

VIJETA CHECKLIST MAINS



CHECKLIST 132

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Direction (1-5): In the questions below, a paragraph is given with certain positions marked as (P), (Q), (R) and (S). A sentence is given in bold after the paragraph. Read the paragraph carefully and identify the position at which the given sentence can be inserted. Mark the option containing that position as your answer. Mark “E” if the given sentence does not fit at any place.

Question 1:

(P) The genesis of apple cultivation in Himachal Pradesh can be traced back to the British colonial period, when the region’s altitudinal advantage and temperate climate were identified as conducive to horticultural experimentation. (Q) It was Samuel Evans Stokes, an American missionary-turned-Indian citizen, who in 1916 introduced the ‘Red Delicious’ variety from the United States into the Kotgarh region, marking a pivotal shift from subsistence agriculture to commercial horticulture. (R) Over time, apple farming catalysed rural economic transformation, integrating remote hill economies into broader agri-value chains and fostering socio-economic mobility for countless small landholders. (S) In contemporary times, Himachal Pradesh contributes approximately one-fourth of India’s total apple production, with sustained investment in cold-chain infrastructure and orchard rejuvenation programmes.

His intervention not only revolutionised local farming practices but also laid the groundwork for a robust and resilient apple economy in the Western Himalayas.

- (A) P
- (B) Q
- (C) R
- (D) S
- (E) No place to fit

Question 2:

(P) Launched in the late 1960s, the Green Revolution was a strategic intervention aimed at addressing India’s acute food shortages and ensuring national self-sufficiency in grain production. (Q) It involved the adoption of high-yielding varieties (HYVs) of seeds, the intensive use of chemical fertilisers and pesticides, and the expansion of irrigation infrastructure—particularly in states like Punjab, Haryana, and western Uttar Pradesh. (R) However, critics argue that the gains of the Green Revolution were geographically skewed and socio-economically unequal, disproportionately benefiting large landholders and regions already endowed with water and infrastructure. (S) The long-term environmental costs, such as groundwater depletion, soil fatigue, and biodiversity loss, have prompted calls for a more sustainable model of agricultural development.

While the initial outcomes were celebrated as a triumph of agricultural science, they also introduced structural imbalances that reshaped India’s rural landscape in complex ways.

- (A) P
- (B) Q
- (C) R

- (D) S
- (E) No place to fit

Question 3:

(P) In recent months, India has witnessed a disturbing rise in 'digital arrest' scams, where cybercriminals impersonate law enforcement officers to coerce individuals into transferring large sums of money under the pretense of legal action. **(Q)** These fraudsters often initiate contact through phone calls or video conferencing, claiming the victim is under investigation for serious offenses like money laundering or terrorism, and threaten immediate arrest unless a payment is made. **(R)** The psychological manipulation involved in these scams exploits the victim's fear and lack of legal knowledge, making them more susceptible to compliance without verification. **(S)** Authorities have urged the public to remain vigilant, verify the identity of callers, and report any suspicious communications to the cybercrime helpline.

One notable case involved a 75-year-old woman from Kutch who lost ₹21 lakh after being duped by fraudsters posing as officials from the Mumbai Crime Branch and a fake Supreme Court judge.

- (A) P
- (B) Q
- (C) R
- (D) S
- (E) No place to fit

Question 4:

(P) The Chandrayaan-3 mission, which successfully landed the Vikram lander near the Moon's south pole in August 2023, marked a historic achievement for ISRO. **(Q)** This accomplishment demonstrated India's advanced technological capabilities and commitment to scientific research. **(R)** The mission also paved the way for in-depth lunar studies, including analysis of water ice and the Moon's geological features. **(S)** Looking ahead, ISRO is preparing for ambitious projects like the Aditya-L1 solar mission and the Gaganyaan human spaceflight programme, aiming to expand India's presence in space.

India's space programme has accelerated significantly in recent years, positioning the country as a formidable force in space exploration.

- (A) P
- (B) Q
- (C) R
- (D) S
- (E) No place to fit

Question 5:

(P) India faces an acute water scarcity challenge, with over 600 million people affected by water stress according to recent studies. **(Q)** In response, the government has launched several initiatives such as the Jal Jeevan Mission, which aims to provide safe and adequate drinking water to rural households by 2024. **(R)** These policies emphasize sustainable water use, rainwater harvesting, and the rejuvenation

of traditional water bodies to enhance groundwater recharge. (S) Experts, however, caution that achieving long-term water security will require integrated management of water resources across states and greater public awareness.

Effective water management policies are critical for ensuring equitable access to water and mitigating the adverse impacts of climate change on water availability.

- (A) P
- (B) Q
- (C) R
- (D) S
- (E) No place to fit

Direction (6-10): In each of the questions below, a sentence is given with two blanks that indicate that some parts are missing. Identify the words that fit in the blanks to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.

Question 6:

During the trial, the lawyer raised a _____ regarding the admissibility of the evidence, claiming it had been _____ without proper procedure.

- (A) dispute, created
- (B) motion, obtained
- (C) clause, considered
- (D) petition, maintained
- (E) statement, altered

Question 7:

The ethics committee issued a _____ to the researchers after discovering that the data had been selectively _____ to support the hypothesis.

- (A) sanction, filtered
- (B) reprimand, presented
- (C) caution, gathered
- (D) censure, manipulated
- (E) response, collected

Question 8:

The company's refund policy contains a _____ that returns will not be accepted if the original packaging is _____ or missing.

- (A) suggestion, removed
- (B) note, delivered
- (C) stipulation, damaged
- (D) reminder, sealed
- (E) statement, used

Question 9:

The Roman Empire reached its _____ under Augustus, whose political reforms and military expansions _____ the foundation of imperial stability for centuries.

- (A) brink, shattered
- (B) threshold, obliterated
- (C) zenith, laid
- (D) decline, concealed
- (E) pinnacle, undermined

Question 10:

During the Great Depression, economies around the world were at their _____, and widespread unemployment _____ the social fabric of many nations.

- (A) apex; aggravated
- (B) nadir; strained
- (C) crest; reinforced
- (D) zenith; destabilized
- (E) lowest; bolstered

ANSWER

1. Answer: (C)

Explanation: Placing the sentence in position (R) creates a logical flow in the paragraph because the previous sentence Q introduces Samuel Evans Stokes and his contribution. The bold sentence acts as a reflection on the long-term significance of his efforts, providing a natural transition to the broader economic impacts discussed in (R).

2. Answer: (D)

Explanation: The bold sentence evaluates the **dual nature** of the Green Revolution—success and unintended consequences. It fits best **at the position (S)** because the previous sentence introduces criticism about inequities. The inserted sentence deepens this critique by pointing out how structural imbalances emerged, which then leads smoothly to the last sentence: a discussion of **long-term environmental fallout**.

3. Answer: (C)

Explanation: Placing the sentence in position (R) creates a logical flow in the paragraph. Sentence (Q) describes the modus operandi of the scammers, detailing how they contact victims and the nature of their threats. Inserting the specific case of the 75-year-old woman from Kutch immediately after this at position (R) serves as a concrete **example** that illustrates the tactics mentioned, thereby enhancing the reader's understanding of the severity and reality of such scams.

4. Answer: (A)

Explanation: The bold sentence provides a broad overview of India's progress in space exploration, making it an ideal introductory statement. Placing it at **position (P)** before the detailed achievements of Chandrayaan-3 sets the context for the paragraph and helps the reader understand the significance of the mission and future projects. Inserting it anywhere else would disrupt the logical flow, as the subsequent sentences focus on specific milestones rather than an overall summary.

5. Answer: (B)

Explanation: The inserted sentence introduces the importance of water management policies as a response to the water scarcity challenge outlined in the very first sentence. Placing it at the position (Q) creates a logical flow by linking the problem (scarcity) with the necessity of effective policies, setting the stage for the detailed initiatives discussed later. Inserting it later would disrupt the progression from problem to solution.

6. Answer: (B)

Explanation: The first blank requires a **noun** that refers to a formal objection or request made during a legal proceeding. "**Motion**" fits best here, as it refers to a formal proposal put forward by a lawyer during a trial, especially one related to legal procedures such as the admissibility of evidence.

The second blank calls for a verb in the past participle form that implies the evidence was acquired, especially in an improper or unlawful way. **“Obtained”** means acquired or secured, and it fits well in the context of legal discussions about whether evidence was collected following correct procedures.

The other options are either contextually or grammatically incorrect:

Dispute: A disagreement or argument, not a formal legal objection.

Created: Means made or brought into existence, not suitable for how evidence is acquired.

Clause: A part of a legal document, not a legal objection.

Considered: Means thought about, not related to the acquisition of evidence.

Petition: A formal written request, not typically used for objections during a trial.

Maintained: Means kept or upheld, not about acquiring evidence.

Statement: A verbal or written remark, not a legal motion.

Altered: Means changed or modified, which doesn't suit the context of improper procedure in acquiring evidence.

7. Answer: (D)

Explanation: **The first blank requires a noun** that signifies a strong disapproval or formal criticism issued by an authoritative body. **“Censure”** fits best here, as it refers to an official expression of severe disapproval, especially in a formal or institutional setting such as an ethics committee.

The second blank calls for a verb in the past participle form that indicates the data was dishonestly or unfairly handled. **“Manipulated”** means handled or controlled in a skillful or sometimes dishonest way, and it fits the context of altering data to falsely support a hypothesis.

The other options are either contextually or grammatically incorrect:

Sanction: While it can mean a penalty, it also means approval; too ambiguous here.

Filtered: Typically means refined or passed through a medium, not necessarily implying dishonesty.

Reprimand: A verbal or written warning, but less formal or strong than *censure*.

Presented: Neutral in tone; doesn't suggest dishonest alteration.

Caution: A warning or advice to avoid danger, not a formal disciplinary action.

Gathered: Means collected, but does not imply dishonesty.

Response: Too vague and general; lacks the force of a formal rebuke.

Collected: Like *gathered*, it does not suggest dishonesty or selective use.

8. Answer: (C)

Explanation: **The first blank needs a noun** that refers to a specific condition or requirement stated within a policy. **“Stipulation”** fits best here, as it means a specific demand or condition that is included as part of an agreement or policy. **The second blank needs a verb in the past participle form** that implies the original packaging is not in its original condition. **“Damaged”** means harmed or impaired in a way that affects quality or function, and it aligns well with the context of return policies where intact packaging is often a requirement.

The other options are either contextually or grammatically incorrect:

Suggestion: Implies a recommendation, not a binding condition.

Removed: Does not clearly convey the idea of impaired or unusable packaging.

Note: A brief mention or annotation, not necessarily a formal condition.

Delivered: Refers to sending, not the condition of the packaging.

Reminder: A prompt to recall something, not a formal clause in a policy.

Sealed: Means closed securely, which is the opposite of the intended meaning.

Statement: A general declaration, lacks the specificity of a rule.

Used: Implies prior use, but doesn't necessarily make the packaging unacceptable.

9. Answer: (C)

Explanation: The first blank needs a noun that denotes the highest or most successful point of the Roman Empire during Augustus's reign. "**Zenith**" is the most suitable choice, as it means the peak or highest point of success or power, which matches the historical context of Augustus's leadership. The second blank needs a verb in the past tense that describes how Augustus's reforms and expansions created or established something lasting. "**Laid**" is appropriate here, as the phrase "laid the foundation" is a standard idiom meaning to establish the basis for something—in this case, *imperial stability*.

The other options are either contextually or grammatically incorrect:

Brink: Refers to the edge of something (often danger or collapse), not success.

Shattered: Means broken or destroyed—opposite of the intended meaning.

Threshold: The beginning or doorway to something—not the highest point.

Obliterated: Means destroyed completely, which contradicts the idea of stability.

Decline: Indicates a downturn or weakening, the opposite of reaching a peak.

Concealed: Means hidden, irrelevant to establishing stability.

Pinnacle: Similar to *zenith* and nearly correct; however,

Undermined: Means weakened, which contradicts the positive outcome of Augustus's actions.

10. Answer: (B)

Explanation: The first blank requires a noun that signifies the lowest point or the worst phase of the Great Depression in global economies. "**Nadir**" fits best here, as it means the lowest point in the fortunes of a person or organization, perfectly describing economic collapse. The second blank calls for a verb that indicates pressure or damage done to society due to unemployment. "**Strained**" means to put stress or tension on something, which fits well with how widespread unemployment weakened or stressed the social fabric.

The other options are either contextually or grammatically incorrect:

Apex: Means the highest point, which contradicts the severity of the Great Depression.

Aggravated: Means worsened, which fits the context but paired with *apex* makes the sentence contradictory.

Crest: Another word for the highest point, unsuitable here.

Reinforced: Means strengthened, which contradicts the negative impact of unemployment.

Zenith: Also means the highest point, inappropriate here.

Destabilized: Fits the context but paired with *zenith* creates a contradiction.

Lowest: Suitable in meaning but is less formal than *nadir* and less precise in tone.

Bolstered: Means supported or strengthened, which contradicts the negative effects described.



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