

READING COMPREHENSION

Directions (1-7): Given below a short passage has been given. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions.

On April 2, Donald Trump announced the imposition of tariffs on most of America's trading partners. A week later, triggered by turmoil in the bond market — the 10-year US treasury yield touched 4.51 per cent — Trump reversed his stance, announcing a 90-day pause on tariffs for most nations. The exception was China. Trump, in fact, raised tariffs on China to a staggering 125 per cent. On April 15, the White House said that "China now faces up to a 245 per cent tariff" due to its retaliatory actions. The focus of the trade war now appears to have narrowed. China has, however, refused to bend, vowing to "fight to the end", even as more than 75 countries have reached out to discuss new trade deals, according to the White House. Beijing has retaliated in kind, by not only raising tariffs on US imports, but also unveiling non-tariff measures that

hurt American interests. For instance, it has **(A) exercises** restrictions on exports of rare earth elements that are critical in the energy, automobile and defence sectors.

Considering that China accounts for 70 per cent of production and 90 per cent of processing of rare earth elements as per studies, it **(B) expects** a stranglehold over these supply chains. Reportedly, China has also asked its airlines to stop purchases of Boeing jets. The Trump administration has also unveiled some non-tariff measures. It has imposed restrictions on Nvidia's exports of H20 artificial intelligence chips to China — the company **(C) imposed** to take a hit of \$5.5 billion in its first quarter earnings as a result. Amidst this escalating trade war, Chinese president Xi Jinping has embarked on a three-nation Southeast Asia tour. On Monday, he visited Vietnam, where he is reported to have said that the two countries should jointly oppose “unilateral bullying”. On Wednesday, he met with Malaysian Prime Minister Anwar

Ibrahim, and the trip concludes in Cambodia. The US has imposed a tariff of 46 per cent on Vietnam, 49 per cent on Cambodia and 24 per cent on Malaysia.

In this uncertain global environment, while each country will be guided by the imperative of protecting its self-interest, no one is likely to emerge unscathed from a trade war that involves the world's largest consumer and producer. Some like India fear that as exports of countries face hurdles in accessing markets, the export machinery could be directed towards them, raising concerns of dumping. As reported in this paper, the Indian government is estimating the "risk of a diversion in trade from other countries to India", especially of US farm products and goods from China, Vietnam and Indonesia. The government is looking at "import surges and has identified some countries for more intense monitoring".

This period of uncertainty calls for carefully calibrated policy responses, not _____(A)_____ reactions.

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Question 1:

The given passage has a blank that can be filled with the following options. Choose the one that fits best to make the sentence coherent.

I. set up

II. knee-jerk

III. Unthought-out

(a) Only I

(b) Both I and II

(c) Both II and III

(d) Only II

(e) None of the above options

Question 2:

In the above passage, three words are highlighted and marked as A, B, and C, which may or may not be in their correct positions. You have to choose the correct option below to arrange the words coherently.

- (a) BAC
- (b) CBA
- (c) BCA
- (d) CAB
- (e) None of the above options

Question 3:

In the given passage, the author wants to convey:

- I. Trump's trade war with China has intensified with increased tariffs and non-tariff measures.
- II. Countries such as Vietnam, Cambodia, and Malaysia are prepared to push back against the United States after being affected by its tariffs.
- III. India is concerned about the possibility of trade diversion and dumping due to the global trade war.

- (a) Only I
- (b) Both I and III
- (c) Both II and III
- (d) Only II
- (e) None of the above options

Question 4:

Which of the following cannot be determined based on the given paragraph?

- I. The US has imposed tariffs on a number of Southeast Asian countries.
- II. China is responding with non-tariff measures, while the US is retaliating solely through tariff-based actions.
- III. China has restricted the purchase of Boeing jets by its airlines.

- (a) Only I
- (b) Both I and II
- (c) Both II and III
- (d) Only II
- (e) None of the above options

Question 5:

After reading the given paragraph, and based on your understanding of the passage, the author suggests that:

- I. The trade war is likely to have wide-reaching effects on global trade.
- II. Some countries, such as India, may face new challenges due to redirected exports.
- III. Global leaders are unified in opposing tariffs and trade measures.

- (a) Only I
- (b) Both I and II
- (c) Both II and III
- (d) Only III
- (e) None of the above options

Question 6:

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

I. Trump reversed his tariff stance in anticipation of a market collapse, prompted by the US Treasury yield climbing above 4 per cent.

II. China controls over 50 percent of the production and more than three-fourths of the processing of rare earth elements.

III. In the unpredictable global landscape, no country is likely to remain unaffected by a trade war involving the world's largest consumer and producer.

(a) Only III

(b) Both I and II

(c) Only II

(d) Both II and III

(e) None of the above options

Question 7:

Which of the following best describes the tone of the passage?

- (a) Neutral and informative.
- (b) Optimistic and hopeful.
- (c) Celebratory and encouraging.
- (d) Pessimistic and analytical.
- (e) None of the above options

Direction (08-14): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below.

Galloping energy demands of modern-day information technology (IT) operations — including cloud services, big data processing, artificial intelligence (AI) usage, and 24×7 high-performance computing at hyperscale data centres — are ____ **(A)** ____ the industry to go nuclear. Little wonder that large technology companies, which were more focused on wind and solar sources, are looking very seriously at nuclear plants to provide emission-free power. Microsoft has signed up with Constellation Energy to revive the infamous Three Mile Island nuclear plant in Pennsylvania by 2028, promising to consume all the power it can generate over 20 years.

Bill Gates has invested \$1 billion in TerraPower, which will develop small reactors, partnering with Warren Buffett's PacifiCorp. Google is working with Kairos Power, a producer of small modular reactors (SMR), and will buy all their nuclear power when they commence production in 2030.

Amazon, similarly, is investing in X-Energy, an SMR company. Nuclear energy, found in the nucleus of an atom, is extracted to produce electricity through two atomic reactions — nuclear fission, in which uranium is used as a fuel to split atoms to release energy, or nuclear fusion, where lighter nuclei like hydrogen are combined to produce considerable energy. Arguably, fusion is safer as it does not involve chain reactions or cause explosions, but has proved somewhat utopian thus far. It's not just IT. Nuclear power can charge electric vehicle charging stations, providing reliable, low-carbon electricity for transportation. Steel and chemical manufacturing can deploy high temperature nuclear reactors advantageously. Process heat is best for glass manufacturing, cement production, and metal refining.

Radioisotopes from nuclear processes find wide use in medical applications like diagnosis and treatment. Scientific research can use nuclear high-energy output for particle research experiments. Nuclear power can help in converting sea water to potable water in desalination plants.

Space exploration, involving long-duration missions to solar energy-scarce planets, use nuclear energy from radioisotope thermoelectric generators. A clear benefit is the stable, continuous supply from nuclear sources regardless of weather conditions, ideal for uninterrupted operations of critical systems — which contrasts markedly with **fickle** supply from renewable sources like solar and wind. Greenhouse emissions are minimal in nuclear power, while the longer-term climate related downsides from using fossil fuels are well known. Other benefits are that a small amount of nuclear fuel can produce substantial output and scaling doesn't demand extensive land use, as required for renewables. Challenges include significant upfront capital investments and long durations before plants become operational — due to stringent

regulatory approvals, the complexity of the technology involved, and the many safeguards that must be in place. The biggest hurdle is perhaps public resistance, owing mainly to three infamous accidents.

The Chernobyl disaster resulted in a massive explosion and fire. The Three Mile Island meltdown was a major accident too, while the one at Fukushima was caused by a tsunami that followed an earthquake. Meltdowns happen when the heat generated far exceeds the heat transferred out through cooling systems. The release of radioactive material with damaging long-term health and environmental consequences remains deeply etched in public memory. The other is that nuclear technologies are perceived as being linked to nuclear weapons, which in the wrong hands can cause unprecedented mass destruction.

Question 08:

Choose the most suitable word to fill the given **blank A**:

Galloping energy demands of modern-day information technology (IT) operations — including cloud services, big data processing, artificial intelligence (AI) usage, and 24×7 high-performance computing at hyperscale data centres — are _____**(A)**_____ the industry to go nuclear.

I. pushing

II. driving

III. hindering

(a) Both I and II

(b) Both II and III

(c) Only III

(d) Only I

(e) None of the above options

Question 09:

Which of the following is the “**TRUE**” statement based on the passage?

I. Microsoft has agreed to buy all electricity generated by the revived Three Mile Island nuclear plant.

II. Fusion has become the most widely adopted method for nuclear energy production due to its safety.

III. Nuclear energy offers a reliable and stable source of power compared to renewable sources.

- (a) Only I
- (b) Both I and III
- (c) Only II
- (d) Both II and III
- (e) None of the above options

Question 10:

Which of the following most accurately reflects the passage's tone regarding nuclear power?

- (a) Highly skeptical due to past accidents
- (b) Alarmed about nuclear weapon proliferation
- (c) Dismissive of renewable energy sources
- (d) Optimistic but cautious due to known risks
- (e) None of the above options

Question 11:

What shift in energy sourcing does the passage highlight among big tech companies?

- I. Moving from renewable to nuclear energy for reliability
- II. Investing in small modular reactors for future scalability
- III. Collaborating with fossil fuel companies to create hybrid power models

- (a) Only I
- (b) Both I and II
- (c) Both II and III
- (d) Only III
- (e) None of the above options

Question 12:

Which of the following is the “**FALSE**” statement based on the passage?

- I. Greenhouse emissions from nuclear power are comparable in severity to the long-term climate impacts associated with the use of fossil fuels.
- II. Meltdowns occur when heat removal fails and heat accumulates beyond safe limits.
- III. Public fear regarding nuclear power stems from historical disasters.

- (a) Only II
- (b) Both I and III
- (c) Only I
- (d) Both I and II
- (e) None of the above options

Galloping energy demands of modern-day information technology (IT) operations — including cloud services, big data processing, artificial intelligence (AI) usage, and 24×7 high-performance computing at hyperscale data centres — are ____ **(A)** ____ the industry to go nuclear.

Question 13:

Which of the following options is the most appropriate **Synonym(s)** of the word “**Galloping**”, as used in the passage?

- I. Alleviating
- II. Skyrocketing
- III. Escalating

- (a) Only I
- (b) Both I and III
- (c) Only II
- (d) Both II and III
- (e) None of the above options

Question 14:

Which of the following options is the most appropriate **Antonym(s)** of the word “**fickle**”, as used in the line:

“...which contrasts markedly with **fickle** supply from renewable sources like solar and wind.”

- I. invariable
- II. erratic
- III. mercurial

- (a) Only I
- (b) Both I and III
- (c) Only II
- (d) Both II and III
- (e) None of the above options

Direction (15-20): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below.

In business, return on investment (ROI) is a key metric, but return on intention is just as **crucial**. While companies often prioritise measurable financial outcomes, intention shapes decision-making, strategy, and long-term growth. A well-defined intent enables businesses to enhance customer experience, adopt emerging technologies, and expand strategically. However, many organisations make the mistake of prioritising financial metrics over intent. By embedding intention into their strategies, they can mitigate risks, improve efficiency, and ultimately maximise ROI. What if we leveraged generative AI to uncover and amplify intent – aligning actions with purpose? Imagine AI algorithms analysing vast organisational data, uncovering

hidden patterns in communication, employee interactions, and decisions. Using NLP (Natural Language Processing) and sentiment analysis, they decode unspoken motivations and reveal organisational intent.

With predictive analytics, AI forecasts the impact of intentions, simulates scenarios, and adjusts variables to provide insights into their ROI. This empowers leaders to make informed decisions, steering their organisations toward goals aligned with their core values and mission. But how do we measure intention in concrete terms? Let's first explore why measuring return on intention is essential. We all know the principle: outputs depend on inputs. Yet, outcomes often fall short of intentions despite our best efforts. What if we shifted our focus from return on investment to return on intention? This shift emphasises the connection between intention and outcome. As the saying goes, "What goes around comes around." Leading with intention lays the foundation for success. Intent defines the "why" behind our actions.

Successful organisations recognise that intention, not just strategy, drives meaningful outcomes. For instance, Tata's intent – "to improve the quality of life for the communities we serve" – is more than a statement; it's their reason for existence.

But how do we measure intention and its impact? While ROI has clear metrics, return on intention is less defined. With advancements in AI and analytics, we are now exploring ways to quantify this critical yet uncharted aspect. Here's how:

AI-driven intention mapping: Generative AI can analyse historical data to identify underlying intentions behind activities and correlate them with successful outcomes.

Predictive analytics: Machine learning algorithms can predict project success based on alignment with stated intentions, helping prioritise initiatives.

Sentiment analysis: AI can gauge alignment with organisational intentions by analysing employee and customer feedback, enabling informed adjustments.

Personalisation: AI can tailor strategies and communications based on individual and collective intentions, ensuring alignment with core values.

Organisations that align their strategy with intention fare better in the long run. For instance, Dove's "Real Beauty" campaign aimed to challenge beauty standards and promote positive body image.

The campaign's intent resonated widely, changing conversations around beauty. Similarly, Adobe's "Kickbox" programme empowered employees to develop and pitch ideas, fostering ownership and responsibility. Embracing return on intention requires a perspective shift but offers substantial rewards. By aligning actions with purpose and leveraging generative AI, organisations become more **resilient** and purpose driven. This approach enhances financial metrics, fosters workforce engagement, builds customer loyalty, and supports sustainability.

Question 15:

Which of the following statements best captures the central argument of the passage?

- (a) ROI is more measurable and important than any other business metric.
- (b) Generative AI has become more crucial than strategic planning in modern businesses.
- (c) Intention, when aligned with business strategy and supported by AI, enhances outcomes and ROI.

- (d) Traditional financial metrics are obsolete in evaluating organisational performance.
- (e) None of the above options

Question 16:

Based on the passage, which of the following can be conveyed about AI's role in enhancing return on intention?

(I) AI can decode unspoken organisational motivations through data analysis.

(II) Predictive analytics can simulate the success of intentions before implementation.

(III) Generative AI replaces the need for strategic planning and leadership.

(a) Only (I)

(b) Both (I) and (II)

(c) Only (III)

(d) Both (II) and (III)

(e) None of the above options

Question 17:

Based on the passage, determine whether the following statements are True or False:

- (I) Measuring return on intention is currently as straightforward as calculating ROI.
- (II) AI technologies like NLP and sentiment analysis can help uncover organisational intent.
- (III) Strategic alignment with purpose leads to more meaningful business outcomes.

- (a) Only (I) is True
- (b) Both (I) and (II) are False
- (c) Only (III) is False
- (d) Both (II) and (III) are True
- (e) None of the above options

Question 18:

Based on the passage, determine whether the following statements are True or False:

(I) Many organisations wrongly focus more on financial results than on the purpose behind their actions.

(II) Return on intention replaces the need for ROI in business analysis.

(III) Sentiment analysis helps assess alignment between stakeholder feedback and organisational values.

(a) Only (I) is False

(b) Only (II) is True

(c) Both (I) and (III) are True

(d) Both (II) and (III) are False

(e) None of the above options

In business, return on investment (ROI) is a key metric, but return on intention is just as **crucial**. While companies often prioritise measurable financial outcomes, intention shapes decision-making, strategy, and long-term growth.

Question 19:

Which of the following options is the most appropriate **Synonym(s)** of the word “**Crucial**”, as used in the passage?

I. trivial

II. vital

III. pivotal

(a) Only I

(b) Both I and III

(c) Only II

(d) Both II and III

(e) None of the above options

Question 20:

Which of the following options is the most appropriate **Antonym(s)** of the word “**Resilient**”, as used in the line:

*“By aligning actions with purpose and leveraging generative AI, organisations become more **resilient** and purpose driven.”*

I. irrepressible

II. buoyant

III. fragile

(a) Only I

(b) Both I and III

(c) Only III

(d) Both II and III

(e) None of the above options