

Direction (1-6): In the following passage, certain phrases have been emboldened, each of which is preceded by a letter. Select the most suitable word from the given options to replace the bold phrases so as to make the paragraph meaningful. Additionally, one blank must be filled using an appropriate idiom or phrasal verb.

Despite initial resistance, the idea of a digital-first education system has gradually **to reduce in intensity or fade away (A)** into mainstream acceptance. The pandemic not only accelerated digital transformation but also **to stop something from continuing (B)** many outdated models of teaching. Educators across the globe began to understand that rigid structures and conventional assessments were **to make someone feel less confident or less important (C)** the unique potential of learners. However, this shift also brought significant challenges: from connectivity issues to student disengagement, digital learning often seemed _______ (D) in real-time execution. Institutions needed to **to discover something unexpectedly (E)** new strategies for engagement, and policy makers had to **to start dealing with a problem or situation more seriously (F)** the digital divide.

Question 1:

Which of the following words will replace the phrase highlighted in **position A**?

- 1. dissipated
- 2. attenuated
- 3. subsided
- (A) Both 1 and 2
- (B) Both 2 and 3
- (C) Both 1 and 3
- (D) Only 1
- (E) All 1, 2 and 3

Question 2:

Which of the following words will replace the phrase highlighted in **position B**?

- 1. dismantled
- 2. demolished
- 3. perpetuated
 - (A) Both 1 and 2
 - (B) Both 2 and 3
 - (C) Both 1 and 3
 - (D) Only 1
 - (E) All 1, 2 and 3

Question 3:

Which of the following words will replace the phrase highlighted in **position C**?

- 1. undermining
- 2. underestimating
- 3. undercutting
 - (A) Both 1 and 2
 - (B) Both 1 and 3

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- (C) Both 2 and 3
- (D) Only 1
- (E) All 1, 2 and 3

Question 4:

Which of the following idioms or phrasal verbs can appropriately fill in the **blank (D)**?

- 1. falling through the cracks
- 2. falling flat
- 3. coming full circle
 - (A) Only 1
 - (B) Both 1 and 2
 - (C) Only 3
 - (D) Both 2 and 3
 - (E) All 1, 2 and 3

Question 5:

Which of the following words will replace the phrase highlighted in **position E**?

- 1. stumble upon
- 2. come across
- 3. give in
 - (A) Both 1 and 2
 - (B) Both 2 and 3
 - (C) Both 1 and 3
 - (D) Only 1
 - (E) All 1, 2 and 3

Question 6:

Which of the following idioms or phrases will replace the phrase highlighted in **position F**?

- 1. get to grips with
- 2. brush up on
- 3. come to terms with
 - (A) Both 2 and 3
 - (B) Both 1 and 3
 - (C) Only 1
 - (D) Only 2
 - (E) All 1, 2 and 3

Directions (7-10): A sentence is given below with five different words highlighted in bold. Select the option that gives the correct sequence of words as they should appear in the passage. In case the sentence is correct, select "no improvement required".

Question 7:

Found in houses of **geometric**, government buildings and sometimes just structures built with unique art elements, stained-glass windows often portray **metallic** scenes, **modern** patterns or even random designs. Typically made from glass that has been colored with **biblical** salt, stained-glass windows appeared on the early churches during the 4th and 5th centuries. Some windows are more **worship**, like this rose window, completed in 1924 in Saint Peter and Paul Catholic Church in San Francisco, California.

- (A) modern, worship, geometric, biblical, metallic,
- (B) metallic, modern, biblical, worship, geometric
- (C) worship, biblical, geometric, metallic, modern
- (D) biblical, worship, geometric, metallic, modern
- (E) No improvement required

Question 8:

A lie detector test includes more than the time spent hooked up to the **nonverbal** machine. The tester will start making **observations** the instant a person enters the test center. A skilled polygrapher will notice and record **polygraph** cues associated with lying, so it's a good idea to know your "tells." The polygraph machine records breathing rate, blood pressure, pulse rate, and perspiration. More **identify** machines include magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the brain. Physiological responses to irrelevant, diagnostic, and relevant questions are compared to **sophisticated** lies.

- (A) observations, nonverbal, polygraph, identify, sophisticated
- (B) polygraph, observations, nonverbal, sophisticated, identify
- (C) polygraph, nonverbal, observations, identify, sophisticated
- (D) identify, nonverbal, observations, polygraph, sophisticated
- (E) No improvement required

Question 9:

After months of trying to **wade** through an ethnic crisis by maintaining the status quo, the Union government finally got its act together and removed the government in Manipur from power and imposed President's Rule, hoping that the change would be the **preponderance** of good tidings. The fact that the ruling party could not manage to find a **replacement** for its outgoing leader reflected not just on the internal **divisions** within the party but also on the **harbinger** of the ethnic divide in the State.

- (A) harbinger, preponderance, replacement, wade, divisions
- (B) wade, harbinger, replacement, preponderance, divisions
- (C) replacement, preponderance, wade, harbinger, divisions
- (D) wade, harbinger, replacement, divisions, preponderance
- (E) No improvement required

Question 10:

Whenever nations embark on reconfiguring their security **strategies**, they must invariably **review** the use of the various instruments of force that are available for exploitation. India's journey down that road has been **evolutionary** rather than transformational. From a rather **diffident** power soon after Independence, that perceived the instrument of force as an 'avoidable necessity', to more assertive expressions of national power over the last five decades, that commenced with the 1971 war with Pakistan, Indian statecraft stands at the **crossroads** of a new era.

- (A) diffident, strategies, crossroads, evolutionary, review
- (B) crossroads, evolutionary, diffident, review, strategies
- (C) strategies, diffident, evolutionary, crossroads, review
- (D) strategies, review, crossroads, diffident, evolutionary
- (E) No improvement required

ANSWER

1.Ans: E

Explanation: dissipated (verb): gradually disappeared or faded away (contextually correct) **attenuated (verb):** reduced in force, effect, or value — more technical but fits the tone (appropriate) **subsided (verb):** became less intense or severe (suitable in the context of resistance fading) **Thus, the correct answer is (E) All 1, 2 and 3**

2.Ans: A

Explanation: dismantled (verb): Means to take something apart or put an end to a system or institution. Correct — fits perfectly in context.

demolished (verb): Typically refers to destroying something physically (like a building), but it can be used figuratively for systems. It works metaphorically here.

perpetuated (verb): Means to cause something to continue, especially something harmful or negative. **Incorrect** — it has the **opposite** meaning of what is needed in context.

Thus, the correct answer is (A) Both 1 and 2

3.Ans: B

Explanation: undermining (verb): Means to gradually weaken or erode someone's authority, confidence, or beliefs. **Correct** — perfectly matches the context.

underestimating (verb): Means to judge something or someone as being less important, skilled, or significant than they really are. Incorrect — this implies a misjudgment, not a weakening. undercutting (verb): Has two meanings:

- a) to sell at a lower price (not relevant here), and
- b) to weaken or undermine someone or something especially authority or confidence. **Correct**—aligns contextually.

Thus, the correct answer is (B) Both 1 and 3

4.Ans: B

Explanation: falling through the cracks: means being **overlooked or neglected**, often unintentionally. **Fits well** — traditional methods risk being ignored or abandoned.

falling flat: means **failing to have the intended effect** (e.g., a joke, idea, or plan). **Fits** — could suggest that traditional methods are **no longer effective**.

coming full circle: means returning to the original position or condition after a series of changes. **Does not fit** — implies **completion or return**, not failure or neglect.

Thus, the correct answer is (B) Both 1 and 2

5.Ans: A

Explanation: stumble upon – to discover something unexpectedly or by chance. **Correct**.

come across – to find or meet by chance. **Correct**.

give in – to surrender or stop resisting. **Incorrect** in this context.

Both "stumble upon" and "come across" mean discovering something unexpectedly and are grammatically and contextually suitable for position (E).

Thus, the correct answer is (A) Both 1 and 2

6.Ans: C

Explanation: get to grips with: means *to begin* to understand or deal with a difficult situation seriously.

Correct

brush up on: means to improve your knowledge of something already learned, especially before an exam or interview. **Incorrect** — relates to refreshing skills, not tackling problems.

come to terms with: means to accept an unpleasant or difficult situation.

Incorrect according to the highlighted phrase—suitable when referring to *acceptance*, but **not active problem-solving**. It's more emotional or psychological.

Thus, the correct answer is (C) Only 1

7.Ans: C

Explanation: Found in houses of **worship**, government buildings and sometimes just structures built with unique art elements, stained-glass windows often portray **biblical** scenes, **geometric** patterns or even random designs. Typically made from glass that has been colored with **metallic** salt, stained-glass windows appeared on the early churches during the 4th and 5th centuries. Some windows are more **modern**, like this rose window, completed in 1924 in Saint Peter and Paul Catholic Church in San Francisco, California.

8.Ans: B

Explanation: A lie detector test includes more than the time spent hooked up to the **polygraph** machine. The tester will start making **observations** the instant a person enters the test center. A skilled polygrapher will notice and record **nonverbal** cues associated with lying, so it's a good idea to know your "tells." The polygraph machine records breathing rate, blood pressure, pulse rate, and perspiration. More **sophisticated** machines include magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) of the brain. Physiological responses to irrelevant, diagnostic, and relevant questions are compared to **identify** lies.

9.Ans: D

Explanation: After months of trying to **wade** through an ethnic crisis by maintaining the status quo, the Union government finally got its act together and removed the government in Manipur from power and imposed President's Rule, hoping that the change would be the **harbinger** of good tidings. The fact that the ruling party could not manage to find a **replacement** for its outgoing leader reflected not just on the internal **divisions** within the party but also on the **preponderance** of the ethnic divide in the State.

10. Ans: E

Explanation: No improvement required

Whenever nations embark on reconfiguring their security **strategies**, they must invariably **review** the use of the various instruments of force that are available for exploitation. India's journey down that road has been **evolutionary** rather than transformational. From a rather **diffident** power soon after Independence, that perceived the instrument of force as an 'avoidable necessity', to more assertive expressions of national power over the last five decades, that commenced with the 1971 war with Pakistan, Indian statecraft stands at the **crossroads** of a new era.







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