

Unit III- Précis

Practice 1:

Précis:

Money-making is a common attraction in life. But it cannot be the principal aim of well educated, cultured and brave man. A brave soldier prizes honour and victory more than his pay. A good clergyman is more interested in the moral welfare of his people than his returns. A doctor (good) values the care of his patient far more than his fees. Thus with all the well-educated, intellectual persons, their work is first, money next.

Practice 2:

Précis:

Home shelters the young who are weak and inexperienced and unable to face the temptations in life. It is a centre of their elementary education and a nursery of sweet affections and pleasant memories. Its magic lasts forever. A weary mind turn to it for rest. Such is the function of a home and in some measure of the university.

Practice 3:

Précis:

Teaching is the noblest profession. A teacher himself leading a simple, pure and disciplined life can mould the character of the young children and make them neat and good mannered citizens. Besides he remains every young forgetting his own domestic worries in the constant company of the young.

Practice 4:

Précis:

Notwithstanding its various defects English education has done great good to India. The ideas of democracy and self-government are its gifts. Nursed on English education the Indian leaders were inspired by the Western thought, culture and freedom struggles. They fought for and won their motherland's freedom. Being spoken thought-out the world English is necessary for international contact, trade, commerce and science. English is rich in literature; its master mind cannot be neglected.

Practice 5:

Précis:

Being social animals, human beings have their actions and desires bound up with society. In matter of food, clothes, knowledge and belief they are interdependent. They use language created by others. Without language their mental power would not grow. They are superior to beast, because they live in human society. An individual life left alone from birth would grow

utterly beast like. So human society and not individuality guides man's material and spiritual existence.

5.1 Choose the correct option:

- i. Which of these is not a type of précis?
 - a) Précis of speech
 - b) Précis of correspondence
 - c) Tables
 - d) Telegraphese
- ii. Which of the following is NOT a rule of précis writing?
 - a) Always have a heading
 - b) Use as extensive vocabulary as possible
 - c) Remove any irrelevant information present in the original passage
 - d) Do not use any short forms or abbreviations
- iii. A précis should be written in third person.
 - a) True
 - b) False
- iv. Which of these should be avoided in a précis?
 - a) Imagery
 - b) Verbs
 - c) Pronouns
 - d) Indirect speech
- v. _____ in a speech must be avoided in a précis.
 - a) Facts
 - b) Ideas
 - c) Repetitions
 - d) Verbs
- vi. The meaning of précis writing is
 - a) writing in a different way
 - b) to explain clearly
 - c) to summarise a paragraph
 - d) all are correct
- vii. Which word may be the opposite of précis
 - a) summary
 - b) expansion
 - c) essence
 - d) gist
- viii. The doctor suggested the patient to take green vegetables, vegetables full of minerals vitamins protein, milk, dry fruits et cetera. What is a suitable precise version of doctor's suggestion?
 - a) a diet full of carbohydrate
 - b) a diet full of multivitamin and Minerals
 - c) balanced and healthy diet

- d) to eat all your favourite food
- ix. I saw a person whose eyes were not working and he was unable to see anything." This sentence can be shortened as
- a) I saw a man with no Eyes
 - b) I saw a man with two spoiled Eyes
 - c) I saw a blind man
 - d) I saw a deaf man
- x. Précis writing aims of
- a) Reading
 - b) Writing
 - c) Speaking
 - d) A and B

Beginners

5.2 Rewrite the following passages precisely into 1/3rd of their size with a suitable title:

- i. Final Précis
Discipline-A way of life
Though discipline seems to be a problem, it is necessary for all. Discipline shapes our mind and regulates our habits. Some want to be free and think that it is not necessary. Discipline and punctuality give enjoyment to athletes.
- ii. Final Précis
Homeless Soapy
Soapy, a homeless man, wanted a shelter for winters but not one of those charitable homes where his personal life would be scrutinized. He chose the prison on Blackwell's island as his home. He planned to break some law and land up in jail. He smartened himself up and went to an expensive restaurant where, showing his inability to pay, he would be imprisoned. The chief waiter noted his ratty trousers and turned him out.
- iii. Final Précis
Origin of Soccer
The British devised football's rules. The name 'Soccer' is possibly related to players' high socks or from 'Association'.
Born in 1863, football is played with two rival 11-player teams who try to push the ball through the opposite goal post outflanking the goalkeeper. Except him, no one can touch the ball by hand.
The World Cup is staged once in four years.
The Brazilian football wizard Pele bewitched football lovers with his superb skill.

As the national game in Europe and Latin America, football, played in 140 countries, is world's most popular game.

iv. **Precis**

Title:- Broadmindedness-India's Vitality's

Ancient India was able to make tremendous progress through broad-mindedness. The narrowness in outlook that followed led to her downfall. Still, all the suffering has not been able to diminish India's inherent vitality.

v. **Final Précis**

Meeting a stranger

Around evening, monkeys and birds played on the branches of a tree that stood on a river's bank. Under it Raju sat cross-legged on a stone slab. On being asked by Raju to sit down, the stranger politely sat two steps below after washing his face in the river's water. He told Raju falteringly that he hailed from Mangal.

vi. **Precis**

Title:- Nelson Severely Wounded

On stepping from the boat, Nelson was shot through the right elbow and fell. Nisbet, his step-son, placed him in the bottom of the boat, and covered the wound which was gushing blood. He bound silk handkerchiefs over the torn blood vessels, thereby saving Nelson's life, and a sling was made for the arm. The grounded boat was re-floated and went close under the battery to avoid its fire. Nelson asked to be lifted to look around.

vii. **Final Précis**

Nanjing-The river port

Established in 229 CE and surrounded by Myng era stone walls, Nanjing, the giant river port city, stands contrastingly with its modern skyscrapers. Ancient architectural ruins, 600,000-year-old fossils, and history's many footprints dot Nanjing. According to Freya Drew, Nanjing has footprints of history of all ages.

viii. **Precis**

Title :-Crave for Tourism

The reason why millions of people during the summer months leave their home comforts to risk their lives in the touring, uncertain of amenities, is that the modern dwelling, however attractive, is anything but a real home. They are deprived of aesthetic pleasure of enjoying beauty of nature, which they seek elsewhere.

ix. **Final Précis**

The Hunting Spree

To impress me about his hunting skills, the station master of Kalka, who was my host and Uncle Fred's friend, took me around for an errand. Finding no suitable prey, he killed a crow with his double-barreled gun. It was flung quite far. Soon after, hordes

of belligerent crows swooped on us forcing us inside the house. The angry crows, staying put in the place till evening, did try to enter our room through windows and skylights. Later, the station staff chased them away. The incident delayed the Night Mail and my hunter-uncle suffered a nervous break-down. The incident taught me to respect crows who might outlive humans on earth.

x. Final Précis

Plight of Alarakkhi

The good-natured Sanitation Inspector Munshi Khairiat Ali Khan oversaw the work of many workers, seldom punishing them for lapses. Intriguingly, he fined the dutiful Alarakkhi for no apparent reason. She was never lax in her work. The pay day brought distress to Alarakkhi as fines imposed on her for dereliction of duty reduced her earnings. The Inspector inflicted this pain.

Intermediate

5.3 Rewrite the following passages precisely into 1/3rd of their size with a suitable title:

i. Final Précis

The Trade Route

President Ashraf Ghani inaugurated the route through which a big convoy of trucks carrying dry fruits, textiles etc. from western Afghanistan reached the Iranian port of Chabahar on Sunday. The merchandise would reach Mumbai by sea. This India-assisted port opened the first Afghan export route bypassing Pakistan. The American government relaxed sanctions on the port as it would boost Afghan economy. India has sent substantial quantities of wheat and lentils to land-locked Afghanistan through Chabahar.

ii. Final Précis

The Happy Prince

The Happy Prince's statue stood on a stanchion. With eyes of sapphire, gold-draped torso and ruby-studded sword-hilt, the Prince towered over his adoring subjects. Councillors said he was as beautiful as the weathercock, mothers prodded their kids to emulate him, and sad citizens drew comfort from his beaming face. However, a dour mathematics teacher was not amused to hear from some Church children that the Prince looked like a dream angel.

A swallow had stayed behind from its migratory flock to have a romantic chat with a Reed it loved. The Swallow had stumbled on the Reed while chasing a moth across a river. The Swallow performed acrobatics on the water all through the Summer.

iii. Final Précis

The Meadows Mansion

A seventy-year-old, burly domineering woman lorded over her family consisting of her fifty-year-old son, George Meadows, his wife, and their two sons and three

daughters. The sprightly matriarch prided in her active habits, and her farm spread around her old ancestral house built in 1673. The year was inscribed on the front door. The family was well-knit, healthy, and contented. Despite her ripe age, George's mother was jovial, full of humor, and jest. The mansion looked lacklustre due to its age. Farms, pens, and barns surrounded the house. The family lived off the farm. The old house had a succession of occupants of the same lineage all of whom were both born and had died there. The dull-looking house stood majestically amidst a thicket. Elms lined the lane from the mansion to the road.

iv. **Précis**

Title:- True Internationalism of India

True Internationalism India on achieving freedom will be fascinated by the possibilities of future more than her past. She will face that future with confidence and will try to benefit from the experience of others. At present her growth is stagnant because of her conservatism. She cannot progress in this modern age by sticking to the old traditions and mechanically imitating others. In order to evolve a true culture, inspiration has to be derived from every part of the world and nurtured according to the country's genius.

In this new era life has become more international and interdependent than was in Emerson's time. We have to acquaint ourselves pendent than was in Emerson are of other countries and the experiences with the civilization so gathered have got to be assimilated with our national culture, for without that no internationalism is possible. This had been India's way in the past and is much more necessary in the present age.

v. **Final Précis**

Illicit Trade of Artifacts

Priceless smuggled artifacts belonging to the second or third millennium BC have been seized by French customs. Some already with the unnamed Paris museums have been seized too. All these were formally returned to the Pakistan embassy there. The museums possessing and receiving the items have been heavily fined for being complicit in the crime. Pakistan's strife-torn Balochistan has been the source of much of this treasure. This has saddened the archaeologists working to re-construct Baloch history. Both the smugglers and the buying museums in France are to blame for this illicit trade.

The recovered artifacts numbering around 450 will be exhibited in Pakistani museum soon.

Under President Macron, France has returned stolen archaeological treasures to the source countries, such as Benin, a former French colony, and Egypt. The Egyptian items were found in the baggage of a London-bound passenger.

vi. **Final Précis**

Measures against Drought

At temperature touching 42°C, Budelkhand stretching across MP and UP reels under severe water shortage. With dry ponds, rivers and pumps, Jhansi, Lalitpur and Tikamgarh have become the most parched districts of this backward area.

With water stock barely adequate for a week, nearly 650 families of Rajpur in Lalitpur in UP wait breathlessly for the monsoon.

In contrast, nearby Chandanpur has a check-dam to store rain water for summer needs. It was built by women volunteers of the village. The volunteers known as Jal Sahelis resurrect old water bodies. Nearly 200 villages have such community effort.

vii. **Précis**

Title:- Tipu's Wars of Aggression

Though Tipu succeeded his father unopposed, he was still an insurper. His authority depended on an army too costly for his revenue. he had, therefore, to extend his territory wrested from ever watchful neighbours professing Hinduism, which was the religion of most of his subjects. He had, therefore, to lean for support on his co-religionist and gave a religious bias to his wars of aggression. Tipu's pretext was no worse than the pretext on which most European monarchs have waged their wars of aggression viz., internal distraction in a neighbouring state, extension of the boundaries of a state in accordance with geographical sequence and establishing strong government in place of one that has lost its influence.

viii. **Précis**

Title :- State of Education in India

It has become so common to write on the state of education in India before the establishment of British rule that the subject has been somewhat observed. Three distinct types of education are, however, discernible in the eighteenth century. There was the Brahmanical system, reminiscent of the old days when boys of tender age were entrusted to a guru for receiving education in the guru's ashram. This type of education, often of a very high standard, was open to the privileged few and was entirely free from Government influence. The other two types were the Muslim Schools and the Hindu Schools. These institutions were attached to mosques or temples. They were found in the towns and larger villages and consequently did not escape unharmed whenever there were political disorders. The education imparted by them was mostly of a religious nature and secular education, if taught at all in Hindu Schools, was confined to lessons in keeping accounts and the reading of traders' script. The lower castes and the aboriginal tribes had no access to schools, which served only a very small fraction of the population, and traces of them may still be seen. In contrast the earliest educational effort of the British rulers was to open schools for the children of Bhils, Gonds and criminal cationic effort of the British rulers

ix. **Précis**

Title:- Modern Times

The Drudgery of Factory Work under Mass Production Unlike the craftsmen of former days who produced articles from to finish, the factory workers of today, whose contribution in the finished product is so little, can hardly feel any pride or pleasure in his which is simply a dull routine. The result is that he sees his outside the factory and not in the work itself. Charlie Chaplin pleasure outside the factory and not in the film "Modern Times" has shown how the work in a modern factory so much tells on the nerves of a worker that he is likely to turn mad. It would however be advisable to retain the advantages of mass production but something must be done to enable the worker to take pleasure and pride in his work.

x. **Précis**

Title : Indian Village Planning

Village Planning Effective and successful planning in an agricultural and overpopulated country like India should start at village level and should cover all factors connected with the socio-economic life of village people. It is futile to expect increasing capacity without providing better and healthier houses, educational, medical and recreational facilities, which is as important as investment in the form of better seeds, manure, irrigation and other facilities. Village planning forms a major part of rural reconstruction in India. The Government has taken a humble beginning to tackle this problem, as the financial implications of such a plan are enormous, which the country can ill-afford to meet all at once. The Government's seriousness to tackle this problem is proved by the fact that they have provided Rs. 6 crores for rural housing in the Second Five Year Plan, besides the establishment of Rural Housing Cell and Rural Housing wings with the six engineering institutions.

Advanced

5.4 Rewrite the following passages precisely into 1/3rd of their size with a suitable title:

i. **Précis**

Title :- Recruitment by Open Competition

The introduction of the principle of open competition for recruitment of candidates to various services occupies an important place in the history of political development. But it is not always well understood. There is general agreement that through competitive examination we get the best men for service. As a matter of fact Britain and America started this method of open competition to get rid of the personal factor in the matter of the choice of civil servants.

In a democratic age, open competition, important as it is, ensures equality of opportunity and in practice it ensures equality of opportunity to all of a certain age with a certain standard of education. Its merit lies in the fact that it gives no cause of grouse to the unsuccessful.

With a view to making improvements in the efficiency of the method of recruitment by open competition, we must take stock of the changing administrative

environment and the developing education systems. For this we will have to work in a spirit of compromise rather than stick to the principles once formulated. We do not always need the best talent for all types of work. There are certain spheres of work where men of average talent would do. This point has to be kept in view always in fixing standards for the competitive examinations, because the Civil Service requires the supply of all talents. But the drawback of the treaties of civil service is that they have been giving exclusive attention to the best talent for administration and direction in the Governmental works with the result that the non-governmental sphere remains deprived of the best talent.

The method of open competition under the British Civil Service Commission has reached a high degree of efficiency, but it is not suitable for nor is it adopted in all recruitments carried out under the Commission's supervision. For posts requiring technical qualifications and experience the pure theory of open competition is not applicable.

ii. **Précis**

Title :- Accidents by Cyclists: How to Avoid them

It is a fact that accidents in which cyclists are involved have appreciably gone up in the last few years. For this motorists and cyclists throw blame on each other.

The fact that the cyclist has to face an increasing number of motor-cars moving to and fro on the highway, should not expose him great risk, provided he keeps as far to the left of the road as possible, and otherwise too, conforms with the traffic regulations, which in most cases he does not.

It is difficult to say when a child should be permitted to ride on busy roads, for children vary so much in intelligence, physical prowess and alertness. It is one thing for the child to be skillful rider on the playground and the by-ways, and another how competent he is to face the hazards of riding through a busy thoroughfare.

The conditions of the child's bicycle matter considerably in determining the safety or otherwise of the rider. The machines should be trustworthy vehicles and none too unwieldy and must suit his individual requirement.

It will go a long way in solving traffic problem in this country and minimizing accidents, if cycle patrols consisting of experienced cyclists are formed in every school, as in other countries, to train beginners in cycling and instruct them in the rules of the road. Licences should thereafter be granted only to those candidates who pass the riding test and acquire sufficient knowledge of the Highway Code.

Unless a licence from the school authorities is thus obtained parents should ensure that their children do not ride on public streets and thoroughfares.

iii. **Précis**

Title:- A Rational View of Industrialization

The consensus of opinion is in favour of industrialization as a means of promoting material wealth and prosperity. Industrialization however, not only failed to fulfill the basic human needs, human relationship, love and sympathy, and the need for a sense of dignity and security but has on the other hand brought in its wake

individual discontent and social conflict. In the present set up of production the independent work of the former artisan has degenerated into a dull monotonous routine depriving him of all sense of his worth in society. The pattern of social relationships in the worker's life has also undergone a change for the worse. The worker is no longer the head of a productive unit nor of the group of fellow workers but has become a mere part of a machine, working in an isolated social atmosphere. He feels tired and exhausted after work as the strain of fast machinery is overwhelming. The remedy, lies not in reverting to the system of handloom economy as it cannot fulfill our material wants in modern times. We have only to remove the defects of industrialization especially in relation to the worker.

iv. **Précis**

Title:- Liberty and Democracy

Liberty and democracy are so closely interlinked that the rise or fall in the degree of one means a corresponding rise and fall in that of the other. At one time as in Athens or in England before the War, when Democracy was strong, the citizens enjoyed a great deal of liberty and the field of liberty was constantly enlarged but the circumstances leading to the decline of liberty resulted in the consequent decline of democracy. The growing size and complexity of the modern State is particularly responsible for this state of affairs. The human constitutions have become so vast and complex that statesmen are unable to understand them; far less controls them. Most of the recent events that happened prove that they have taken place in direct opposition to human will and intentions. In the economic field, particularly, the consequence of our actions is the very opposite of what we wish it to be. Will scientific advancement the world is shrinking into a single economy unit with the result that the happenings in one part of it affect the economic balance in other parts. The economic factors are also responsible for killing the political consciousness of the individual

Naturally a citizen wants to play his part in the direction of the affairs community, but his enthusiasm is crushed when he finds himself neglected except when either he has to pay taxes, act as a jury or to exercise a vote which too is decided by the party and not by his choice. This frustration turns him into a revolutionary, or he loses all interest in politics. This is harmful to the cause of democracy.

v. **Précis**

Title:- Definition of a 'Book'

Books are generally classified as the books of the hour and the c books of the time. The distinction between the two is not merely of quality, but of species. There are both good and bad books for the hour f and for all times. The good books of the hour are those which tell you something pleasant or useful as a sensible friend's conversations would be. This may be in the form of travel accounts, instructions, discussions, lively and pathetic stories in the form of novels. Such books are a particular characteristic of the present age and are being produced in increasing numbers. Strictly speaking these are not books at all, but merely letters and

newspapers in good print. Such books are printed because the author cannot speak to thousands of people at once. The author does not want to magnify his voice simply to reach many, but to preserve it for all the times. The author seeks to convey his unique knowledge, experience and perception in an interesting and intelligible style. He gives his best which may be worth your memory. The book is thus the personality of the author represented in print.

UNIT III

SENTENCE COMPELTION

Beginners

6.1 Fill in the blanks with suitable articles:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <p>i. _____ Chinese language is difficult.
 a) The
 b) An
 c) A
 d) Zero article</p> <p>ii. _____ Alps are _____ longest mountain ranges in Europe.
 a) The, a
 b) The, the
 c) An, the
 d) An, a</p> <p>iii. _____ apple a day keeps the doctor away.
 a) An
 b) The
 c) A
 d) Zero article</p> <p>iv. _____ Mount Everest is in _____ Himalayas.
 a) A, the
 b) The, the
 c) Zero article, the
 d) Zero article, zero article</p> <p>v. _____ President of _____ United States was elected last year.
 a) A, an
 b) The, an
 c) Zero article, the
 d) The, the</p> <p>vi. We spent a lot of time swimming in _____ sea on holiday.
 a) The</p> | <p>b) A
 c) No article
 d) An</p> <p>vii. London is on _____ River Thames.
 a) No article
 b) A
 c) The
 d) An</p> <p>viii. She did MA in French literature.
 a) No article
 b) A
 c) The
 d) An</p> <p>ix. My garden's looking lovely now that daffodils are flowering.
 a) No article
 b) A
 c) The
 d) An</p> <p>x. My mother is allergic to _____ cigarette smoke.
 a) The
 b) No article
 c) A
 d) An</p> <p>xi. An atheist does not believe in _____ God.
 a) A
 b) The
 c) An
 d) No article</p> <p>xii. Do you know how to use _____ computer?</p> |
|--|---|

- a) A
- b) No article
- e)

- c) The
- d) An

6.2 Look at these sentences and decide which the correct form to use.

i. Today was a very ____ day.

- a) Cold
- b) Coldly
- c) colder

ii. We'll have to ____ if we want to catch that bus.

- a) Run
- b) Running
- c) Ran

iii. It's okay to use that phone, it's ____.

- a) I
- b) My
- c) Me
- d) Mine

iv. ____ was that man you were talking to?

- a) When
- b) Who
- c) What
- d) Why

v. I forgot my umbrella ____ I got wet.

- a. Because
- b. Although
- c. So

vi. The resort opens ____ spring.

- a) In
- b) On
- c) At

vii. ____ is a global problem.

- a) Poorly
- b) Poor
- c) Poverty

viii. You speak English very ____.

- a) Well
- b) Beautiful

ix. When was the last time you

____?

- a) Cried
- b) Cry

x. She ____ made her

presentation to the class.

- a) Confident
- b) Confidence
- c) confidently

6.3 Fill in the blanks with appropriate words.

- i. Ravishingly (We use adverbs to modify an adjective. Beautiful is an adjective and ravishingly is an adverb.)
- ii. Pleasantly (The adverb pleasantly modifies the adjective surprised.)
- iii. Broke (When the main clause is in the past tense, the subordinate clause will also be in the past tense.)
- iv. Happy
- v. Temporary (The adjective temporary modifies the noun arrangement.)
- vi. Snowing
- vii. Awaiting
- viii. Taken
- ix. Timely (Timely is an adjective and it modifies the noun intervention)
- x. lasted

6.4 Choose the correct option to fill the gaps:

- i. Although we feared it would be extreme cold at the hill station, it turned out to be _____ and temperate that day!
a) Snowy
b) Burning
c) Hot
- ii. She is someone who adheres to good work culture. Her _____ has been applauded by her boss many times.
a) Profanity
b) Professionalism
c) Professorship
- iii. The _____ of her nature baffled me: I could not understand how and why she behaved so.
a) Serenity
b) Complexity
c) Greatness
- iv. The _____ work of those craftsmen is unique. They pay such great attention to the details of the embroidery.
a) Bland
b) Superficial
c) Intricate
- v. He has a _____ personality: his moods and feelings keep him overpowered.
a) Dominating
b) Mercurial
c) Outrageous
- vi. _____ is an interesting subject. Who wouldn't be curious about the development of the human race with respect to so many respects?
a) Religion
b) History

- vii. She was the most _____ lady in the entire crowd. The others didn't even know how to greet like ladies.
a) Affluent
b) Sophisticated
c) Powerful
- viii. Some of the best players in the world _____ their skills playing street football.
a) Honed
b) Killed
c) Wasted
d) Accelerated
- ix. Scientists have probed into the various theories provided about _____. Even the Bible talks about how life originated, for that matter.
a) Biology
b) Evolution
c) Palestine
d) Human communication
- x. For mathematics to be understood, you need to _____ some brain!
a) Imply
b) Apply
c) Exploit
d) Deploy

Intermediate

6.5 Choose the correct option to fill the gaps:

- i. Ankit found himself _____ on the matter, as he could not decide which way to go.
a) Equanimous
b) Equivocating
c) Equilibrium
- ii. I've reprimanded him. _____, he will not repeat his mistake.
a) Seamfully
b) Seamingly
c) Seemingly
d) Beamingly
- iii. Your _____ to the entire thing is wrong.
a) Method
b) Movement
c) Tacting
d) Approach
- iv. The teacher tried to _____ her class of their dependence on the number lines pasted to the tops of their desks.

- a) Wane
 - b) Wax
 - c) Whet
 - d) Wean
 - e) Wield
- v. The young girl was so full of enthusiasm and _____ that she infected the room with energy.
- a) Languidness
 - b) Apathy
 - c) Vivacity
 - d) Blandness
 - e) Tenacity
- vi. Ricky is a _____ of the local coffee shop; you can find him there just about every morning.
- a) Diva
 - b) Relic
 - c) Denizen
 - d) Maverick
 - e) Pariah
- vii. The child danced with _____ joy at hearing the news that her father had arrived home from his lengthy business trip.
- a) Staid
 - b) Unbridled
 - c) Stealthy
 - d) Beneficial
 - e) Restrained
- viii. Having never left the landlocked Midwest his entire life, Albert found that swimming in the ocean was quite a(n) _____.
- a) Familiarity
 - b) Extrovert
 - c) Instinct
 - d) Novelty
 - e) Tabernacle
- ix. The rowdy crowd at the music concert _____ Herve, and he spilled his soda on his pants.
- a) Jettisoned
 - b) Harrowed
 - c) Jostled
 - d) Lauded
 - e) Superseded
- x. Known for his strong command of the courtroom, it was common knowledge that Judge Disantis considered outbursts from defendants to be _____.
- a) Questionable
 - b) Objectionable

- c) Antisocial
d) Pliable
e) Visionary
- xi. Blinded by _____, Nicholas accepted the job offer with the highest pay but the least possibility of making him happy.
a) Ennui
b) Heresy
c) Infamy
d) Avarice
e) Temperance
- xii. It was very unprofessional of you to _____ your assistant in front of everyone at the meeting; she deserves more respect, and any criticism of her performance should be done in private.
a) Placate
b) Augment
c) Usurp
d) Preclude
e) Deride
- xiii. The postcard advertised a free cruise to anyone who bought a magazine subscription, but after reading the fine print Sasha found the cruise was just a _____.
a) Petition
b) Gimmick
c) Compromise
d) Reference
e) Motif
- xiv. Many employers like to visit college campuses and _____ college seniors to work for their companies.
a) Daunt
b) Recruit
c) Illuminate
d) Dither
e) Flout
- xv. As the pressures of her business became overwhelming, Charlotte chose to _____ her role as PTA president.
a) Expedite
b) Transgress
c) Propagate
d) Relinquish
e) Retaliate
- xvi. Don't let Julie's enthusiasm fool you; she's just a _____, not a professional dancer.
a) Maverick
b) Denizen

- c) Mercenary
 - d) Maven
 - e) Dilettante
- xvii. Normally, Maya would not have made so many spelling mistakes in her essay; she is usually _____ about her spelling.
- a) Sumptuous
 - b) Scurrilous
 - c) Ridiculous
 - d) Scrupulous
 - e) Fatuous
- xviii. It took four men two hours to move the _____ sofa up three flights of stairs into our apartment.
- a) Suave
 - b) Garrulous
 - c) Unwieldy
 - d) Pivotal
 - e) Quixotic
- xix. In the Roman myth, Artemis made a pilgrimage to the _____, hoping to learn the answer to her dilemma.
- a) Denouement
 - b) Decorum
 - c) Oracle
 - d) Vizier
 - e) Pillar
- xx. Brian was an _____ child, he was sent to the principal's office on numerous occasions for his rude classroom behavior.
- a) Impeccable
 - b) Impertinent
 - c) Observant
 - d) Obscure
 - e) Adjuvant

6.6 Choose the correct option to fill the gaps:

- i. About 5,000 years ago in _____ Assyria, scribes recorded on clay tablets the _____ of magical magnifying stones that made objects seem larger.
- a) old, advent
 - b) ancient, existence
 - c) prehistoric, presence
 - d) olden, invention

The correct option is b. In (a) advent may fit but the word old is used for an individual, not a country.

In (c), prehistoric does not fit because it is used to describe the time before

the advent of humans. Olden applies to days, not to a country, as in 'In olden days.

- ii. These stones were actually broken shards of meteorites whose centers had _____ into glass during the intense heat of entry into Earth's atmosphere, melting it in such a way that they formed a _____ lens.

a) fused, primitive

b) melted, prime

c) joined, primeval

d) formed, basic

The correct option is (a). Fused connotes the formation of a single mass on melting. Primitive connotes the earlier stages in development. Melted is incomplete, as it does not include the idea of forming a whole. Joined also is inadequate. Joined to form is better. Primeval connotes earlier in time, aevon meaning time or age. Formed does not convey the idea of melting and the use of into is odd here. Basic is not as good as primitive.

- iii. Although the best of scientific temper and _____ in religion are apparently irreconcilable, we often find scientists having _____ to God and prayer when their powers are exceeded.

a) belief, faith

b) faith, access

c) fixity, alternative

d) dogma, recourse

The correct option is (d). In option a belief fits but faith in God is expected, not faith to. Faith in option b fits but access to God means being allowed to meet God. Fixity means a fixed belief and is incompatible with scientific temper; 'alternative to' does not agree with the sense of the sentence. Dogma and recourse fit perfectly, both idiomatically and in terms of meaning.

- iv. Having been blessed with a fine _____ mind and a(n) _____ faith in his monarch, the Englishman set out to conquer the world.

a) reasoning, firm

b) ratifying, unwavering

c) reasonable, incredible

d) rational, unshakeable

The correct option is d. Reasoning implies the process of reasoning. Rational is better. Ratifying denotes validation. Reasonable means amenable to reason.

- v. A native speaker of a language cannot be expected to know the _____ of his language any more than a _____ suffering from fever can be expected to know everything about fever.

a) nuances, patient

b) fineness, case

- c) subtleties, person
- d) nuisance, sufferer

The correct answer is a. Nuances means the fine points in a subject etc.

Patient as the person suffering from a disease is the correct word to be used.

Fineness denotes the subtle quality of something, not fine points. Option c is a good option but not as good as a because patient is more appropriate than person. Option d is the nonsense option, as nuisance denotes a source of annoyance.

- vi. Although the Assyrians did not know it, they were practicing the _____ known optical microscopy, a technology that has _____ revolutionized almost every aspect of science.

- a) first, categorically
- b) primary, clearly

c) earliest, unequivocally

- d) best, dubiously

The correct option is c. First indicates rank, earliest indicates first in time.

Categorically is used only to describe statements. Primary is used for something from which something else derives, while dubiously means questionably.

- vii. If it lacks the sharp wit and the high spirits of Pride and Prejudice, and the wide scope of Mansfield Park, it _____ more than they do of the interest which the _____ eye may find in ordinary people.

- a) obfuscates, seeing
- b) confounds, shrewd

c) reveals, discerning

- d) shows, sharp

The correct option is c. Obfuscates denotes to confuse, discerning is better than seeing. Confounds means again to confuse. Shows in d is good enough, but sharp denotes the faculty of the physical eye whereas in the sentence, it is the mind's eye that is referred to.

- viii. Linguist Eric Lenneberg states that the _____ period of language acquisition ends around the age of 12 years. He claims that if no language is learned before then, it can never be learned in a normal and fully _____ sense. This is known as the "Critical Period Hypothesis".

- a) critical, crucial
- b) vital, functioning

c) crucial, functional

- d) important, working

The correct option is c. Critical denotes of great importance and also signifies a crisis. Crucial, meaning of great importance, does not fit into the second blank. Functioning is an adjective which if used in the second blank would mean that the sense is functioning (working). The same goes for working.

- ix. Look around, and you could be forgiven for believing that you can see a _____ and detailed picture of your surroundings. Indeed, you may even think that your eyes never _____ you.

a) vivid, deceive
b) prominent, perceive
c) livid, fail
d) lurid, mislead

The correct answer is a. Vivid means lifelike and deceive fits into the context of deception even when everything appears lifelike. Option b, prominent is not suitable for describing a picture, and perceive is used for a person. Livid is used to describe something of a dark blue colour, although fail can fit in.

Lurid means grotesquely unpleasant and does not fit.

- x. When you talk to two people who have just _____, their breakup stories often sound like _____ of two completely different relationships. Each has been living in a different relationship from the other person's.

a) broken up, portrayals
b) split up, depictions
c) joined up, catalogues
d) broken out, descriptions

The correct option is b. Broken up is used to describe a relationship, not persons. Joined up is inappropriate idiomatically and does not provide the contrast inherent in the sentence. Catalogue is a list or documented details of items. Break out is used to describe diseases, or captives.

- xi. Researchers have found out that the _____ for remembering human faces enables mechanics to recognize cars, thus suggesting that our faculties can be made to subserve new functions according to the _____ of the situation.

a) skill, needs
b) talent, urgency
c) sense, necessity
d) faculty, demands

The correct answer is d. Skill connotes ability to do something whereas faculty connotes innate ability of body or mind. Talent is possessed by a few persons only whereas here a general ability is hinted at. Sense is a specific ability to perceive something, not an ability of the mind. Of the four options for the second blank, demands fits in best.

- xii. While some may suggest that Pratchett _____ part of his readership by drawing heavily from literary sources, others would argue that the range of his _____ gives all readers recognizable reference points.

a) includes, illusions
b) precludes, exclusions
c) excludes, allusions

- d) sustains, allegories

The correct option is c. The implied contrast between heavy drawing from literary sources and accessibility to readers in general is best sustained by precludes and excludes. Illusions, meaning non-existent objects perceived, and allegories, meaning a story having another meaning, are unsuitable to the second blank.

- xiii. As far as the history of crime fiction is concerned, it is a(n) _____ fact that many authors have been _____ to this very day to publish their crime novels under their real names -- as if they were ashamed of doing something "improper".

- a) amazing, willing
b) well-known, inspired
c) astonishing, reluctant
d) irritating, hesitant

The correct option is c. Options a and b do not convey the contrast inherent in the sentence between modern day tendencies and crime fiction writing as far as openness is concerned. Hesitant in d is not as good as reluctant, since hesitancy is not manifest in the adoption of pen-names.

- xiv. Miss Brooke had that _____ of beauty which seems to be thrown into _____ by poor dress.

- a) kind, relief
b) type, contrast
c) kind, gear
d) nature, profile

The correct option is a. Relief alone conveys the idea of 'made prominent by'. None of the other options is as good.

- xv. Nativist linguistic theories hold that children learn through their _____ ability to organize the laws of language, but cannot fully _____ this talent without the presence of other humans.

- a) innate, inculcate
b) intrinsic, proceed
c) natural, utilize
d) uncanny, internalize

The correct option is c. Only utilize conveys the sense of using something inborn. Proceed is a blunder option, while inculcate and internalize are used only for something that is not inborn.

Advanced

6.7 Choose the correct options to complete the cloze test:

- i. Can we see (1) the earth is a globe? Yes, we can, when we watch a ship that sails out to sea. If we watch closely, we see that the ship begins (2) The bottom of the ship disappears first, and then the ship seems to sink lower

and lower, (3) we can only see the top of the ship, and then we see nothing at all. What is hiding the ship from us? It is the earth. Stick a pin most of the way into an orange, and (4) turn the orange away from you. You will see the pin disappear, (5) a ship does on the earth.

1.

- a) If
- b) Where
- c) That
- d) Whether
- e) When

2.

- a) being disappeared
- b) to be disappeared
- c) to have disappeared
- d) to disappear
- e) having disappeared

3.

- a) Until
- b) Since
- c) After
- d) by the time
- e) unless

4.

- a) Reluctantly
- b) Accidentally
- c) Slowly
- d) Passionately
- e) Carefully

5.

- a) the same
- b) alike
- c) just as
- d) by the way
- e) similar to

- ii. After months of colder weather, the days get longer, the buds (1) in the trees, birds sing, and the world (2) a green dress. Spring passes (3) summer. Everyone knows that summer will not (4) The power of all the wisest men and women in the world cannot keep it for us. The corn becomes ripe, the leaves turn brown and then drop to the ground, (5) the world changes its green dress for a dress of autumn colors.

1.

- a) fall off

- b) take up
- c) put off
- d) come out
- e) bring down

2.

- a) looks after
- b) puts on
- c) carries on
- d) comes round
- e) deals with

3.

- a) Into
- b) By
- c) From
- d) On
- e) out of

4.

- a) Forego
- b) Evaluate
- c) Succumb
- d) Last
- e) Evolve

5.

- a) Yet
- b) Therefore
- c) Since
- d) Whereas
- e) And

- iii. The postal service is the government agency (1) ----- handles the mail. Its job is (2) ----- letters and packages to people and businesses all over the world. Its goal is to see that your mail gets to its destination (3) ----- possible. People (4) ----- the postal service to deliver important letters and even valuables, (5) ----- time and to the right person.

1.

- a) the fact that
- b) whether
- c) of which
- d) that
- e) in that

2.

- a) being delivered
- b) to be delivered
- c) to have delivered

d) having delivered

e) to deliver

3.

a) less quickly

b) too quickly

c) so quickly that

d) as quickly as

e) the most quickly

4.

a) back out

b) check out

c) come in

d) figure out

e) rely on

5.

a) To

b) For

c) At

d) On

e) Over

6.8 Choose the word or set of words that, when inserted into the sentence, best completes the sentence.

- i. The nanny _____ the little boy after she found him climbing _____ on a _____ balanced pile of boulders, completely unaware of the danger in which he was putting himself.
 - a) exhorted . . . sedulously . . . solicitously
 - b) admonished . . . blithely . . . precariously
 - c) excoriated . . . obliviously . . . propitiously
 - d) harangued . . . perfidiously . . . intractably
 - e) castigated . . . resolutely . . . itinerantly
- ii. Romuald had wished to reform the _____ life at the old monastery. For years, the monks had been _____ regarding observation of their rule of life and had _____ many worldly customs.
 - a) prayer . . . considerate . . . evaluated
 - b) devotional . . . ecstatic . . . eschewed
 - c) divine . . . considerate . . . spurned
 - d) quotidian . . . negligent . . . adopted
 - e) regular . . . zealous . . . embraced
- iii. Her bedroom window was _____ by curtains, yet the material was so _____ that he could clearly see her form _____ by the setting sun.
 - a) revealed . . . substantial . . . silhouetted

- b) decorated . . . flimsy . . . shrouded
c) obscured . . . diaphanous . . . limned
 d) sequestered . . . evanescent . . . inured
 e) hidden . . . redolent . . . masked
- iv. The editor reduced the introduction from ten _____ pages to two _____ paragraphs by _____ all of the unnecessary verbal flourishes that riddled its sentences.
 a) florid . . . trenchant . . . expiating
 b) turgid . . . concise . . . qualifying
c) tortuous . . . succinct . . . excising
 d) officious . . . sedulous . . . bolstering
 e) immutable . . . intransigent . . . inhibiting
- v. The intern was _____ with stacks of paperwork that covered his entire desk on the first day of his new job, but luckily, he managed to sort through it by working _____ throughout the day and ignoring potential distractions, and _____ out of the office at the end of the day, tremendously proud of his clean desk.
a) inundated . . . assiduously . . . strutted
 b) overwhelmed . . . sedulously . . . burgeoned
 c) attenuated . . . perfidiously . . . vacillated
 d) overrun . . . itinerantly . . . weltered
 e) palliated . . . solicitously . . . simpered
- vi. The fashion show featured pieces inspired by _____ styles, and the models were _____ in pieces that _____ to Greek togas, knightly armor, and trailing dresses with underskirts and bustles.
a) archaic . . . garbed . . . alluded
 b) ancient . . . feigned . . . castigated
 c) apocryphal . . . eulogized . . . impugned
 d) antiquated . . . arrayed . . . abated
 e) banal . . . placated . . . appropriated
- vii. The _____ cat refused to walk around tamely on a leash, but the _____ dog not only heeled, but obeyed each of its master's commands obediently and never needed to be _____ for not listening.
 a) obstreperous . . . dogmatic . . . countenanced
b) recalcitrant . . . tractable . . . admonished
 c) credulous . . . insipid . . . aggrandized
 d) pernicious . . . prodigal . . . flouted
 e) truculent . . . complaisant . . . impeded
- viii. He was _____ and never wasted words, but his sister was _____ and loved to _____ cheerfully to anyone about even the most inconsequential topics.
 a) enigmatic . . . ponderous . . . chatter
 b) terse . . . verbose . . . harangue
 c) hedonistic . . . ascetic . . . abstain

- d) lithe . . . boorish . . . lampoon
 e) laconic . . . loquacious . . . prattle
- ix. The painting _____ the image of a bishop with quite _____ features, for the artist wished to express the wickedness that he perceived in the life of the _____ figure.
 a) depicted . . . fiendish . . . ecclesiastical
 b) recounted . . . hedonistic . . . penurious
 c) copied . . . gregarious . . . public
 d) graced . . . supple . . . devilish
 e) presented . . . illuminated . . . sagacious
- x. As the blood around the wound began to _____, the increasingly viscous substance helped to _____ the continued flow of the _____ fluids.
 a) trickle . . . deny . . . dangerous
 b) coagulate . . . stanch . . . vital
 c) drain . . . impede . . . recalcitrant
 d) seep . . . block . . . intravenous
 e) restore . . . alleviate . . . salubrious

6.9 Complete the sentences with the most appropriate options.

- i. I had to postpone my trip to Australia last week ----.
 a) as I have lost my passport
 b) since the airline employees are on strike
 c) due to hospitable weather conditions
 d) for my wife had a traffic accident which she was injured in
 e) if I had known that you lost your mother
- ii. I almost lost my cafeteria assignment ----.
 a) when I had insulted my boss
 b) although I hated them
 c) when the supervisor caught me throwing planes made from paper to my friends
 d) as I have failed to welcome customers enthusiastically
 e) since I am not punctual
- iii. Students who have missed exams ----.
 a) although they had studied for them a lot
 b) will have to take it again unfortunately
 c) were allowed to take a comprehensive makeup
 d) due to weather conditions had to contact the Registrar's Office within 48 hours
 e) have to hand in a document confirming their excuses
- iv. By the time the doctor came in to examine my daughter, ----.
 a) she has been suffering from headache for three hours
 b) I will try to keep her calm as she is afraid of dentists
 c) the nurse has already injected her the vaccine

- d) her temperature had risen to 40 centigrade
 - e) I will have to wait outside
- v. The earlier one gets the treatment, ----.
 - a) the sooner he recovered from his illness
 - b) since he or she may be in need of it
 - c) the more effective it is likely to be
 - d) as I forgot to take the pills my doctor recommended
 - e) he gets rid of his problems

