CLOZE TEST

Directions (1-4): The passage given below contains some blanks wherein the words have been removed. Find the word from the given options that "<u>is not</u>" suitable for each blank and mark that as your answer.
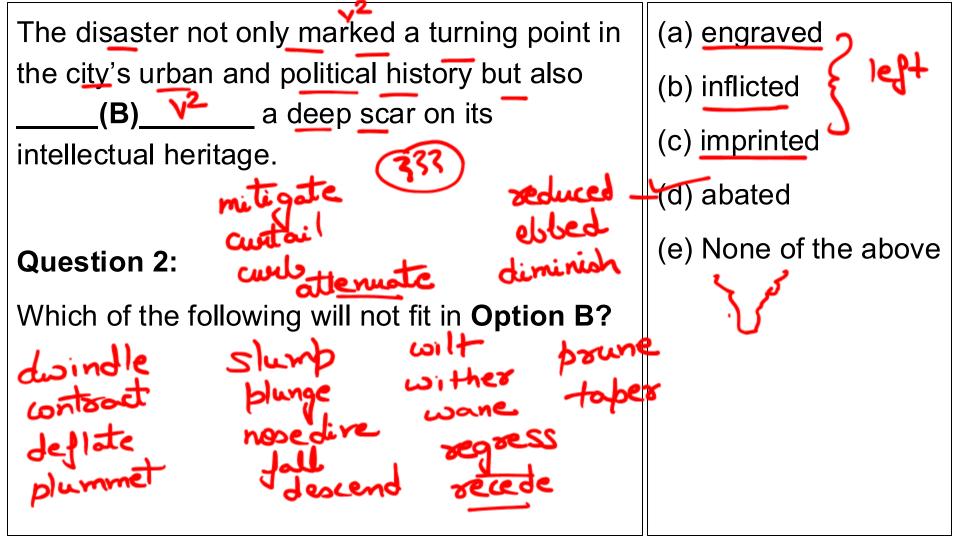
On 6 April 1667, a powerful earthquake devastated Dubrovnik, claiming at least 3,000 lives and destroying most of the city's buildings. Among the many losses were irreplaceable cultural treasures – thousands of books, manuscripts and archival materials. The Rector's Palace, housing state records, was heavily damaged, and fires that followed the quake __(A)__ much of what remained. Monastic libraries, particularly those of the Dominican and Franciscan friars, suffered great losses. Nobles also lost private collections as their residences collapsed. The disaster not only marked a turning point in the city's urban and political history but also __(B)__ a deep scar on its intellectual heritage. If it were not for this earthquake, we would know more about a fascinating __(C)__ that involved philosophy, politics and gender that happened in the 1580s and involved the city's foremost noble families. Nevertheless, it's still possible to piece together parts of the jigsaw from what has survived. What emerges reveals two remarkable women who dared to challenge the patriarchy using philosophical arguments in an age when such attempts could be counted on one hand. By the end of the 16th century, Dubrovnik boasted paved streets, an advanced sewage system, and a reliable water supply, innovations that placed it ahead of many other Adriatic ports in both functionality and sophistication. Its grand celebrations of St Blaise, the city's patron saint, epitomised Dubrovnik's cultural vibrancy, featuring theatrical performances, banquets, and public festivities that showcased its wealth and organisational _(D)__.

The Rector's Palace, housing state records, was heavily damaged, and fires that followed the quake _____(A)_____ much of what remained.

(a) obliterated

(b) salvaged — saved

(c) consumed

(d) incinerated

(e) None of the above

deteriorated

Question 1:

Which of the following will not fit in **Option A?**

crumbled
eradicated

tarnished
blemished
marred
spoiled

crushed
smashed

vandalized

obliterated
expunged
extirpated
exterminated
annihilated

ravaged
damaged
wiped out
decimated
incinerated
ruined

sabotaged
eroded
corroded
demolished
wrecked
wrecked

dismantled
pulverized
vanished
destroyed

havoc

The disaster not only marked [v^2] a turning point in the city's urban and political history but also _____(B)_____ [v^2] a deep scar on its intellectual heritage.

(a) engraved
(b) inflicted
(c) imprinted
(d) abated
(e) None of the above

left

reduced → (d)
ebbed
diminish

३३३

mitigate
curtail
curb
attenuate

Question 2:

Which of the following will not fit in **Option B?**

dwindle
contract
deflate
plummet

slump
plunge
nosedive
fall
descend

wilt
wither
wane
regress
recede

prune
taper
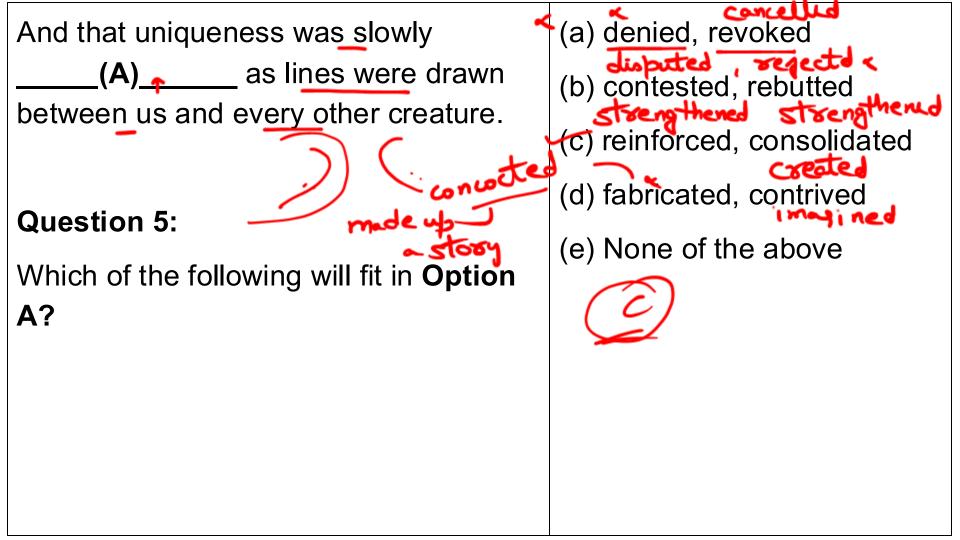
If it were not for this earthquake, we would know more about a fascinating __(C)__ that involved philosophy, politics and gender that happened in the 1580s and involved the city's foremost noble families.

Question 3:

Which of the following will not fit in **Option C?**

(a) imbroglio confusion
  quandary
  conundrum
  dilemma
  obfuscation
  riddle
  maze
  puzzle

story
(b) saga

(c) dispute

(d) serenity

(e) None of the above

Handwritten annotations:

reconciliation
restoration of
friendly relations
tranquility peace
tussle
vendetta
scuffle

labyrinthine
dispute < conflict, contention, combat
altercation
feud
skirmish
discord

rapport
a friendly relationship
brawl
hostility
acrimony
antagonism
amity
friendship

Its grand celebrations of St Blaise, the city's patron saint, epitomised Dubrovnik's cultural vibrancy, featuring theatrical performances, banquets, and public festivities that showcased its wealth and organisational _____(D)_____.

(+ve)

Question 4:

state of being unimpressive
average

Which of the following will not fit in **Option D?**

(a) ingenuity — skill

(b) finesse — elegance

(c) mediocrity (-ve)

(d) prowess — power

(e) None of the above

Directions (5-10): The passage below contains blanks (A-F). Each blank requires two words that fit contextually and grammatically. Choose the correct pair for each blank.

Around 50,000 years ago, our species began migrating from Africa into Europe and Asia. We were not alone. As we **(M.9)** journeyed, we came into contact with other large-brained hominids, including our closest extinct relatives, the Neanderthals and Denisovans. For most of our history, we were part of a wider family of animals that looked and behaved like us. But by the end of the Pleistocene, around 11,700 years ago, only Homo sapiens remained. At that moment, humans became a unique species. And that uniqueness was slowly ___(A)__ as lines were drawn between us and every other creature. Over time, these lines ___(B)__ into barriers. We came to believe that humans were the only animals with intentionality and foresight – special skills that allowed us to produce art, architecture and agriculture. We told ourselves stories that ___(C)__ our superiority, and even those stories themselves became examples of what set us apart: culture. But how did culture begin? We have stories for that too. In one well-known myth, as set down by Plato in the 4th century BCE, the gods charged two Titans, Epimetheus and Prometheus, with the task of fashioning mortal creatures from earth and fire and __(D)___ them with the qualities they would need to survive. Epimetheus began doling out strength and speed; the capacities to fly, swim or burrow; shells, warm fur, thick skin, hooves, claws and other qualities. However, when it was time to bestow a gift to humans, the Titan realised he had nothing left to give. His brother, Prometheus, not knowing what else to do, __(E)___ fire from the god Hephaestus and gave it to humans, along with the knowledge essential for their survival – gifts for which he was eternally __(F)___.

And that uniqueness was slowly _____(A)_____ as lines were drawn between us and every other creature.

Question 5:

Which of the following will fit in **Option A?**

(a) denied, revoked ~ *cancelled*

(b) contested, rebutted *disputed, rejected* ~

(c) reinforced, consolidated *strengthened   strengthened*

(d) fabricated, contrived ~ *created   imagined*

concocted   made up   a story

(e) None of the above

(c)

Over time, these lines _____(B)_____ into barriers. We came to believe that humans were the only animals with intentionality and foresight – special skills that allowed us to produce art, architecture and agriculture.

(a) drifted, veered
(b) hardened, solidified
(c) precipitated, perished
(d) flickered, abstracted
(e) None of the above

Question 6:

Which of the following will fit in **Option B?**

We told ourselves stories that _____(C)_____ our superiority, and even those stories themselves became examples of what set us apart: culture.

apple pie order

perfectly ordered

Question 7:

Which of the following will fit in **Option C?**

fetid
rancid
putrid
malodorous

stinking
reeking
stale
moldy
musty

foul
pungent
rotten
decayed

(a) commended, glorified

confused, unclear

(b) obscured, complicated

grieved

(c) lamented, mourned

implemented

(d) moderated, effectuated

(e) None of the above

muddy   clumsy
squalid   soiled
         cruddy
dirty   dingy
(Adj) filthy   shabby
grimy   slobby
mucky

gaudy - garish
tacky showy

In one well-known myth, as set down by Plato in the 4th century BCE, the gods charged two Titans, Epimetheus and Prometheus, with the task of fashioning mortal creatures from earth and fire and __(D)__ v^2 them with the qualities they would need to survive.

(a) unveiled, concealed
disclosed *shrouded*

(b) dismantled, deprived
cloaked

(c) censured, reprimanded
criticise *chastise* *scolded*

(d) endowed, equipped

(e) None of the above

Question 8:

Which of the following will fit in **Option D?**

ambush

praise
venerate
eulogize
exalt
extol

laud
applaud
hail
glorify

venerate
revere

unveil
divulge
reveal
disclose
bring to light

clandestine
stealthy *furtive*
sneaky

commend
appreciate

(d)

His brother, Prometheus, not knowing what else to do, __(E)__ fire from the god Hephaestus and gave it to humans, along with the knowledge essential for their survival – gifts for which he was eternally __(F)___.

(a) absconded, eloped

(b) forged, sculpted

(c) pilfered, sneaked

(d) condemned, rebuked

(e) None of the above

Handwritten annotations:

(a) run

(b) made/created

(c) steal-stole, stole

(d) denounced

labyrinthine
knotty
convoluted
obfuscated

unclear, complicated
esoteric
arcane
intricate
recondite

opaque
nebulous

vague
muddy
murky

Question 9:

Which of the following will fit in **Option E?**

cloudy, misty, hazy
fuzzy, frosty, foggy
ambiguous, equivocal
byzantine
abstruse
cryptic

His brother, Prometheus, not knowing what else to do, __(E)__ fire from the god Hephaestus and gave it to humans, along with the knowledge essential for their survival – gifts for which he was eternally __(F)__.

(a) awarded, rewarded

general *g-g*

good

(b) chastised, punished

pacified *satisfied*

(c) appeased, gratified

absolved

(d) pardoned, exonerated

(e) None of the above

dress down

scold, admonish, rebuke, upbraid
lambast, reprimand
chastise, chide, castigate, chew out
call out, tear apart, take the tasks to
read the riot act

Question 10:

Which of the following will fit in **Option F?**

criticise *belittle* *berate* *mock, taunt*
condemn *demean* *slander* *sneer ridicule*
disparage *deride* *denounce* *jeer excoriate*
malign *scoff* *jibe*

Directions (11-16): Below are two individuals, Ananya and Vikram, discussing Climate Change Policy. Several blanks are left unfilled. Select the appropriate words from the options to complete the sentences correctly.

exonerate
absolve
acquit
exculpate
vindicate

emancipate
liberate
pardon
give leeway
give amnesty

have a tight control — on a short leash

unleash
unbridle
unfetter
unchain
unshackle

give clemency / mercy

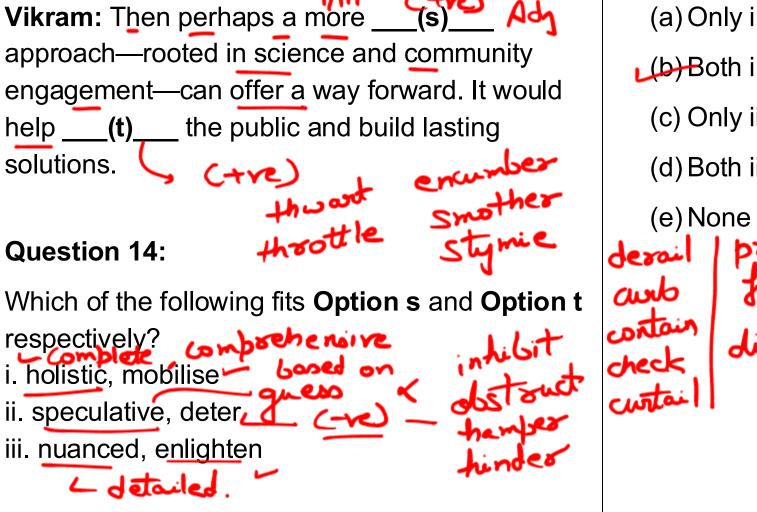**Ananya:** With global temperatures rising, don't you think it's imperative we enforce stricter climate policies now?

Vikram: I agree action is needed, but overly aggressive mandates could ___**(m)**___ economic stability. Isn't it better to pursue ___**(n)**____ transition strategies?

Ananya: That's a/ an ____**(o)**____ argument. We've already wasted decades in deliberation, and the environmental damage may be ____**(p)**____.

Vikram: Fair, but policies must be adaptable. One-size-fits-all solutions often ____**(q)**____ local needs and can even trigger backlash.

Ananya: I see your point. Yet, if we don't act decisively, we may enter a/ an ____**(r)**_____ where ecological collapse is irreversible.

Vikram: Then perhaps a more _____**(s)**_____ approach—rooted in science and community engagement—can offer a way forward. It would help _____**(t)**_____ the public and build lasting solutions.

Ananya: People often lack a clear grasp of climate issues. Public discourse is still _____**(u)**____ , leading to policies that are more ____**(v)**_____ than practical.

Vikram: Education and outreach must be ____**(w)**_____ to build awareness. Only then can we _____**(x)**_____ meaningful change.

Vikram: I agree action is needed, but overly aggressive mandates could ___(m)___ economic stability. Isn't it better to pursue ___(n)____ transition strategies?

(handwritten: (+ve), (-ve), (-ve), i/iii, change, changes, gradual, transigent)

Question 11:

Which of the following appropriately fits in **Option m** and **Option n** respectively?

i. jeopardise, incremental

ii. recalibrate, transient

iii. impair, expedient

(handwritten: expedite – Verb – hurry, but in danger, adjust, –te, spoil, convenient, practical, imperil, temporary, ephemeral, fugacious, evanescent, fleeting, momentary)

(a) Only ii

(b) Both i and iii

(c) Only i

(d) Both ii and iii

(e) None of the above

Ananya: That's a/ an ____(o)____ argument. We've already wasted decades in deliberation, and the environmental damage may be ____(p)____.

[handwritten: (-ve), Adj weak, Noun, discussion]

Question 12:

Which of the following fits **Option o** and **Option p** respectively?

i. cautious, ameliorated

ii. tenuous, irreparable

iii. flimsy, unrectifiable

[handwritten: careful (+ve); pacified / placated, palliated, propitiated, allayed, assuaged; mitigated, mollified, lulled; that can't be repaired; week]

(a) Only ii

(b) Both i and iii

(c) Only iii

(d) Both ii and iii

(e) None of the above

Vikram: Fair, but policies must be adaptable. One-size-fits-all solutions often __(q)__ local needs and can even trigger backlash.

Ananya: I see your point. Yet, if we don't act decisively, we may enter a/ an __(r)___ where ecological collapse is irreversible.

Question 13:

Which of the following appropriately fits **Option q** and **Option r** respectively?

i. accommodate, crescendo

ii. sideline, utopia

iii. undermine, precipice

(a) Only i

(b) Both i and ii

(c) Only ii

(d) Only iii

(e) None of the above

Vikram: Then perhaps a more ___(s)___ approach—rooted in science and community engagement—can offer a way forward. It would help ___(t)___ the public and build lasting solutions.
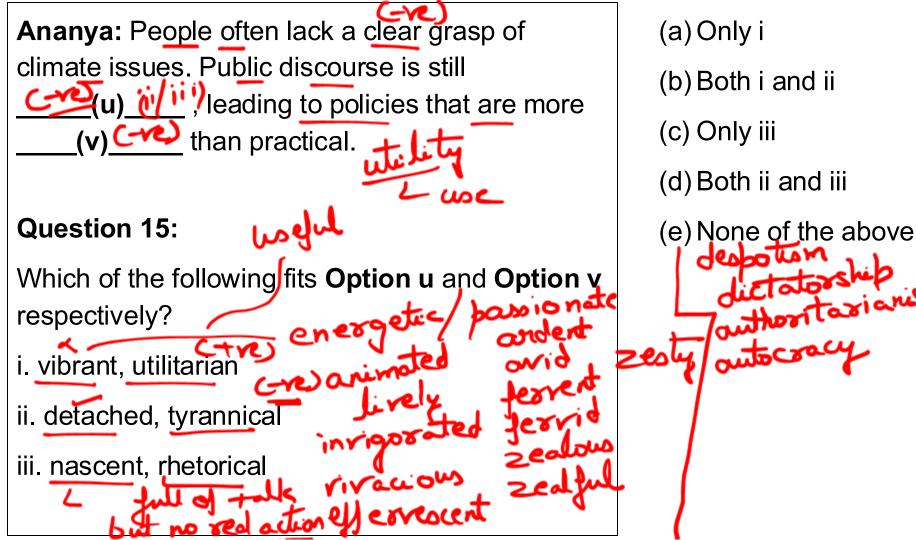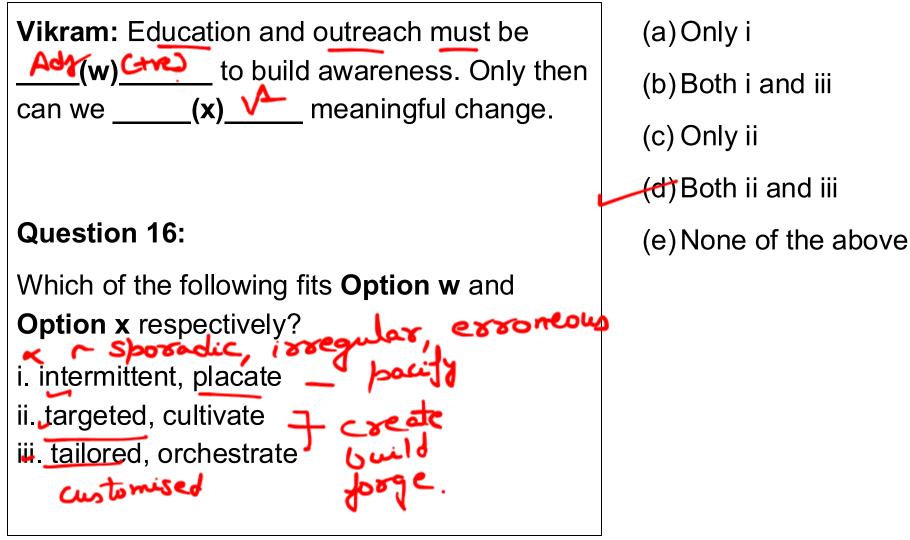
[handwritten: i/iii (+ve) Adj]

[handwritten: (+ve) thwart throttle encumber smother stymie]

Question 14:

Which of the following fits **Option s** and **Option t** respectively?

i. holistic, mobilise
ii. speculative, deter
iii. nuanced, enlighten

[handwritten: Complete, comprehensive based on guess (-ve) < inhibit obstruct hamper hinder]

[handwritten: detailed.]

(a) Only i

(b) Both i and iii

(c) Only ii

(d) Both ii and iii

(e) None of the above

[handwritten: b]

[handwritten: derail curb contain check curtail | proscribe forbid ban disallow]

Ananya: People often lack a clear grasp of climate issues. Public discourse is still _____ **(u)** _____ , leading to policies that are more _____ **(v)** _____ than practical.

Question 15:

Which of the following fits **Option u** and **Option v** respectively?

i. vibrant, utilitarian

ii. detached, tyrannical

iii. nascent, rhetorical

(a) Only i

(b) Both i and ii

(c) Only iii

(d) Both ii and iii

(e) None of the above

(Handwritten annotations:)
(-ve)
(-ve) (u) ii/iii
(v) (-ve)
utility └ use
useful
(+ve) energetic / passionate
(-ve) animated ardent
lively avid
invigorated fervent
vivacious fervid
effervescent zealous
zealful
full of talks but no real action
zesty / despotism dictatorship authoritarianism autocracy

Vikram: Education and outreach must be _____ **(w)** _____ to build awareness. Only then can we _____ **(x)** _____ meaningful change.

Question 16:

Which of the following fits **Option w** and **Option x** respectively?

i. intermittent, placate
ii. targeted, cultivate
iii. tailored, orchestrate

(a) Only i

(b) Both i and iii

(c) Only ii

(d) Both ii and iii

(e) None of the above

Directions (17-20): A paragraph is given below with three blanks. Phrases are provided below in the form of a 'Match the Following'. First, solve the 'Match the Following' to determine the consecutive pairs of phrases, which will then fit appropriately into the three respective blanks in the paragraph.

Passage I

India has been making steady progress in its artificial intelligence (AI) efforts, with a democratised approach through "AI for All" that encompasses a supportive policy. The efforts of the government like the IndiaAI Mission, IndiaAI Compute, IndiaAI FutureSkills, IndiaAI Startup Financing, IndiaAI Innovation Centre, IndiaAI Datasets Platform, and IndiaAI Applications Development Initiative are focused in the right direction. OSX **__(m)__** Krutrim developed its own foundational LLM trained on a vast data set of Indian languages and contextual data, enabling accurate text generation and conversational AI in various Indian languages. They recently launched "Kruti", an agentic AI assistant. Sarvam AI is focused on making generative AI for Bharat and aims to build the "full-stack" for generative AI. They also launched models like Sarvam-M. **__(n)__** PUW. And importantly, it will enable the country to develop strategic autonomy in one of the most critical emerging technologies of our time. While India grows in its AI journey there are emerging market access challenges that could impact the pace and scale, due to geopolitics and issues that may occur in future like US export controls. India remains in the tier-II category for chip exports, which translates into caps on quantity of advanced chips. **__(o)__** RTV. The cost of acquiring and maintaining large-scale graphics processing unit infrastructure remains a significant financial hurdle. There may be a need to create a remarkable fund of funds if India has to get anywhere near the global story and maybe explore manufacturing chips for these domestically.

Column I	Column II	Column III	Question 17:
(P) For the first time, India is developing a foundational	**(S)** ecosystem with the likes of Krutrim and	**(V)** on chip manufacturers to meet the demand.	**Solve the 'Match the Following' to determine the consecutive pairs of phrases that should appropriately fit into the given blanks.**
(Q) Complementing this are efforts from the start-up	**(T)** AI chips is surging, which itself puts pressure	**(W)** significant leap towards Atmanirbhar Bharat.	(a) PUW, QTV, RSX (b) PSV, QTX, RUW (c) PTV, QSW, RUX
(R) The global demand for high-end	**(U)** AI model that will be run entirely on domestic infrastructure—a	**(X)** Sarvam AI that are aiming in the direction of large language models (LLMs).	(d) PTV, QSX, RUW (e) PUW, QSX, RTV

The efforts of the government like the IndiaAI Mission, IndiaAI Compute, IndiaAI FutureSkills, IndiaAI Startup Financing, IndiaAI Innovation Centre, IndiaAI Datasets Platform, and IndiaAI Applications Development Initiative are focused in the right direction. __(m)__.

They also launched models like Sarvam-M. __(n)___ . And importantly, it will enable the country to develop strategic autonomy in one of the most critical emerging technologies of our time. India remains in the tier-II category for chip exports, which translates into caps on quantity of advanced chips. __(o)___ . The cost of acquiring and maintaining large-scale graphics processing unit infrastructure remains a significant financial hurdle.

Question 18:
Based on the previous question, which of the following consecutive pairs should fit in the blanks (m), (n), and (o), respectively?

(a) (Q_,_), (R _, _), (P _, _)

(b) (R_,_), (P _, _), (Q _, _)

(c) (Q_,_), (P _, _), (R _, _)

(d) (P_,_), (R _, _), (Q _, _)

(e) (R_,_), (Q _, _), (P _, _)

Passage II:

This World Environment Day, India stands at a pivotal moment. __(m)__ R. A rapid transition to clean energy is non-negotiable if we are to meet our 2030 climate targets and achieve net-zero by 2070. Yet, our clean energy ambitions currently depend heavily on imported raw materials and components for solar panels, wind turbines, batteries, and electric vehicles. By 2047, India can aspire to be the largest green economy — market-driven, job-rich, and low-carbon — by scaling up clean-tech manufacturing and raising its GDP share from 14% to 22-25%. But this growth must be environmentally sustainable. __(n)__ Q . A green, circular "Make in India" is not just an industrial imperative, it is a climate and development strategy fit for the 21st century. Since the supply chain disruptions during Covid-19, the government has taken several initiatives to support domestic manufacturing of clean energy technologies. These include production-linked incentives, making adjustments to tariff and non-tariff barriers, and expansion of the offtake market for clean-tech products. For example, flagship schemes such as PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana and PM Kisan Urja Suraksha evam Utthan Mahabhiyan mandate using Made in India solar cells and modules. These efforts have spurred domestic (+ve) manufacturing; solar module capacity is now three-four times India's annual requirement. __(o)__ P .

yet (-ve)

Column I	Column II	Column III
(P) Yet, despite rapid growth and awareness of limited lifespans — 25-30 years	**(S)** for solar modules and wind turbines, 10-12 years	**(V)** for batteries — end-of-life waste remains a sidelined issue.
(Q) Localising clean energy manufacturing with a circular economy	**(T)** nation we must find ways to meet soaring	**(W)** environmental impact, create green jobs, and build resilience.
(R) As a populous, fast-growing, and climate-vulnerable	**(U)** offers a powerful opportunity: to reduce supply chain risks and	**(X)** energy demand, reduce emissions, and secure economic future — all at once.

Question 19: Solve the 'Match the Following' to determine the consecutive pairs of phrases that should appropriately fit into the given blanks.

(a) PTX, QSV, RUW

(b) PUV, QTX, RSW

(c) PSW, QUX, RTV

(d) PSV, QUW, RTX

(e) PTW, QUX, RSV

This World Environment Day, India stands at a pivotal moment. __(m)___ .
But this growth must be environmentally sustainable. __(n)__ . A green, circular "Make in India" is not just an industrial imperative, it is a climate and development strategy fit for the 21st century. These efforts have spurred domestic manufacturing; solar module capacity is now three-four times India's annual requirement. _(o)__ .

Question 20:
Based on the previous question, which of the following consecutive pairs should fit in the blanks (m), (n), and (o), respectively?

(a) (P_,_), (Q _, _), (R _, _)

(b) (Q_,_), (R _, _), (P _, _)

(c) (R_,_), (P _, _), (Q _, _)

(d) (P_,_), (R _, _), (Q _, _)

(e) (R_,_), (Q _, _), (P _, _)

ⓔ