

CLOZE TESTS

Set 1

Direction (1-5): The passage given below contains some blanks wherein the words have been removed. Find the word from the given options that is suitable for each blank and mark that as your answer.

As the __(A)___ between India and Pakistan quickly veered towards a full-blown conflict last week, the United States' intervention came as a/ an __(B)___, especially as it followed Vice President JD Vance's statement that the India-Pakistan conflict is "none of our business". Vance's statement is consistent with both the US stand on the India-Pakistan dynamic since the 1999 Kargil conflict as well as with the evolving Trump doctrine where external intervention without __(C)___ economic interests seems a policy of the past. A quickly escalating conflict where new domains of attack and counter-attack began to be tested, even as India hit multiple bases across Pakistan and showcased a robust aerial defence capability, forced the US to urgently engage both sides diplomatically.

Topic - I-P → U.S Role
Tone -

The US' __(D)___ from its earlier position of non-intervention was done to provide guardrails, especially to prevent Islamabad from its habitual recourse to nuclear brinkmanship. However, Trump's rather __(E)___ balancing act between India and Pakistan through a tweet, hinting at Pakistan as a potential trade partner of Washington, has generated significant heat in India.]

As the ^{Noun} (A) between India and Pakistan quickly veered towards a full-blown conflict last week, the United States' intervention came as a/ an (B) , especially as it followed Vice President JD Vance's statement that the India-Pakistan conflict is "none of our business".

Question 1:

Which of the following best fits in **Option A**?

- I. behest — *call/request (Noun) <*
- II. conflagration — *fight (fire)*
- III. escalation — *fight (increase in tensions)*

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

As the __**(A)**__ between India and Pakistan quickly veered towards a full-blown conflict last week, the United States' intervention came as a/
an ^{Noun} __**(B)**__, especially as it followed Vice President JD Vance's statement that the India-Pakistan conflict is "none of our business".

Question 2:

Which of the following best fits in **Option B**?

- I. bombshell - [surprise]
- II. aversion - (dislike) x
- III. pondering - contemplating, chew over, mulling over, chewing the cud, thinking deeply

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

Vance's statement is consistent with both the US stand on the India-Pakistan dynamic since the 1999 Kargil conflict as well as with the evolving Trump doctrine where external intervention without (C) economic interests seems a policy of the past.

Question 3:

Which of the following best fits in **Option C**?

I. discernible

II. palpable

III. faltering

Adj

limpid bespicious pellucid
evident - clear

clear } conspicuous - clearly noticeable
- clear

- weakening, hesitating, staggering
reluctant wobbly, sickly

(a) Both I and II

a

(b) Only III

(c) Both II and III

(d) Only II

(e) None of the above

The US' ^{Noun} (D) from its earlier position of non-intervention was done to provide guardrails, especially to prevent Islamabad from its habitual recourse to nuclear brinkmanship.

(2)

Question 4:

Which of the following best fits in **Option D**?

I. bifurcated

- v^2/v^3 X - divided into two

II. retraction

- Noun

(3) Noun
Adj

III. backtracking

- Noun

re-again/back
regression

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

However, Trump's rather ^{Adj} (E) ^{Noun} balancing act between India and Pakistan through a tweet, hinting at Pakistan as a potential trade partner of Washington, has generated significant heat in India.

Question 5:

Which of the following best fits in **Option E**?

- I. subvert - Verb - undermine, weaken
 - II. peculiar - quirky, strange, weird, eccentric
 - III. bizarre - [capricious, whimsical] }
unpredictable, volatile, changeable, idiosyncratic
- sub - lower Adj

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

vagaries
Noun

Set-2

Direction (6-10): The passage given below contains some blanks wherein the words have been removed. Find the word from the given options that is suitable for each blank and mark that as your answer.

Microsoft founder Bill Gates recently (A) Tesla's "technoking" (as stated on its website) Elon Musk of "killing the world's poorest children" as the latter (B) the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in February. Gates' comments are put into perspective when USAID's contributions are taken into account — in 2023, it amounted to \$60 billion. One can argue that the (C) figure owes to the US' continuous support to war-torn Ukraine and warmongering Israel. But even without the war machinery, the US has been supporting many initiatives — started by Presidents over the years and ranging from AIDS prevention to eliminating malnutrition in children — via USAID since its inception in 1961. Stop-work orders were issued in February by the Musk-led Department of

Government Efficiency (or DOGE), which was formed to (D) wasteful spending. However, while the US remains the largest contributor of foreign aid, that amount is a mere 1% of the federal budget and does not do much to help the " (E) " US administration.]

Topic - US contribution
Tone - (-ve)

Microsoft founder Bill Gates recently __**(A)**__^{v2}
Tesla's "technoking" (as stated on its website)
Elon Musk of "killing the world's poorest children"
as the latter __**(B)**__ the United States Agency
for International Development (USAID) in
February.

Question 6:

Which of the following best fits in **Option A**?

I. deluded

II. subdued

III. alleged

betrayal
Noun
infidelity - *treason*
perfidy - *treachery*
deceit
misled, deceived, betrayed
quieted / muted / calm
accused
sub - lower

~~(a) Only III~~

(b) Both I and III

(c) All of I, II and III

(d) Both II and III

(e) None of the above

tricked

Microsoft founder Bill Gates recently ___(A)___
Tesla's "technoking" (as stated on its website)
Elon Musk of "killing the world's poorest children"
as the latter ___(B)___ the United States Agency
for International Development (USAID) in
February.

Question 7:

Which of the following best fits in **Option B**?

- I. disbanded — dissolved
- II. agitated — provoked, inflamed, incensed, infuriated, stirred, incited
- III. dismantled — dissolved, sabotage, eradicate, expunge, decimate, annihilate, savage, exterminate, wipe out, extirpate

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

One can argue that the ____ (C) ____ ^{number} figure owes
to the US' continuous support to war-torn
Ukraine and warmongering Israel.

Question 8:

Which of the following best fits in **Option C**?

- I. ☒ staggering
- II. ☒ exorbitant
- III. ☐ depleting

astonishing, surprising
huge
Ad 1
reducing
befuddling
baffling
muddling
confounding
flummoxing / flabbergasting / bamboozling / bewildering
astounding / gobsmacking / perplexing

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

Stop-work orders were issued in February by the Musk-led Department of Government Efficiency (or DOGE), which was formed to (D) wasteful spending.

Question 9:

Which of the following best fits in **Option D**?

- I. austere — *CAAD* — strict/stringent/draconian/harsh/steer exacting
 - II. curtail — *✓* — *✓* — reduce/lessen
 - III. forfeit — *lose taken away*
- [* abdicate
renounce
renunciate
abandon
give up
surrender
relinquish, yield, surrender
give in
cave in
throw in the towel
raise the white flag *]*

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

However, while the US remains the largest contributor of foreign aid, that amount is a mere 1% of the federal budget and does not do much to help the “—(E)—” US administration.

(Adj.)
(-ve)

Question 10:

Which of the following best fits in **Option E**?

- I. imbibed — *imbued, absorbed*
- II. embattled — *facing challenges*
- III. beleaguered — *weakened facing challenges*

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

Set-3

Direction (11-15): The passage given below contains some blanks wherein the words have been removed. Find the word from the given options that is suitable for each blank and mark that as your answer.

The recent decisions by Adani Group and Zoho Corporation to __(A)__ their semiconductor manufacturing projects have sparked concern among critics, some of whom have prematurely concluded that India's ambitious Rs 76,000-crore semiconductor incentive programme is __(B)___. The truth is that rather than a sign of systemic failure, these decisions reflect the natural shake-out in a nascent but rapidly evolving industry, one that requires strategic depth, technological partnerships, and long-term vision. It is crucial to note that neither the Adani project nor the Zoho one had even reached the formal approval stage under the government's programme. There is a special committee tasked with __(C)___ semiconductor proposals as they require critical tie-ups with global

-ve biased

technology partners, a/ an __(D)___ component for success in this complex sector. The inability to __(E)___ technology partnerships was a core reason for their withdrawal, not a reflection of government policy or industry potential.

Topic
Tone

The recent decisions by Adani Group and Zoho Corporation to __ (A) __ their semiconductor manufacturing projects have sparked concern among critics, some of whom have prematurely concluded that India's ambitious Rs 76,000-crore semiconductor incentive programme is __ (B) __.

Question 11:

Which of the following best fits in **Option A**?

I. clamour

II. abort

III. call off

Noun - uproar / commotion / disturbance / havoc / upheaval / chaos / tumult

stop
cancel

+ 1

process

turbulence
trouble
ruckus
mayhem
bedlam

(a) Only III

(b) Both I and II

☒ (c) Only I

☒ (d) Both II and III

(e) None of the above

The recent decisions by Adani Group and Zoho Corporation to (A) their semiconductor manufacturing projects have sparked concern among critics, some of whom have prematurely concluded that India's ambitious Rs 76,000-crore semiconductor incentive programme is (B). The truth is that rather than a sign of systemic failure, these decisions reflect the natural shake-out in a nascent but rapidly evolving industry, one that requires strategic depth, technological partnerships, and long-term vision.

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

Question 12:

Which of the following best fits in **Option B**?

- I. infiltrating
II. floundering
III. penetrating

oppose
defy
resist
entering secretly
failing
entering
contravene

trespass / intrude
enter without permissions
egress
exit
ingress
entry
flout / transgress
infringe / breach
violate - breaks the rules

There is a special committee tasked with
vetting (C) semiconductor proposals as they
require critical tie-ups with global technology
partners, a/ an (D) component for success
in this complex sector.

to + V¹

Question 13:

Which of the following best fits in **Option C**?

I. relegating

II. vetting

III. scrutinizing

evaluating
inspecting

relegate - to assign a lower position (inferior rank)
delegate
↓
to transfer to give responsibility

(a) Only I

(b) Both I and III

(c) Only III

(d) Both II and III

(e) None of the above

demote

There is a special committee tasked with
____(C)____ semiconductor proposals as they
require critical tie-ups with global technology
partners, a/ an ____ (D) ____ component for success
in this complex sector.

important malicious
vicious
noxious

Question 14:

Which of the following best fits in **Option D**?

I. perilous

II. imperative

III. indispensable

dangerous / jeopardous / hazardous / pernicious
crucial, vital, pivotal
momentous, key
instrumental
deleterious / detrimental

(a) Only I

(b) Both I and III

☒ (c) Both II and III

(d) All of I, II and III

(e) None of the above

The inability to _____ (E) ^{v1} technology partnerships was a core reason for their withdrawal, not a reflection of government policy or industry potential.

Question 15:

Which of the following best fits in **Option E**?

^{Verb}
I. forge

II. elusive

III. abstract

^(+ve)
Create -
to make an illegal copy
- Adj - difficult to catch
- Adj / Noun - something which resides in thoughts

☒ (a) Only I

(b) Both I and III

(c) Only II

(d) Both I and II

(e) None of the above

Set-4

Direction (16-20): The passage given below contains some blanks wherein the words have been removed. Find the word from the given options that is suitable for each blank and mark that as your answer.

At the recent Confederation of Indian Industry Mutual Fund (MF) Summit, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) executive director Manoj Kumar __**(A)**__ industry optimism by signalling a potential revisit of regulation 24(b) of the SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996. The provision, long seen as a hindrance, prohibits asset management companies (AMCs) from __**(B)**__ fund management activities beyond MFs except through SEBI-approved subsidiaries. It also mandates separate teams for fund management, even for back-office functions. Even some __**(C)**__ between broad-based and non-broad-based funds should be done away with so long as it is clean money. While rooted in investor protection and systemic prudence, these restrictions may be __**(D)**__ with today's integrated financial ecosystem. As India's MF industry surpasses Rs 64 lakh crore in assets under management, it is time to ask if such

constraints are advancing or stifling investor interests and innovation. One of the most __**(E)**__ missed opportunities is the management of foreign investments. Despite their competence, Indian AMCs are largely excluded from managing India-focused offshore funds which are instead run from jurisdictions like Singapore or the UAE.

At the recent Confederation of Indian Industry Mutual Fund (MF) Summit, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) executive director Manoj Kumar (A) industry optimism by signalling a potential revisit of regulation 24(b) of the SEBI (Mutual Funds) Regulations, 1996.

*free liberate vindicate/absolve/pardon
emancipate exonerate/acquit/exculpate*

Question 16:

Which of the following best fits in **Option A**?

I. invigorated

II. vindicated

III. stimulated

*- energised, increased
- X
- encouraged, increased*

(a) Only I

~~(b) Both I and III~~

(c) Only II

(d) Both II and III

(e) None of the above

vigor - energy

*unfetter
unshackle
unbuckle
unleash*

give freedom

free

^{condition} The provision, long seen as a ^{obstruction} hindrance,
^{stops} prohibits asset management companies (AMCs)
from ^{✓ + ing} (B) fund management activities
beyond MFs except through SEBI-approved
subsidiaries.

like two peas in a pod
take after

Question 17:

Which of the following best fits in **Option B**?

I. participating in ✓

II. taking up ✓

III. engaging in ✓

} Syno

resemble
chip off the old block

cast in the same mold

alter ego
other

(a) Only II

(b) Both I and II

(c) Both II and III

(d) All I, II and III ✓

(e) None of the above

(d)

It also mandates separate teams for fund management, even for back-office functions. Even ^{Adj} some ^{Noun} _____ (C) between broad-based and non-broad-based funds should be done away with so long as it is clean money.

Question 18:

get rid of

Which of the following best fits in **Option C**?

- I. coherence ^{Noun} -
- II. distinction ^I
- III. demarcation ^I

RC - P3

difference

coherent
paragraph

well connected

F *CT* *WS* *WD* *RC*
✓ *✓* *✓* *vocab*

(a) Only I

(b) Both I and III

☒ (c) Both II and III

(d) Only III

(e) None of the above

While rooted in investor protection and systemic prudence, these restrictions may be (D) with today's integrated financial ecosystem. As India's MF industry surpasses Rs 64 lakh crore in assets under management, it is time to ask if such constraints are advancing or stifling investor interests and innovation.

Question 19:

Which of the following best fits in **Option D**?

- I. banal — *cliche/taste/hackneyed*
- II. at odds with — *not matching*
- III. incongruent — *not matching*

20-25

Read Vocab

Prodigy

*sun of the mil/
lacklustre*

*tedious
monotonous
humdrum*

*platitudinous — boring
prosaic bland
pedestrian insipid*

*drab tepid
mundane lukewarm*

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

One of the most _____ ^(-ve) (E) ^{Adj} missed opportunities is the management of foreign investments.

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→ → [Work hard]
(proud)

Question 20:

Which of the following best fits in **Option E**?

I. glaring

II. egregious

III. submissive

grottesque abominable
ghostly
grotesque abhorrent
reproachable
despicable repugnant
sordid repulsive
heinous loathsome

docile
obedient

(a) Only I

☒ (b) Both I and II

(c) Only II

(d) Both I and III

(e) None of the above

blatant obnoxious
flagrant appalling
brazen abysmal
glaring
horrendous
vile
obprobrious