to let something happen. Choice (B) is the apt Choice. Choice (B)
31. Option (A) means to examine something – here the field of literacy criticism. Option (B) means to examine a number of things, often in order to select some. Option (C) means to consider past events and actions. Option (D) means to inspect critically. Choice (B)
32. The blank has to be filled with words that mean to discuss. Option(A) means to give a rude reply to someone. Option (B) when used to refer to a person means 'to prevent' and in other contexts 'to persuade'. Option (C) is used to speak with enthusiasm about something. Option (D) means to discuss a problem or situation with someone, often to find out their opinion or to get advice before making a decision about it and hence is the right choice Choice (D)
33. Option (A) means to pretend something is something else. Option (B) means to tell someone something that another person has told you and it fits the context. Option (C) means to 'become unconscious' It can also mean 'to leave college'. Option (D) means to ignore or not to give attention to someone or something. Choice (B)
34. Option (A) means to accede to or support a plan or suggestion and is apt here. Option (B) means parts of something that break off and drop. Option (C) means 'to fall'. Option (D) means to be tricked. Choice (A)

35. Option (A) is used to refer to something that stops working. Option (B) means to agree or accept defeat. Option (C) means to stop doing something and is the right phrase here. Option (D) means to return something to the person who gave it to you. Choice (C)
36. The blank has to be filled with words that mean gradually, disappear. This is seen in option (C). Option (A) means to become thin and disappear after repeated use or rubbing. Option (B) means to make someone feel tired and less able to deal successfully with a situation. Option (D) means to use something so much that it is damaged and cannot be used any more. Choice (C)
37. Option (A) means to agree and fits the context. Option (B) means to stop working. Option (C) means to stop doing something annoying. Option (D) means to stop doing a regular activity or job. Choice (A)
38. Option (A) is the right answer as it refers to the act of the car running its tyres over the animal. Option (B) means on the opposite side of something. Option (C) is incorrect. Option (D) means to run fast in order to get something. Choice (A)
39. Option (A) means to surprise or shock someone so much that they do not know how to behave for a short time. Option (B) means to take back something after giving it. Option (C) means to take to pieces. Option (D) means to be deceived. It can also mean to care for someone. Choice (A)
40. Option (A) means to begin a new or afresh. Option (B) means to help someone to start an activity, especially a piece of work. Option (C) means to start complaining angrily to someone about something they have done and is the right phrase. Option (D) means to begin one's life in a particular way. Choice (C)
41. If an event is 'due to' something, it happens or exists as a direct result of that thing. This is the meaning in the context. You can say 'with due' as in the case of giving the respect. So you can say 'with due respect' when you are about to disagree politely with someone. If something is 'due at' a particular time, it is expected to happen, be done or arrive at the time. If someone is 'due for' something, that thing is planned to happen or be given to them now, or very soon, often after they have been waiting for it for a long time. Choice (A)
42. The right option is Option (C) – 'in case'. 'In case' would refer to an inclination or desire. However Option (A) – 'in case of' refers to a situation. If you do something or have something 'in case of' a particular thing, you do it or have it because that thing might happen or be true. If you say, that something 'is the case', you mean that it is true or correct. You say 'as the case may be' to indicate that the statement you are making applies equally to the two or more alternatives that you have mentioned. Choice (C)
43. Your use expressions such as 'at the moment' or 'at this moment' or even 'at the present moment' to indicate that a particular situation exists at the time when you are speaking. You use 'of the moment' to describe someone or something that is or was especially popular at a particular time, especially when you want to suggest that their popularity is unlikely to last long. You use 'for the moment' to indicate that something is true now, even if it will not be true in the future. Options (A) and (C) seem to be a close call. Option (A) refers to the precise and specific 'point' in time. Option (C) however talks of a 'period' of time. Option (D) is not suitable in the given context. Choice (A)
44. Only Option (A) is a correct grammatical prepositional phrase which means comprising of a heavy load. Choice (A)
45. The blank must be filled with words that means 'never'. Option (A) is not worded correctly. Option (B) means with no money. Option (C) means 'no possibility' and is not appropriate in this context. The expression 'not by any means' also conveys this same idea. Option (D) means 'never'. Choice (D)
46. The blank must be filled with words that suggest the idea of 'for example'. Looking at Option (A) the prepositional phrase is used to introduce a particular event, situation or person that is an example of what one is talking about and hence is appropriate. Option (B) is used to indicate that the statement you are making applies equally to the two or more alternatives that you have mentioned. Option (C) is said in order to mention something that is the first step in a series of actions. Option (D) means any action that is done by one because it has been ordered or requested to be done. So only Option (A) fits the idea in the context. Choice (A)
47. The blank must be filled to convey the idea of 'as much as'. Option (A) means going regularly to a place and is often followed by the preposition 'of' something. Option (B) is used in comparisons to refer to the degree of something. Option (C) means by a great amount. The words 'by far' would never be followed by the word 'as'. So only Option (B) aptly fits the blank. Option (D) is used to say that an activity has gone well until now. Choice (B)
48. The blank has to be filled with words that means until a future point in time. Option (A) means because of something. But this is not mentioned in the context so cannot fit in the blank. Option (B) means from this moment and always in the future. Option (C) means for the time being until a future point in time and fits the blank aptly. Option (D) is said to attract attention to what you are going to ask or suggest. Choice (C)
49. The blank must be filled with words that means something that can or must be done within a short period of time. Option (D) indicates that something has to be done within a short period of time. Other expressions where the word 'notice' is used with the same meaning is 'at a moment's notice' or 'at twenty-four hours' notice'. The rest of the options do not fit. Choice (D)
50. The blank must be filled with words that suggest an idea of 'as opposed to'. Option (D) is used with this idea. Option (A) means 'rather' as in 'I longed instead for a quiet country life'. Option (B) means to a slight degree. Option (D) means a substitute or alternative to something. Option (C) is an incorrect grammatical usage. Choice (D)

PRACTICE EXERCISE – 9

- In all the statements of the question we find the use of the correlative conjunction not only - - but also". In statements A, B and D the correlative conjunction is incorrectly used. When conjunctions are used as correlatives, each of the correlated words should be placed immediately before the words/phrases to be connected. In the given sentence the entities to be connected are 'in their own societies' and 'in those constructed about counterparts'. Hence, each of correlated words should precede each of these entities. This is found only in statement C. Choice (C)
- Statement B can be eliminated because an adjective in the comparative degree (less) should be followed by than and not by 'but'. Statement C is ruled out due to the incorrect tense, 'has been due less to (the present perfect)'. Since the reference is to an incident of the past, the sentence should take the simple past tense. This leaves us with statements A and D. The use of 'that' makes statement A incorrect because there is no subject which is being referred to by 'that'. The idea to be conveyed is the fall in death rate is due less to medicine than to improvements in the environment. And this is appropriately conveyed by statement D. Choice (D)
- Since the sentence begins with 'had' (past perfect), the main clause should take 'would have'. Choice (C) is ruled out as it violates this rule. Statements A and B are ruled out for violating the rule of parallelism. The use of 'destroying' after 'rather than' renders the sentence incorrect. "Would have distributed goods rather than have destroyed them", would be the correct structure

as this is in accordance with the rule of parallelism according to which, when two or more phrases or clauses are combined using a conjunction, all of them must belong to the same grammatical form. Therefore they would – (have distributed goods rather than have destroyed them) is the correct break up. As the object (goods) is given in the both places (after distributed and after destroyed) 'have' should precede each of the verbs separately. This is found in statement D. Choice (D)

4. Statement 'A' is ruled out due to the use of the plural 'embodiments'. The reference is to the Victorian period in Britain and America. It is singular. Hence 'the embodiment' is correct. Statement 'B' is incorrect because of the pronoun 'it' in the last part of the sentence. The sentence conveys the idea that the Victorian period may seem to be the embodiment of traditional values but when this era began in Britain and America 'they' (values) were anything but traditional. Hence, the pronoun 'they' is apt. The usage of the present perfect tense 'has begun' renders D incorrect. The sentence refers to a specific point of time in the past. Hence, it should take the past tense 'began'. Only statement 'C' is not erroneous. Choice (C)
5. Statement A is incorrect because when a sentence begins with "Apart from causing - - -"; it has to further continue saying that climate change is causing something else also, which is not the case in A. Statement B talks about the effects of climate change but 'one of the most dramatic effects have been' would be incorrect. The reference is to one among many effects. Hence 'one of the effects ... has been' is the correction. Statement D would be correct if it had been 'aside from' which means 'apart from'. Choice (C)
6. Statement A is ruled out due to the use of a plural verb 'are numbed'. Since the reference is to "ability", a singular noun, 'is numbed' would be correct. Statement B is ruled out as the pronoun 'they' is incorrect. It conveys the idea that technological processes numb the ability whereas, it is we who numb our ability by focussing on technological processes. Choice (D)
7. Statement A is ruled out because of the absence of the pronoun 'it' in the second clause. The absence of 'it' leaves the idea conveyed ambiguous. Statement 'B' is incorrect due to the use of 'confronted by'. 'Confronted by' conveys the idea that something needs to be dealt with by someone which is not apt in the context. 'Confronted with' is appropriate. It conveys the idea to have to deal with or react to – i.e., having to deal with many theories and definitions, globalisation begins to look more like a buzzword. The use of the past tense 'became' in statement D makes it an incorrect option. Choice (C)
8. Statements A and B are incorrect due to incorrect and inappropriate comparisons involved. In statement A, the use of 'has' (to a far greater extent than has any) is incorrect because the reference is to 'lower animals' which is plural. Hence, 'to a far greater extent than have -----', is the correction. The absence of 'have' in comparison makes it incorrect "Human beings developed" is in simple past which is not in keeping with the tense in the rest of the sentence. Statement D has atones error in statement B. Choice (C)
9. Choice (A) is ruled out because of the use of 'as that of their ...'. There is no adjective to be referred to by 'that' in the part of the sentence preceding it. Choice (C) is eliminated due to the incorrect positioning of the adverbs 'remarkably' and 'particularly'. The idea intended is, 'patterns of life have changed significantly, especially in the past. Therefore, the correction would be 'patterns of life have changed remarkably, particularly...'. Choice (D) is ruled out due to the incorrect tense i.e., have been. The reference is to modifications which happened in the past. Hence, the past tense is to be used i.e., as their forebears 'were'. Choice (B)

10. Statement A alone is right. In statements B and D, the error is in the use of the phrasal verb 'live in' and 'live up' respectively. The correction is 'live on in' which means "continues to live even now". Statement 'C' is incorrect due to the use of 'lives on'. The subject is 'those aspects' which is plural hence, the verb does not take 's'. Choice (A)
11. The relative pronoun 'which' in the underlined part of the sentence refers to 'deforestation' which is singular. Hence "produces ...and allows ..." would be the correction. Choice (D)
12. The underlined part consists of an error in the verb used. The subject is 'a savvy and affluent class' which is a collective noun. Hence, the verb following it should also be in the singular. Choice (A) has a prepositional error i.e., 'open for' and the correction is 'open to'. The absence of the indefinite article 'a' before 'savvy' rules out Choice (B). The perfect continuous tense and the perfect tense used in choice (C) respectively make them incorrect option. Only choice (D) is grammatically correct. Choice (D)
13. The underlined part is incorrect as there is ambiguity in the idea expressed by it. The subject of the sentence is 'science' but the absence of the pronoun 'it' in the underlined part makes it incorrect. Choice (A) also is ruled out on the same grounds. In choices (B) and (C) the use of past perfect and simple past is incorrect because the sentence refers to a fact which should be expressed in the simple present. The correction is leave them to their suffering. Hence, only choice (D) has no errors. Choice (D)
14. The underlined part of the question sentence is incorrect due to the absence of the verb 'does' after 'the U.S'. The comparison is between the produce of the European Union and that of the U.S. Choices (A) & (B) are ruled out due to the incorrect positioning of the adverb. Choice (D) is ruled out due to the use of 'than that of'. Hence, the underlined part can be corrected in two ways
 - (1) currently producing nearly a third more than the U.S does.
 - or
 - (2) that currently produces nearly a third more than the U.S does.
 Choice (C)
15. The underlined part has a punctuation error. The underlined part should be appropriately punctuated as 'which we all, believers and unbelievers alike, make use of'. The words 'believers and unbelievers' enclosed by the paranthesis define the word 'all'. The main idea is 'which we all make use of'. Choice (D)
16. The underlined part is incorrect due to the absence of the preposition 'of' after understanding. The correction is 'lead to a greater understanding of....' Choice (A) is ruled out due to the absence of the indefinite article 'a' before greater understanding. The sentence refers to a greater understanding of how cells acquire their specialized states and provide a strategy. Hence, the use of 'providing' in (2) makes it incorrect. 'Understanding of' is the right usage but not 'understanding as to' as used in Choice (C). Choice (D)
17. The underlined part is incorrect because 'seen like one' is ungrammatical. The correction is 'seen as one'. Choice (A) is ruled out because the verb 'combines' does not agree with the subject 'features of capitalism' which is plural. It would be correct to say 'features of capitalism combine'. Choice (C) is incorrect due to the incorrect positioning of the adverb. The words 'to providing' in Choice (D) make it incorrect. Choice (B)
18. The underlined part is incorrect due to the absence of 'as' after 'as long'. 'So long as' is the correct phrase which conveys the idea 'till the time the country does not ...enable....'. In Choice (A) the phrase is appropriately used but 'it's' is incorrect. It's means 'it is', which is incorrect in the context.

- The correction is 'its'. The absence of 'a' before 'healthy and productive life' makes Choice (B) an incorrect choice. In Choice (C) 'enable all its citizens having' is incorrect. Enable takes a 'to' infinitive. Hence, the correction is 'enable all its citizens to have...'. Only choice (D) is free of errors. Choice (D)
19. The use of 'as' in the underlined part is incorrect. 'As' is used in comparisons to refer to the extent or degree of something, but the intended idea in the context is that like all highly conflicted encounters the question of interpreting British and Indian histories is a matter of debate i.e., a similarity is drawn between two situations. Hence 'like all such ...' would be correct 'like' means 'similar to'. Choice (A) is ruled out because it makes little sense without 'if' before 'not'. Choice (B) has a punctuation error. The comma should be placed after 'edifying' i.e., 'a matter of strenuous, if not always edifying, debate. Only choice (D) is grammatically correct. Choice (D)
20. The underlined part is incorrect due to the use of 'with that of'. The comparison is between exertions of man with the exertions of his fellow beings. Hence 'with those of his fellow creature ...' is correct. Choice (B) involves an illogical comparison i.e., exertions are compared with fellow creatures. Hence it is ruled out. Choice (C) violates the rule of parallelism 'the privilege is that — of combing and --- of acting'. The absence of 'of' before acting makes it incorrect. The absence of that in (D) renders both the choices incorrect. Choice (A)
21. Choice (A) is ruled out due to a tense error. The past perfect tense 'had existed' is incorrect since the reference is to the past (the Second World War). Choice (C) is also ruled out on the same grounds i.e., incorrect tense (that has existed). Choices (B) have structural errors. Only choice (D) is correct. Choice (D)
22. The phrase 'one of the essential roles' suggests that one out of many aspects is being referred to. Choice (A), to challenge and to make, conveys that two different aspects are being referred to. This does not (logically) fit in the blank. Choices (C) and (D) violate the rule of parallelism. Hence, only Choice (C) is grammatically and logically correct. Choice (C)
23. Only Choice (D) is the right option to go into the blank. The tense in the rest of the options is not in line with that given in the first part of the sentence. The first part of the sentence is in the present perfect tense, therefore 'so too has been our.....', which is also in the present perfect tense aptly fits the blank. Choice (D)
24. Choice (A) is illogical and hence is ruled out. It would be right to say 'to exploit the earth for what we merely want apart from what we need', but the structure is reversed in (A). Choice (B) is grammatically incorrect. The error is in the structure. The correct structure should be "not just for what we ...but for..". The use of as well as with both makes Choice (C) incorrect. Again. Only choice (D) is grammatically correct. Choice (D)
25. In all the options we find a variation in the use of articles which precede the words 'theory and practice'. The reference is to a particular theory and a particular practice of a culture. Hence 'the theory and the practice of a culture' 'would be correct. Choice (A)
26. In all the five options there is a variation in the position of 'only' which distorts the meaning conveyed. The right option would be the one which answers the question 'by whom can the unbridgeable gap between several powerful and competing ways of life be surmounted? Hence, the choice in which 'only' is positioned after 'surmounted', would be correct. Choice (D)
27. Choices (A) and (B) are incorrect due to tense errors. The words 'for long' suggest that the sentence should be in the past perfect i.e., 'Buddhism had for long' since this reference is to an act of the long past. Both (C) and (D) have 'had for long' but the use of singular present tense verb (has been) after philosophy makes Choice (C) incorrect. Hence only (D) is free of errors. Choice (D)
28. Choices (B) is ruled out is due to the inappropriate use of 'than that of' and (C) is ruled out due to the use of 'than those of'. Choice (A) is ruled out due to inappropriate comparisons. Choice (D)
29. Choice (B) is ruled out because 'a little doubt' means some doubt; but the context should take 'little doubt' which means 'leaves no doubt'. Choices (C), (D) are ruled out because of tense errors. The sentence which fits in the blank should be in the simple present tense. Choice (A)
30. The question sentence begins with an If – clause and the verb in the if-clause is in the past i.e., 'were'. Hence, the verbs in the main clause should also be in the past, 'could' and 'would' respectively. Only Choice (D) is correct in all ways. Choice (D)
31. Statements b, c and d are incorrect. 'Cited to be' is incorrect in B. Something is 'cited as'. 'Opening to' in c is incorrect. The correction is 'opening up to'. 'Craves for' in choice d makes it incorrect. 'Craves for' means 'pleading' whereas, 'Craves' means 'desire' which is apt in the context. Further, 'for' is used with crave when the verb is intransitive. Eg; She craves for more. The verb in this sentence B intransitive. In the question sentence the verb is transitive, hence 'for' is not used. Choice (C)
32. Statements b, c and d are incorrect. Statement 'b' is incorrect due to the absence of a pronoun before 'engage'. The reflexive pronoun (themselves) after 'engage' has to be used. 'They engage themselves' will be the correction. In statement 'c' the correction is 'they can assume either reproductive or non-reproductive roles ----'. Statement d has an error in the verbs used i.e., 'epigenetics influence' is incorrect. 'Epigenetics' is the name of a subject. Hence, 'influences', a singular verb, is the correction. Choice (C)
33. Statements a, b and c are incorrect. The error in 'a' is the absence of the definite article before 'last time.' i.e., 'the last time', since the reference is to a specific point of time. We 'clamber up' a mountain. Hence 'clambered up' is the correction in B. Statement c is incorrect due to the wrong positioning of the adverb 'dangerously'. It should be positioned after the verb 'swaying'. Hence a, b and c are incorrect. Choice (A)
34. Statements b, c and d are incorrect statements. b begins with a negative word. Hence the structure should take an inversion. (verb + subject). 'Neither is it' is the correction. Statement 'c' should read 'make little sense' i.e., make no sense. 'A little' is incorrect in the context of the sentence. Statement d is incorrect because of the absence of an apostrophe(s). The correction is 'heart's truth'. Choice (B)
35. Statements c and d are incorrect. 'Home for' is incorrect. The context in the sentence suggests that it is an 'abode for'. Hence 'home to' would be the correction. The verb 'have' in d does not agree with the subject 'escalation' which is singular. The verb 'has' is the correction. Choice (D)
36. Statements a, c and d are incorrect. 'Reeling in' in A makes it incorrect because we 'reel under a crisis', and not 'reel in'. 'Reeling under a crisis' means suffer because of a blow. The context in the sentence suggests that Europe is suffering because of a blow. (crippling economic crisis). In 'c', 'coping up' is incorrect. The correction is 'coping measures' i.e., 'measures to deal with something effectively'. Statement d is incorrect due to the use of 'would' which is the past tense of 'will'. The correction is 'will now feel'. Choice (C)

37. Statements b, c and d are incorrect. 'Cut-away' in B is incorrect. The correction is 'cut off' which means 'separated from the rest of the world'. In statement c, it is incorrect to say "the Gharwal hills in the Himalayas". The correction is "of the Himalayas". "Full with rare - -" in d is incorrect. The correction is "full of rare - -". Choice (C)
38. Statements a, b and c are erroneous. The absence of the definite article before '28th' makes a incorrect. The correction is 'the 28th state of the union'. 'Carved from' is incorrect in b. 'Carved out of' is the correct usage. 'Comprises of' in c makes the sentence incorrect. 'Comprise' means 'consist of', so using 'of' again is redundant. Choice (C)
39. 'Ingredient to feasting' in a is incorrect. The correction is 'ingredient of feasting'. The absence of 'the' before 'streets' in statement b makes it incorrect. The correction is "but in the streets". Statement d is also incorrect. 'For celebrating' in d is incorrect. 'Imperative to celebrate' is the correction. One should have an 'imperative to do' something. Choice (D)
40. Statements b, c and d are incorrect. We 'canoe to a nearby limestone cliff'. It is 'a cliff' or 'the cliff'. The absence of an article before 'cliff' makes this sentence incorrect. 'Top the day' in c, makes it incorrect. The correction is 'top off'. If we 'top off' a day or an event, we end it in an especially satisfactory way. In statement d, the correction is "far from the crowd". The absence of 'the' makes it incorrect. Choice (D)
41. 'A little doubt' which means 'some doubt' makes Choice (B) illogical. 'Aware of' is the correct usage. The absence of the preposition 'of' makes Choice (D) incorrect. Hence, only Choice (C) is free of all errors. Choice (C)
46. Statements a, and d are incorrect. The correction in a is 'the 25th Marines'. The reference is to a specific unit. Hence, the definite article should precede 25th Marines. In statement 'c' 'those of' is incorrect. In 'd' the use of 'rose up' is incorrect. It should be either 'shot up or rose'. Choice (B)
47. 'Dying off' in statement a is incorrect the correction is 'dying'. 'Agree with' in B makes it incorrect. We 'agree with' a person and 'agree on' an idea. Hence, the context in the sentence takes 'agree on'. In statement d, the use of 'not' with 'unless' makes the sentence incorrect. 'Unless' means 'if not' so using 'not' again makes the sentence incorrect. The correction is 'unless we address'. Choice (A)
48. In a 'differ from' is incorrect in the context of the sentence. We 'differ from' others. But we differ in doing something. Hence, the correction is 'differ in the way ...'. Coming to join us in C is incorrect. The correction is 'coming in to join us'. 'As multicultural like' in D is an incorrect usage. The correct structure is 'as multicultural as'. Choice (A)
49. Choice (A) is ruled out due to the absence of the definite article 'the' before the name of the organization Food and Agricultural Organization. Choice (B) has a tense error. The past time adverb 'ago' suggests that the sentence should be in simple past which is not the case in Choice (B). The use of '100 millions tonnes' in Choice (C) is incorrect. The correction is '100 million tonnes'. Hence, only choice (D) is free of errors. Choice (D)
50. Choice (A) is ruled out because of the use of 'such as'. The part of the sentence which follows the word 'canon' should actually define it (canon). Hence the correct structure is 'that people accused of crimes are presumed innocent until found guilty'. The use of 'which' after 'canon' in Choice (B) renders it incorrect. Choice (D) makes no sense due to the absence of the relative pronoun 'that' after 'canon'. The correction is 'accused of'. Only Choice (C) is free of errors. Choice (C)

EXPLANATORY NOTES FOR ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS

41. Statement A is grammatically incorrect because of the use of the singular 'has tended'. The subject is 'forecasts' which is plural and hence the correction is 'have tended to be upbeat'. Statement B is ruled out due to the absence of the definite article before, 'earlier one'. The reference is to every forecast which reflected greater optimism than each earlier one. Statement C is incorrect due to the past perfect 'had tended'. Only Choice (D) is the most appropriate. Choice (D)
42. Statement A is incorrect due to the use of an incorrect pronoun. i.e., 'its believers'. The reference is to educational television, interactive computer programmes and online learning i.e., a plural subject. Hence the use of 'its' is incorrect. The correction is 'their believers'. In statements B and C the position of the adverb 'yet' is inappropriate. 'Yet' as used in the sentence means 'still or even'. And it should be positioned after 'nothing'. Only statement D is free of errors. Choice (D)
43. The underlined part is incorrect because 'let it know' is syntactically incorrect. 'Let it be known' is the correct syntax. Another important point to be noted here is 'let' does not take the 'to + infinitive'. It takes the plain infinitive. This rules out (B) and (D). Something is 'known to the world' but not 'known by the world'. Hence only Choice (C) is free of errors. Choice (C)
44. The underlined part is ruled out due to the absence of the indefinite article 'an' before 'individual identity'. It is 'an individual identity'. Only Choice (A) is grammatically correct. In all the other options the positioning of 'ideally' is incorrect. It is modifying the verb 'provides' hence it should be positioned before 'provides'. Choice (A)
45. The underlined part has a prepositional error, i.e., 'concerned of'. The correction is 'concerned over/about'. When we worry about a situation or a problem we use 'concern over'. 'Raise' in Choice (A) is incorrect. 'Raise' is used when something causes something to go up. 'Rise' is used when something happens naturally. Hence 'the significant rise' is correct.
- PRACTICE EXERCISE – 10**
1. Options (A), and (D) are incorrect because of the use of inappropriate prepositions in and for. The correct preposition is 'of'. It is 'of their fellow-creatures'. These fellow-creatures (i.e) the men are more privileged when compared to the women. As a comparison is made the use of 'more' is warranted. The use of 'most privileged' is incorrect in 3. Only option (B) is grammatically correct. Choice (B)
2. Option (A) is incorrect '.... and put' is inapt. The construction logically takes a gerund. '.....could prevent ,.... putting the federation's reputation.....'. Also its reputation 'as a business-friendly hub is at risk'. The use 'of' and 'in' in place of 'as' is incorrect in options (A) and (B) and (E). 'At a risk' 'or' 'at the risk' is incorrect, which rules out options (B), and (D). Only option (C) is grammatically consistent. Choice (C)
3. Only choice (E) fits into the blank because the tense ie, present perfect tense (has brought) is in keeping with the tense in the rest of the sentence. The pronoun 'they' is correctly used in the latter part of the choice ie, 'we know are flawed in light of the ecological destruction they legitimize.'. the pronoun 'it' as used in (A) , (C) and (D) is incorrect because the reference is to a plural entity – features of economic philosophy – . Further the preposition 'to' is correctly used with 'obligation'. 'obligation to change....' 'Obligation for' as used in (B) and (C) rules out these two choices. Choice (D)

4. In choice (A) and (B) the positioning of 'generally' distorts the meaning. Further the prepositions 'through' and 'with' which follow the words 'cultural practices' in choices (A) and (D) respectively make those options incorrect. Besides the above mentioned errors the positioning of 'intrinsically' is incorrect in (B) and (D).
'Intrinsically' means 'naturally' or 'innately' and it should be positioned before right or wrong. Hence, only (C) is free of errors.
Choice (C)
5. Choices (A) and (D) are ruled out due to a discord between the subject and the verb. The subject of the sentence is 'civilization' which is singular, hence verb takes(s) -. 'continues to follow...' is the correction.
In (3), 'continue devastating...' is incorrect. The correction is 'continue to devastate'.
Only (B) is free of errors.
Choice (B)
6. Statements (c) and (d) are erroneous. 'Universally accepted' means something that is accepted by everyone, which has to replace 'acceptable' in (c). 'Acceptable' means something that is approved of by most people. Here in the given context, handshake is accepted by everyone. There is no other choice. We cannot have 'leg shake' to say that of the two, handshake is more acceptable. Hence (c) is erroneous. The use of the gerund 'clobbering' is incorrect in (d). It has to be the 'to infinitive'. The stranger might try 'to clobber him', (i.e, hurt him). Try 'clobbering him' is absurd.
Choice (B)
7. Statements (a), (b) and (d) erroneous. The positioning of the adverbial phrase 'in the world' is incorrect in statement (a). This phrase qualifies 'person'. 'Every 10th person in the world who dies in road accident' is the idea suggested. Hence 'in the world' should follow 'person' and not 'accident'. Statement (b) has an error of subject-verb concord. 'The number' is the subject and hence it has to be 'is increasing'. The use of 'are increasing' makes it grammatically incorrect. The use of the word 'status' is incorrect in statement (d). 'Status' means rank or honour. It has to be replaced by 'state' meaning 'condition'. We are talking about the condition of the road. Hence the correction is '...the state of the roads'.
Choice (D)
8. Statements (a), (b) and (c) are grammatically incorrect. The use of an incorrect phrasal verb makes statement A incorrect. To 'make up' something is to constitute and to 'make up for' something is to compensate. Here the 'deserts constitute...' and not compensate. Hence '.....which make up about...' is the correction in (a) '.....at the risk of starving' is incorrect in statement (b). They are 'at risk of starvation'. 'At risk of something' means in danger of something unpleasant or harmful, happening. 'At the risk of doing something' is used to introduce something that may sound stupid or may offend someone and hence is inapt in this context. The use of 'one-thirds' is incorrect in statement (c). It should be 'one-third'.
Choice (D)
9. Statements (a), (c) and (d) are grammatically incorrect. The positioning of the adverb 'enough' is inapt in (a). 'The temperatures are lowered enough to increase the ice sheets' is the idea suggested. Hence 'enough' should be placed after 'temperatures' and not after 'ice sheets'. Statement (b) is grammatically correct. The use of 'farther' which is used to denote distance is incorrect in (c). It has to be 'further' which means additional. Statement (d) is incomplete because of the omission of the preposition 'to' after 'adjust'. We 'adjust to' something.
Choice (C)
10. Sentences (a), (b) and (d) are erroneous. The use of the preposition 'of' is incorrect in (a). There is a 'problem with mass schooling' and the problem is that it creates inequalities in the society. If we say 'problem of', then the problem should be within the system which is not the case here. Hence the correction in (a) is '.....problem with mass schooling.....'. Statement (b) has a punctuational error. The correction is '.....go to good schools, which, because they are good, attract the best.....'. The verb 'obtain' to mean 'exist' is used in the progressive tense in (d) which is incorrect. It has to be '.....factors do not generally obtain for.....'.
Choice (D)
11. The underlined part is incorrect due to use of the quantifier 'much' after 'crisis'. The sentence involves a comparison between 'providing humanitarian assistance' and 'enabling countries to grow'. In a negative sentence the comparison is "not so much ...as". This structure is seen only in (D).
The absence of 'by' after 'as' in choice (A) disrupts the parallelism. Choice (B) is ruled out due to inappropriate comparison. Choice (C) is incorrect due to the words 'as to enable' which violate the parallelism in the sentence. The correction is 'not so much byas by enabling'.
Choice (D)
12. The underlined part is erroneous for two reasons: one is the absence of a comma after 'which' and the other is the use of the singular form of the verb 'was transforming'.
The words "from the latter part of the seventeenth century" gives additional information hence this should be separated with commas. Further the relative pronoun 'which' refers to the achievements which is a plural subject. Hence, the verb after 'century' should be a plural verb ie, were transformed. Only choice (B) has all these correct.
Choice (B)
13. The underlined part, has two errors, 'lived for many years', is incorrect. The correction is 'lived on for many years' which means that it continued for many years is apt in the context. The second error is in the positioning of the comma after 'which'. It should precede 'which' and 'which' describes the 'events' of 1968. All these corrections are found only in choice (C). Hence,
Choice (C)
14. Choice (A) and (D) are ruled out due to the presence of a definite article before 'nature' 'Nature is abstract hence it does not take an article. The use of the continuous tense 'mutilating man' is also incorrect since the first part is in the simple present tense. These errors rule out (A) and (D). Choice (B) is ruled out due to the absence of articles before 'system' and 'type'.
Choice (C)
15. Choice (C), and (D) are ruled out due to subject verb discord. The subject of the sentence is 'fact' hence 'suggests' is the appropriate verb. Further 'would continue' and 'will be continue' as used as choice (A) and (D) respectively are incorrect. The correct tense is 'will continue to evolve'. Besides the above mentioned errors 'for adopting' is incorrect in (C); the correction is 'to adopt' Only choice (B) is free of errors.
Choice (B)
16. Part (c) is erroneous. "b and of robbers must have a sense of justice among them", is incorrect. The correction is 'among themselves'. It answers the question 'among whom'. Hence 'among themselves' is the desired response. Part (d) is incorrect due to the incorrect phrasal verb 'pulling out'. 'Pull out' means 'to withdraw'. 'Pulling off' is the right phrasal verb. 'Pull off' means 'to succeed in doing something difficult'. The error in statement (e) is the absence of the auxiliary verb before 'detrimental'. "They are constituent parts.....and are detrimental....." The conjunction 'and' connects two different ideas hence, both the ideas must be of the same grammatical structure.
Only (a) and (b) are free of errors.
Choice (C)
17. Part A has a punctuational error i.e the absence of a comma after 'Beck says'. The main idea is "September 11th was the Chernobyl of globalization". Hence, the words 'Beck says' which occur in the middle of the sentence should be separated by commas.
Statement (c) is also grammatically incorrect due to the use 'promise for'. The preposition 'for' is incorrect. The correction is 'promise of salvation'. In (d) the error is 'problem of humanity'. There are many problems which humanity faces. Hence, 'the problems of humanity' is the correction.
Only (b) and (e) are appropriate.
Choice (D)

18. Statements (a) and (d) are grammatically correct. '(b)' is erroneous due to the use of an incorrect pronoun i.e 'it is'. Since the reference is to 'domination and inequities' plural number 'they are' should be used. In '(c)' the absence of the comma after 'its history' makes it incorrect. In (e) the use of 'like' makes it incorrect. The correction is 'as dominated and dependent as'.
Hence, only (a) and (d) are free of errors.
Choice (B)
19. Only (e) is free of errors – (a) is incorrect due to the absence of the preposition 'from' after 'much'. (b) is erroneous due to the incorrect positioning of the adverb 'mainly'. 'Mainly' modifies 'about England', hence, it should be positioned after 'is'.
In '(c)' the error is in the comparison. The comparison is between the idea that is central to William's work to the idea that is central to the work of most scholars and critics. Hence, to 'that of most scholars...' is the correction.
In (d) 'deal in' is incorrect. 'Deal in' means to 'trade in'. The context in the sentence takes 'deal with'.
Choice (C)
20. Only (c) and (d) are grammatically correct. (a) is erroneous due to the word 'characterizes'. The correction is 'characterize'. The reference is to facts (plural) that 'characterize world economy'.
Part B is erroneous due to the absence of the definite article before 'high cost'. The correction is "the high cost of.....".
In (e) the correction is 'sketch out'. 'Sketch out' means to give a brief account or a general outline of something'. 'To sketch' means to make a quick drawing of something' which is inapt in the context. Only (c) and (d) are free of errors.
Choice (B)
21. Statements (a) and (d) are correct. (b) is incorrect due to illogical comparison. The comparison should be between the 'social base of the party of the Mexican Revolution' and the 'social base of the National Revolutionary Party'. Hence, 'wider than that of' would be the correction.
(c) is erroneous because the positioning of 'together' which makes the sentence syntactically erroneous. The part of the sentence after the colon always elaborates on the word which precedes the colon. Since, the part of the sentence after the colon talks about groups the sentence should be correctly phrased as "and it brought together four groups:". (e) is a continuation to (d). (e) is erroneous due to the use of 'rather'. When 'more' is used 'rather' should not be used. Hence, the correction is "It was more an attempt to create a functional democracy than.....".
Choice (C)
22. Only (a) and (d) are free of errors.
The absence of an article before 'hidden reality' makes B incorrect. The use of 'was' in (c) renders it incorrect. When the reference is to an imaginary and unreal situation the past plural form of the verb (were) should be used. Hence, the correction is "as if it were a". In (e), the use of 'from' after 'escapes' makes it incorrect.
Choice (D)
23. (a) and (d) are free of errors.
In (b) the error is the absence of 'the' before 1950s.
(c) is erroneous due to the incorrect positioning of 'by', the correction is "abandoned by both India and China.....".
The error in (e) is the absence of 'a' after even. The correction is "even a complete lack.....".
Choice (C)
24. (a), (d) and (e) are grammatically correct. (b) is incorrect due to the absence of preposition 'of' after 'conceive'. The error in (c) is the positioning of 'perhaps'. It should be positioned before 'originated'. 'Perhaps' is used to express uncertainty. There is uncertainty about when 'it' (dualism) originated. Hence 'perhaps' should modify 'originated'.
Choice (D)
25. Only (a) and (e) are grammatically correct. The use of the continuous tense 'being seen;' makes B incorrect. From the tense in (a) it is clear that the simple present tense would be correct. Hence, the correction is 'are seen as'.
The absence of comma after 'result' and 'objectors' makes (c) incorrect. The positioning of 'rather' in (d) makes it incorrect. The to infinitive should never be split. Hence, the correction in (d) is 'to make rather seewiping....'. The absence of the definite article before 'biotechnology industry' makes (e) correct. Hence, only (a) is correct.
Choice (D)
26. The sentence has a punctuation error besides other errors. The sentence should correctly be punctuated as ".....information overload, which is, in itself,.....". The words 'which is' and 'in itself' should be separated by commas. Further, in all the statements except 'D', the correlative conjunction 'not only.....but also' is incorrectly used. The intended idea is the sheer volume of available information not only obscure but also dissuade. Hence, the sentence should be phrased as ".....available information tends not only to obscure the important issues, but also to dissuade....". When a correlative conjunction is used to connect two entities, each part of the correlative conjunction must immediately precede each of the word or phrase to be connected. Only in statement (d) the positioning is correct.
Further, in (A) and (C) 'coping up with' is incorrect. 'Cope up' is incorrect. The correction is 'cope with'. Only (D) is free of errors.
Choice (D)
27. 'Politician and economist are reluctant'. The word 'being reluctant' rules out Choice (B) and (E). Similarly 'fail to' follows 'reluctant to'; 'are fail to' and, 'failing to' rules at (A) and (D) respectively only Choice (C) is correct.
Choice (C)
28. Statement (D) is the grammatically correct option because of the correctness of the tense, i.e, (came from; past tense) Further, the adverb (safely) is correctly positioned only in this option. 'Safely' should modify 'analyze and understand', hence, it should be positioned before 'analyze and understand'. The correlative conjunction 'both.....and' is connects "God" and "his creations" and it is correctly used only in (d).
Statement (A) is ruled out due to the incorrect positioning of the adverb 'safely'. Statement (b) and (c) have tense errors i.e "comes from his"(present tense), 'had come'(past perfect),has come from (present perfect).Only statement (D) is free of errors. (apart from erroneous positioning of the adverb.)
Choice (D)
29. Statement (A) is ruled out due to the use of the incorrect pronoun 'them'. The reference is to 'liberty' which is singular. Hence, 'guaranteeing it' is the correction. This error is repeated in (C) and E also. Further, in (a), the absence of 'in' after 'but' (at the end of the sentence) disrupts the parallelism. This is repeated in (B). Besides the above mentioned errors, the absence of 'the' before 'means' in (B) and (C) makes them incorrect. The reference is to 'the way through which something is achieved', hence, 'the means' is correct. Again B and E have tense errors. i.e 'they had crafted' and 'they have crafted' respectively. Since there is a reference to a past time frame, the use of simple past would make the sentences correct.
Only (D) is free of errors.
Choice (D)
30. Statements (A) and (B) are erroneous due to subject-verb discord i.e the use of 'suggest'. The subject of the sentence is i.e 'the little ' which is singular, non-countable noun, and the verb takes 's'. i.e (suggests). Secondly (A) is ruled out due to the absence of a pronoun 'it' after 'making'. 'It' is used to refer to 'the possibility to attain rich and intricate systems of knowledge ____'. Absence of 'it' makes the sentence incorrect. This error is repeated in (D). Further in (B) and (d) the words "for us in attaining" make them incorrect. Thus only '(C)' is free of errors.
Choice (C)

31. In statement (A) and (B) it is seen that the correlative conjunction 'either.....or' is incorrectly used. The correct structure is "Man is seen either as a mechanical robot.....or as a rational.....". Further, it is said in the sentence that man's reactions are similar (like) to those of mindless matter. Hence, "reactions are ascertainable and predictable like those of....." would be correct. The use of 'just as' would be correct if the sentence reads ".....just as those of matter are". The use of 'as' is incorrect because the sentence refers to a similarity. This rules out (A), (C). Besides the above mentioned errors, the use of plural (bear), and negative (do not) with 'neither' makes (B), (C) incorrect. Only D is free of errors. Choice (D)
32. All the statements except (B) have punctuational and prepositional errors. The adverb 'then' and 'it is argued' should be separated by a comma i.e; "to cultivate and reorder creation, then, it is argued", is the correct structure. Further, in (A) and (D) the absence of the preposition 'at' before 'deployment' disrupts the parallelism. The correction is "draw a line at the level..... or at the deployment....". Besides the above mentioned errors, in (C) and (D) the preposition 'of' before 'the use of' makes the sentences incorrect. Only (B) is free of errors. Choice (B)
33. Only statement (A) is grammatically and logically correct. In the other options i.e; in statements (B) and (C) the use of 'mutually dependent system' is illogical. 'Mutually dependent' should be followed by a plural noun i.e; 'mutually dependent systems'. Similarly the use of the singular number 'a highly complex' makes (C) and (D) incorrect as the reference is to 'systems'. Further, in all the statements except (A), the tense in the last part of the sentence is incorrect. The use of 'for centuries' suggests that the present perfect tense is appropriate in the context. Only statement (A) is free of errors. Choice (A)
34. Statement (A) is ruled out due to the use of past tense, "The United States extended....." In statements (B) and (D) the use of "could not even imagine..." makes the statements logically and grammatically incorrect. The reference is to a past unfulfilled condition. Hence, the use of the perfect conditional (could not have) would make the option correct. Statement (C) is also incorrect due to use of past perfect tense (had extended). Only statement (D) is free of errors. Choice (D)
35. Only choice (B) is right. The 1MF failed to understand, what? 'the workings of ...' not 'how financial markets work'. The plural 'their' and not 'its' is correct since the subject is 'workings'. Choice (B)
36. (a) and (c) are incorrect. The use of 'home for' in (a) makes it incorrect. The correction is 'home to' which means 'abode for'. The absence of the indefinite article 'a' before detailed makes it incorrect. The correction is 'a detailed search ...' Since the reference is to a search. Hence, Choice (D)
37. Sentence (a) is incorrect since it should be 'was' not 'were' as the subject is 'a series'. Sentence (b) is incorrect because 'apparently' qualifies 'grew' and hence must precede it '... that apparently grew' Choice (A)
38. The absence of 'a' before 'world dominant' and the use of the comparative 'fewer' (when actually comparison is not involved) makes Choices (B) and (D) incorrect. In choice (A) and (B) the absence of 'a' before 'position of hegemony' renders them incorrect. The reference is to 'a position'. 'less' is used when the reference is to uncountable entities. Since the reference is to historical incidents which are countable, 'few' is appropriate word. Choice (C)
39. Only (a) and (b) are grammatically correct. The use of the singular verb 'has' in (c) makes it incorrect. Since the reference is to modern medicine and resource availability (two different entities) the verb should be in the plural. In (d), the use of past tense is incorrect., because 'over the years' suggests that the present perfect tense should be used. Hence, the correction is 'longevity has increased'. The absence of the article before 'huge' in (e) makes it correct. The correction is 'a huge elderly population'. Choice (A)
40. (b), (c) and (e) are grammatically incorrect. In (b) the correction is 'came about' with the development of modern humans; 'came about' means 'to take place' which is apt in the context. 'Brought all the ...' in (c) is incorrect. The correction is 'brought in ' the sentence should read '...rapacious ape we ... brought all the true ...in with us'. Statement (e) has a spelling error i.e, 'ingenously'. The correction is 'ingeniously' which means 'inventively'. Hence, only (a) and (d) are correct. Choice (C)