INDEX

Vocabulary:

1. **Buoyed (प्रेरित/उत्साहित)** – Encouraged or lifted in spirit.
2. **Depleting (क्षीण हो रहा/घट रहा)** – Reducing in quantity, size, or strength.
3. **Hazardous (खतरनाक/संकटपूर्ण)** – Involving risk or danger.
4. **Ambiguous (अस्पष्ट)** – Open to more than one interpretation; unclear or doubtful.
5. **Denouement (परिणाम/अंतिम परिणाम)** – The final outcome or resolution of a complex situation.
6. **Guzzling (अधिक मात्रा में सेवन करना)** – Consuming something in large quantities, especially greedily.
7. **Contentious (विवादास्पद/झगड़ालू)** – Causing or likely to cause disagreement or conflict.
8. **Impediment (अवरोध)** – A hindrance or obstruction in doing something.
9. **Coerce (दबाव डालना)** – To persuade someone to do something by using force or threats.
10. **Reiterated (दोहराया)** – Say something again for emphasis or clarity.

PHRASAL VERBS:

1. Cap off
Meaning – To finish or complete something in a successful or impressive way

2. Carried away
Meaning – To become overly excited or enthusiastic about something

3. Cart off
Meaning – To take someone or something away, often in a forceful or unwanted manner

4. Carve out
Meaning – To establish or create something

Idioms & Phrases

1. Under the weather
Meaning – Feeling unwell or sick.

2. Between the cup and the lips
Meaning – Something that is almost certain but can still go wrong at the last moment.

3. A damp squib
Meaning – Something that fails to meet expectations; a disappointment.

4. A dime a dozen
Meaning – Very common and easily available.

5. Cast iron stomach

Meaning – The ability to eat or drink anything without getting sick.

Article for Reading:
 Art of the deal: on Trump and a Ukraine mineral deal

President Donald Trump has invited Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy to Washington to sign a deal that would give Washington access to Ukraine's rare earth mineral deposits, in exchange for the White House's support in ending the three-year war there since the Russia invasion. While Mr. Trump has — to his domestic constituents — positioned the deal as favourable to the U.S., to help American taxpayers "get their money back" in the context of U.S. aid to Ukraine, he has also emphasised that responsibility for the security angle of the Ukraine situation would fall on Europe. Hinting at what appears to be a limited future U.S. commitment to and involvement with the conflict, the Trump administration has so far avoided providing any security guarantee to Ukraine that would accompany the minerals deal, even though Mr. Zelenskyy has said: "If we don't get security guarantees, we won't have a ceasefire, nothing will work, nothing." Nevertheless, both sides are closing ranks on an agreement that revolves around a "Reconstruction Investment Fund", towards which Ukraine would be required to contribute 50% of "all revenues earned from the future monetisation of all relevant Ukrainian Government-owned natural resource assets [… including] deposits of minerals, hydrocarbons, oil, natural gas, and other extractable materials, and other infrastructure relevant to natural resource assets". An early draft suggests that the fund will be managed by both countries, yet details on its governance and operation have not been hammered out yet. On the one hand, the unambiguous positive outcome to hope for would be a robust ceasefire between Moscow and Kyiv, followed by bilateral territorial and institutional agreements that ensure peace as a precursor to reconstruction and rehabilitation of the areas devastated by Russia. Yet, sceptics may wonder whether this deal tips more in favour of resource extraction by the U.S. rather than any broader peace-seeking efforts, especially because the EU, as a critical stakeholder to any

denouement in Ukraine, has been left in the cold; and because the Trump White House appears to have discussed with Russian President Vladimir Putin the possibility of Moscow working with U.S. companies to "mine rare earth mineral deposits in both Russia, and parts of Russian-occupied Ukraine". There is nothing wrong with healthy competition and bilateral or multi-party deals for the extraction and sale of rare earth minerals, now a vital resource. However, when investment deals in this sector are used to blunt and deflect from strategic questions regarding Russian aggression and the large-scale violations of human rights, it becomes considerably harder to distinguish Mr. Trump's plans for the region from an unapologetic neo-colonial agenda.

Article for Skimming:
The impact of ethanol on the environment

Concerns about the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) programme refuse to die down in Andhra Pradesh, with scientists and farmers saying water resources are depleting and emissions from factories are polluting the air, water, and soil. Buoyed by the encouraging results of the Ethanol Blended Petrol (EBP) programme, which was introduced in India as a pilot project in 2001, the Central government in 2020 decided to advance the target of 20% ethanol blending in petrol from 2030 to 2025 as the way towards a greener future. The EBP programme was said to be the way of addressing multiple concerns — of growing energy consumption, oil imports, and increasing carbon emissions from vehicles. Under the EBP, ethanol is made using grains, such as broken rice and corn, and is therefore said to double farmers' income as well. As of 2024, the blend percentage was 15% in the country. To meet the required target of 20% ethanol in petrol by 2025-26, 1,016 crore litres of ethanol would be required. The Centre announced relaxations in the application processes for environmental clearance and also offered subsidies on purchase of grains to ensure a

smoother process for ethanol factories. Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra, Haryana and Punjab have the highest number of ethanol factories in the country, contributing a substantial portion to the overall production capacity of 947 crore litres in 2022, as per information provided by former Union Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Sadhvi Niranjan Jyoti, to the Lok Sabha. Since 2024, there have been continuous protests at the Gummaladoddi, Gandepalli, Arugolanu villages in Andhra Pradesh against the EBP programme. All the three villages are located near a river or a canal, which is the source of drinking water and agricultural needs. Lokayukta officials had also said officials of the Pollution Control Board had failed to take action in 2022 against a factory producing ethanol since 2008 in Gandepalli despite knowing that effluents were being discharged into a nearby canal, which is used by farmers for agricultural purposes. Much of the confusion regarding how polluting an ethanol plant can be arises from the fact that environmental clearances do not mention emissions to begin with. Experts say that hazardous, cancer-causing chemicals such as acetaldehyde, formaldehyde, and acrolein are some of the emissions from ethanol factories, but these don't find a mention in the clearances given to the ethanol factories in the East Godavari, Krishna and NTR districts in the State, as per environmentalists. All ethanol production plants and distilleries fall under the 'red category', which means that they have a pollution score of 60 or more, as per Central government norms. But to facilitate a smoother and quicker clearance process, the Centre has allowed them to be set up without public hearings. Many of them are near human settlements. Farmers also fear that the water-guzzling factories will leave them with no water for their crops. Their fears are not unfounded.

Descriptive Writing

Original Text:

Caller Name Presentation (CNAP) is a telecommunication feature that allows recipients to see the name of the caller along with the phone number, even if the contact is not saved in their device. Unlike Caller ID, which only displays the phone number, CNAP fetches and presents the caller's registered name from the telecom network's database. This feature enhances call transparency, security, and user experience, particularly in preventing spam, fraud, and unwanted calls. In India, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has been considering implementing CNAP to combat the rising menace of spam calls, fraudulent activities, and telemarketing harassment. Currently, third-party applications like Truecaller provide similar services, but they rely on crowdsourced databases, which can sometimes lead to inaccuracies. A telecom-regulated CNAP system would ensure authentic and verified caller information, improving trust and reducing call-related scams. However, implementing CNAP presents technical and privacy challenges. The system requires telecom operators to maintain updated caller name databases, and concerns about data privacy and consent must be addressed to prevent misuse. Additionally, network compatibility, cost implications, and regulatory approvals play a crucial role in its nationwide rollout. Despite these challenges, CNAP has the potential to enhance communication security, reduce call fraud, and improve user convenience. If implemented effectively with strong privacy safeguards, it could revolutionize caller identification in India and contribute to a more secure and transparent telecommunication ecosystem.

<u>Precis:</u>

Caller Name Presentation (CNAP) is a telecom feature that displays a caller's name along with their number, improving call transparency and security. TRAI is considering its implementation in India to reduce spam, fraud, and telemarketing harassment, offering a more authentic alternative to third-party apps like Truecaller. However, privacy concerns, database management, and network compatibility pose challenges. If implemented with proper safeguards, CNAP could enhance communication security and user trust, making India's telecom ecosystem more reliable and transparent.

- **You are the HR manager organizing a mandatory training session for employees. Write an email informing them about the session details.**

To:.................@gmail.com

Subject: Mandatory Training Session – Attendance Required

Dear Team,

I hope this email finds you well. We are conducting a mandatory training session to enhance our skills and ensure alignment with company policies. Please find the session details below: Topic: [Training Topic] Date: [Date] Time: [Time] Venue: [Location/Online Meeting Link] Trainer: [Trainer's Name] Your participation is crucial, as this session will provide valuable insights and updates relevant to your role.

Please ensure your attendance and be on time. If you have any scheduling conflicts, notify us in advance. For any queries, feel free to reach out.
Best regards,
[Your Name]
HR Manager
[Company Name]

PERFECTION VOCAB

- **Tariff (शुल्क)** – A tax imposed on imported or exported goods.
- **Semiconductor (अर्धचालक)** – A material used in electronic circuits to control the flow of electricity.
- **Ecosystem (पारिस्थितिकी तंत्र)** – A system where different components interact, in this case, within an industry.
- **Fabrication (निर्माण)** – The process of building or manufacturing something, particularly in electronics.
- **Assembly (संयोजन)** – The process of putting together different parts to create a final product.
- **Testing (परीक्षण)** – The process of checking a product's quality and functionality.
- **Marking (चिह्नित करना)** – The act of labeling or tagging components in semiconductor production.
- **Packaging (पैकेजिंग)** – The final stage of chip production where semiconductors are enclosed for protection.
- **Fabless (फैब्लेस)** – A company that designs semiconductors but outsources manufacturing.
- **Disruptions (विघटन)** – Interruptions that prevent normal operations.
- **Global Supply Chain (वैश्विक आपूर्ति श्रृंखला)** – The international network of production and distribution.
- **Export (निर्यात)** – The process of selling goods to another country.
- **Repercussions (परिणाम)** – The unintended consequences of an action or policy.
- **Interdependence (आपसी निर्भरता)** – A state where different entities rely on each other.
- **Contract Manufacturing (ठेके पर निर्माण)** – A business model where a company outsources production to another firm.

- **Trade Restrictions (व्यापार प्रतिबंध)** – Government-imposed limits on international trade.
- **Bill of Materials (सामग्री सूची)** – A comprehensive list of raw materials and components needed for manufacturing.
- **Tariff Barrier (शुल्क बाधा)** – A restriction on trade due to high import/export taxes.
- **Costlier (महंगा)** – More expensive than before.
- **Projected Growth (अनुमानित वृद्धि)** – The expected increase in business or market value.
- **Revenue (राजस्व)** – The income generated by a business.
- **Incentivize (प्रोत्साहित करना)** – To encourage a particular action through rewards or benefits.
- **Domestic Market (घरेलू बाजार)** – The market within a country.
- **Assembly, Testing, Marking, and Packaging (ATMP) (संग्रह, परीक्षण, चिह्नित करना और पैकेजिंग)** – The final stages of semiconductor production.
- **Onshore Production (घरेलू उत्पादन)** – The manufacturing of goods within a country.
- **Industrial Policy (औद्योगिक नीति)** – Government regulations for economic and industrial development.
- **Sanctions (प्रतिबंध)** – Official penalties imposed by one country on another.
- **Competitiveness (प्रतिस्पर्धात्मकता)** – The ability to compete effectively in the market.
- **Economic Resilience (आर्थिक लचीलापन)** – The capacity of an economy to withstand and recover from disruptions.
- **Supply Chain Bottlenecks (आपूर्ति श्रृंखला अवरोध)** – Delays or inefficiencies in the production and distribution of goods.
- **Quantum Computing (क्वांटम कंप्यूटिंग)** – A field of computing that uses quantum mechanics to perform calculations.
- **Qubit (क्वांटम बिट - क्यूबिट)** – The basic unit of quantum

information, capable of existing in multiple states simultaneously.

- **Scalability (विस्तार क्षमता)** – The ability of a system to handle increasing amounts of work.
- **Stability (स्थिरता)** – The capacity of a system to function without disruptions or errors.
- **Error Correction (त्रुटि सुधार)** – The process of identifying and fixing computational mistakes.
- **Binary Computing (बाइनरी कंप्यूटिंग)** – Traditional computing using bits that represent either 1 or 0.
- **Sequential Computing (क्रमबद्ध गणना)** – A computing process that follows a step-by-step approach.
- **Simultaneous Processing (एक साथ प्रसंस्करण)** – The ability to perform multiple calculations at the same time.
- **Majorana Particle (मेज़ोराना कण)** – A theoretical particle that may help improve quantum computing reliability.
- **Performance Data (प्रदर्शन डेटा)** – Information that shows how well a system is functioning.
- **Error-Reduced Processing (त्रुटि-कम प्रसंस्करण)** – Computing with fewer mistakes or inaccuracies.
- **Artificial Intelligence (कृत्रिम बुद्धिमत्ता - AI)** – The simulation of human intelligence by computer systems.
- **Machine Learning (मशीन लर्निंग)** – A subset of AI where computers learn patterns and improve performance.
- **Encryption (एन्क्रिप्शन)** – A process that secures digital data using codes.
- **National Security Risks (राष्ट्रीय सुरक्षा जोखिम)** – Threats that could compromise a country's safety.
- **Computational Power (गणना शक्ति)** – The processing capability of a computer system.
- **Self-Repairing Materials (स्वयं-सुधार करने वाली सामग्री)** – Materials capable of fixing their own damage.

- **Microplastic Pollution (सूक्ष्म प्लास्टिक प्रदूषण)** – The contamination of the environment with tiny plastic particles.
- **Revolutionise (क्रांतिकारी बदलाव लाना)** – To bring about a significant transformation.
- **Quantum Supremacy (क्वांटम वर्चस्व)** – The point at which a quantum computer can solve problems beyond the capability of traditional computers.
- **Classical Computing (पारंपरिक कंप्यूटिंग)** – The standard form of computing that uses classical bits.
- **Computational Complexity (गणनात्मक जटिलता)** – The difficulty level of solving problems using algorithms.
- **Industry Disruption (उद्योग में व्यवधान)** – A significant change in an industry caused by new technology.
- **Innovation (नवाचार)** – The introduction of new ideas, methods, or devices.
- **Cryptographic Systems (क्रिप्टोग्राफिक सिस्टम्स)** – Security systems that protect information using complex algorithms.
- **Cybersecurity (साइबर सुरक्षा)** – The protection of computer systems from digital attacks.
- **Commercial Viability (वाणिज्यिक व्यवहार्यता)** – The ability of a technology or product to succeed in the market.
- **Data Processing Speed (डेटा प्रसंस्करण गति)** – The rate at which a computer can analyze and compute data.
- **Hardware Development (हार्डवेयर विकास)** – The process of improving physical computing components.
- **Breakthrough Technology (क्रांतिकारी तकनीक)** – A major advancement in technology that significantly changes an industry.
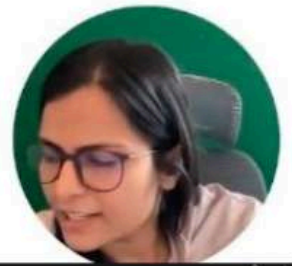
PERFECTION (WITH ANNOTATION) PDF

READING COMPREHENSION ← Prelims / Mains

1. Prelims – Skimming
   Short Passage – Reading

RC:
Questions – Important words
Skimming – (Words) – Read
Questions (Answer)

Directions (1-8): **Read the following passage and answer the given questions.** M.9 – US – 25/

The proposed 25% tariff on semiconductors by US President Donald Trump is unlikely to affect India's semiconductor companies, industry players and experts said, citing two key reasons. First, India's semiconductor ecosystem is still in its early stages, and the country does not currently export chips. Second, even as India develops its chip manufacturing and assembly ecosystem in the coming years, it will primarily operate under a "chip manufacturing - as - a - service" model. This means chips produced in India will cater to global clients, not just the US. At present, five semiconductor projects are underway in India, including an assembly, testing, marking, and packaging (ATMP) unit by Micron, a fabrication and OSAT unit by the Tata Group, and OSAT units by Kaynes and CG Power. Although Indian semiconductor firms receive orders from US clients, experts believe the proposed tariffs — still under discussion — will not cause immediate disruptions.

Main Idea -

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Moreover, the US will take time to build its domestic chip manufacturing capabilities, they noted. Experts said that India's semiconductor industry must expand its customer base beyond the US to maintain a strong business. With India's semiconductor demand projected to rise, the domestic market itself presents significant opportunities. "There is no short-term burden on India. In the long run, some impact could be seen on India's own branded chip products once companies reach the export stage — provided US tariffs remain," said Ashok Chandak, president of the India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA).Chandak added that imposing tariffs on semiconductors could disrupt global supply chains, ultimately affecting US companies and consumers due to the challenges of ramping up

domestic production overnight. Echoing this view, Satya Gupta, president of the VLSI Society of India, noted that trade restrictions between countries are detrimental to the global semiconductor industry."Many large fabless semiconductor companies are based in the US, and a significant portion of their revenue comes from Asia.

Main idea
US - 25% -

1.30 min

If Asian countries respond with tariffs, it could impact their business and raise the bill of materials (BOM) costs for products like mobile phones worldwide," he explained.India's semiconductor manufacturing is expected to operate primarily under a contract manufacturing model, meaning chip ownership will remain with companies from the US, Europe, Japan, and other regions. As a result, India is unlikely to face immediate **repercussions**. Notably, major US fabless companies such as Qualcomm, AMD, and Nvidia count China among their largest markets, reinforcing the global interdependence of the semiconductor industry. Meanwhile, Micron, a US-based firm, is set to produce its first India-assembled chip this year. If exporting to the US becomes costlier, experts suggest the company could

explore alternative export markets, particularly for its memory chips. According to IESA, India's semiconductor market is projected to grow from $52 billion (₹4.5 lakh crore) in 2024 to $103.4 billion (₹9 lakh crore) by 2030.

MJ
US - 25% - SC
India x
US -
Global S

16

Q1. Which of the following statements best explains the contract manufacturing model as discussed in the passage?

(I) In the **contract manufacturing model**, chip ownership remains with external companies

(II) The **contract manufacturing model** primarily serves foreign clients by producing chips according to their designs. In this model the rights of the chip are not with the country which manufactures them

(III) The **contract manufacturing model** primarily serves domestic clients by making chips cheaper and reliable. Moreover the company manufacturing them owns all the rights of the chip

(a) Only (I) and (III) are correct.

(b) Only (II) and (III) are correct.

(c) Only (I) and (II) are correct.

(d) All (I), (II), and (III) are correct.

(e) Only (II) is correct.

Q2. A US-based fabless semiconductor company is considering moving its manufacturing orders from India due to newly imposed tariffs. As an Indian semiconductor firm, what would be the most immediate and practical response?

(a) Completely stop working with US-based clients.

(b) Find alternative markets to reduce dependence on US orders.

(c) Shift production to a different country to avoid tariffs.

(d) Reduce product quality to lower manufacturing costs.

(e) Wait for the US to lift the tariffs without making any changes.

US Company Tax move out

US - 25%

Q3. Which of the following statements best captures the implications of India's semiconductor manufacturing model as described in the passage?

(I) Given that India predominantly operates under a contract manufacturing framework, it lacks exclusive intellectual property ownership over the semiconductors it fabricates. ✓

(II) India's semiconductor industry remains impervious to geopolitical trade frictions, as its production is confined solely to domestic consumption. ✓

(III) The worldwide semiconductor sector is profoundly interwoven, as evidenced by the substantial dependence of leading US-based fabless semiconductor corporations on markets such as China. ✗ OOC

(a) Only (I) and (III) are correct.
(b) Only (II) and (III) are correct.
(c) Only (I) and (II) are correct.
(d) All (I), (II), and (III) are correct.
(e) Only (I) is correct.

Ⓒ

Q4. Drawing upon the passage, which of the following deductions can be made concerning the repercussions of the proposed US tariffs on India's semiconductor industry?

(I) India's semiconductor domain will remain largely unscathed in the short term, as it does not presently engage in chip exports. ✓

(II) The enduring ramifications of US-imposed tariffs may manifest once India ventures into the export of proprietary semiconductor products. ✓

(III) India's semiconductor industry is destined for an inevitable downturn due to the overwhelming fiscal strain induced by US trade barriers. ✗

(a) Only (I) and (II) are correct.
(b) Only (II) and (III) are correct.
(c) Only (I) and (III) are correct.
(d) All (I), (II), and (III) are correct.
(e) Only (I) is correct.

ⓐ

inference
deduction
[Passage + Understanding]

18

Q5. What can be inferred about the potential global consequences of the US imposing a 25% tariff on semiconductors?

(I) Should Asian economies reciprocate with countermeasures, it may engender adverse repercussions for US-based semiconductor enterprises.

step [Solution]

(II) The United States will expeditiously cultivate an autonomous semiconductor manufacturing (OOC) infrastructure, thereby diminishing its reliance on external markets.

(III) The escalating cost of semiconductor production may precipitate an upsurge in the global pricing of mobile devices and electronic commodities.

(a) Only (I) and (II) are correct.

(b) Only (II) and (III) are correct.

(c) Only (I) and (III) are correct.

(d) All (I), (II), and (III) are correct.

(e) Only (I) is correct.

## Q6. Determine whether the following statements are True or False based on the passage:

(I) The global semiconductor industry is structured in a way that allows any single country to dominate the market without being affected by external trade policies.   False ✗

(II) The imposition of tariffs on semiconductors by the US could have a cascading effect, potentially leading to retaliatory measures by other countries, thereby increasing production costs globally. (True)

(III) India's semiconductor industry, while in its early stages, is already self-reliant and does not require collaboration with multinational firms to sustain growth. False

(a) False – True – False

(b) True – False – True

(c) False – False – True

(d) True – True – False

(e) False – True – True

M/J – Pre
Wed – Pre + Mains
T/F – Mains

19
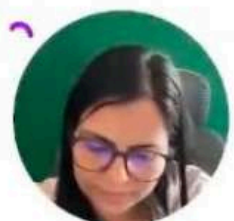
As a result, India is unlikely to face immediate **repercussions**.

Q7. Identify the most suitable **synonym** for the word "repercussions" as used in the passage:

(I) Vindication ✗

(II) Ramifications — consequences — repercussions

(III) Concessions
L exemptions ✗

(a) **Only I**

(b) **Only II**

(c) **Only III**

(d) **Both I and II**

(e) **Both II and III**

Q8. Determine whether the following statements are True or False based on the given passage:

(I) Despite the imposition of proposed US tariffs, India's semiconductor industry will remain entirely unaffected due to its exclusive reliance on domestic demand. True

(II) The success of India's semiconductor industry is contingent on its ability to expand beyond a single-market dependency, ensuring resilience against geopolitical trade fluctuations. True   US

(III) If the US imposes tariffs, the most immediate consequence will be a complete halt in semiconductor trade between India and the US, leading to severe disruptions in India's manufacturing sector False
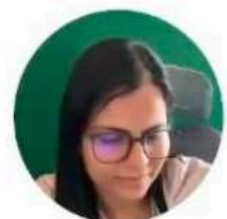
(a) **True – True – False**

(b) False – True – True

(c) **True – False – False**

(d) False – True – False

(e) False – False – True

Direction (21-26): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below.

Microsoft's announcement of its Majorana 1 quantum chip marks a historic moment in the field of quantum computing. Unlike Google's and IBM's quantum processors, which focus on increasing the number of qubits, Microsoft is taking a different approach by _____(A)_____ stability and scalability. This is important for the future of quantum computing as this field deals with a major limitation — correcting errors. Simply put, digital computers use binary computing (bits), meaning they process data in strict 1s and 0s. In other words, any calculation undertaken on a digital computer can be done in only one set of numbers at a time. Quantum computers, on the other hand, use qubits, which can exist in multiple states at once, potentially making them **exponentially** more powerful for certain tasks. This is because there's no such limitation of sequential computing and several tasks can be done simultaneously.

1:30 min
M.9
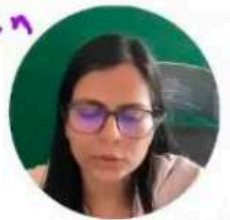
At the core of Microsoft's innovation is a new type of qubit, the building block of quantum computers. Majorana 1 uses a special kind of particle that is believed to make qubits more reliable. In simple terms, this could mean fewer errors and a much greater potential to scale quantum computers to the size needed for real-world applications. Google's recent progress has focused on increasing qubit count and reducing errors through improved hardware and error correction techniques. Microsoft, however, aims to solve the problem at its root by developing qubits that are naturally more stable. While this sounds promising, Microsoft has yet to provide performance data, so it remains to be seen whether this approach will succeed. Quantum computing is not just a futuristic idea as it has the potential to revolutionise industries by solving problems that are impossible for traditional computers. From designing new materials to discovering life-saving drugs, the impact could be enormous.

B of 0 C
1
M- ☐

Microsoft believes that with enough stable qubits, quantum computers could help tackle complex global challenges like reducing microplastic pollution or creating self-repairing materials for construction and healthcare. Further, quantum computers could vastly improve artificial intelligence (AI), accelerating machine learning processes and making AI models more efficient. Microsoft envisions a future where AI and quantum computing work together, allowing researchers to develop innovative solutions in record time. The combination of these two technologies could redefine how industries approach problem-solving. One big area of concern though is that the power of quantum computing poses serious security risks because it could easily break through the encryption technology currently in use to protect data, including national secrets.

Quantum computing is not a replacement for traditional computing. Instead, it will likely work alongside existing technologies to solve specific, highly complex problems.

B of QC
Security Risks

Traditional processors and graphics processing units will continue to dominate everyday computing needs, while quantum computers will be reserved for specialised, high-impact applications. While the potential is enormous, quantum computing is still in its early days, and without real-world results it's too early to declare a winner in the quantum race. Microsoft estimates that a useful quantum computer could be built between 2027 and 2029. Whether its unique approach will lead to a breakthrough remains uncertain, but one thing is clear: the competition to build the first practical quantum computer is heating up, and each advancement brings us closer to a future where quantum computing could bring about a major transformation. The coming years will be **crucial** in

determining which approach — error-corrected qubits or inherently stable qubits — will prove most effective.

(QC)
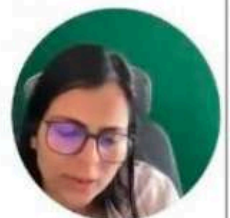
Unlike Google's and IBM's quantum processors, which focus on increasing the number of qubits, Microsoft is taking a different approach by _____(A)_____ stability and scalability.

Question 21:

Choose the most suitable phrase to fill the given **blank** (A) to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.

I. prioritising ✓

II. neglecting

III. undermining

ignoring

(a) Only II

(b) Both II and III

(c) Only I

(d) Both I and III

(e) All I, II and III

Question 22:

Which of the following is the **"TRUE"** statement based on the given passage?

I. Microsoft's Majorana 1 quantum chip focuses on increasing the number of qubits. ✗

II. Google and IBM's quantum processors prioritize increasing the number of qubits. ✓

III. Quantum computing is anticipated to completely take over traditional computing. ✗

(a) Only III

(b) Both I and II

(c) Both II and III

(d) Only II

(e) All I, II and III

23
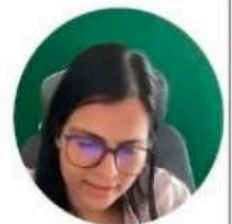
Question 23:

Based on the passage, which of the following statements most accurately reflects the potential of quantum computing?

(a) Quantum computing will replace traditional computing in everyday applications. ✗

(b) Quantum computing has the potential to solve problems that are impossible for traditional computers. ✓

(c) Quantum computing is irrelevant to industries like healthcare and AI. ✗

(d) Quantum computing poses no security risks to current encryption technologies. ✗

(e) Quantum computing is already widely used in real-world applications. ✗

(b)
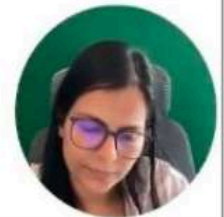
Question 24:

What does the passage suggest about Microsoft's approach to quantum computing?

I. With enough stable qubits, Microsoft believes quantum computers could address global challenges. ✓

II. Microsoft has provided performance data proving the success of its approach. ✗

III. Microsoft's approach focuses on solving the problem of error correction at its root. ✓

(a) Only I

(b) Both II and III

(c) Both I and III

(d) Only II

(e) All I, II and III
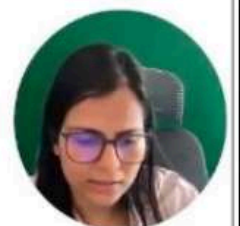
(c)

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Quantum computers, on the other hand, use qubits, which can exist in multiple states at once, potentially making them **exponentially** more powerful for certain tasks.

Question 25:

Which of the following options can be the appropriate **Synonym(s)** of the word **"Exponentially"**, as used in the above passage?

I. extensively — ✓

II. gradually — slowly

III. steadily — continuously

(a) Both I and III

(b) Only II

(c) Both I and II

(d) Only III

(e) Only I

ⓔ

The coming years will be **crucial** in determining which approach — error-corrected qubits or inherently stable qubits — will prove most effective.

Question 26:

Which of the following options can be the appropriate **Antonym(s)** of the word 'crucial', as used in the above passage?

I. splendid — ✓

II. trivial — insignificant, petty, trifling

III. decisive — ✓

(a) Only I

(b) Both I and II

(c) Only II

(d) Both II and III

(e) All I, II and III

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Directions (1-6): Read the following passage and answer the given questions.

Pre- [Mains Level] Prelims (80%. 20%.) SBI PO Prelims Mains

Financial emergencies, such as a sudden drop in income, can arise unexpectedly and cause serious financial strain. However, being prepared with an emergency fund can help individuals manage such situations effectively by ensuring that expenses and obligations are met without unnecessary stress. Since personal finance varies from person to person, the amount and structure of an emergency fund should be customized based on individual needs. Having immediate access to emergency funds prevents the need to scramble for financial assistance in critical moments. One of the key principles of financial planning is asset allocation, which involves distributing investments across different asset categories such as equity, debt, gold, and cash. The rationale behind asset allocation is that different assets react differently to changing market conditions.