

## READING COMPREHENSION

### PASSAGE

A hundred years ago, when sport was confined largely to games played in the backyard or on the field, one could hardly have imagined the attention that it has come to receive in the twenty first century. Today, the importance of sport in society is clearly demonstrated by the fact that even the CBS Evening News can be pre-empted for the finals of a tennis match or the match for grabbing the title of the Super Bowl. A survey conducted recently revealed that fully 81 percent of all adults follow some organized sport, mostly on television. And the phenomenon of weekend "sports widows"—women abandoned by their husbands for weekend sports on television—is entering its third generation. Sport is defined sociologically as competitive physical activity that is performed under established rules. Like all social institutions, sport serves numerous functions.

First, it provides society with a vast array of leisure-time activities for all segments of the population. Although it is an overstatement to say that modern society is a leisure society, there has been a significant increase in the amount of nonwork time that most people have available. Further, more recreational activity has become increasingly necessary in a society in which the vast majority of jobs provide little or none on physical activity.

Second, sport provides an outlet for energies that, if not diverted, could cause serious strain on the social order. For both fan and participant, sport permits the expression of emotions (such as anger and frustration) in ways that are acceptable to, even encouraged by, society.

Finally, sport provides society with role models. Athletes at all levels, but especially famous athletes, provide (examples) of conduct and employment of skills that others can emulate. For example, many children's heroes today are professional football and baseball players.

Although sports promote many positive aspects of a society, conflict theorists are quick to point out that they also reflect society's inequalities. Like most other social institutions, sports are characterized by inequalities of class, race, and gender.

For example certain sports—such as polo, tennis, and skiing—have traditionally appealed to the wealthy. People with lower incomes often simply cannot afford to purchase and maintain horses or expensive tennis and ski equipment. Other sports—such as boxing, which is often associated with urban poverty—are distinctly lower class in origin and participation. In general, members of the lower and working classes have tended to participate in sports like baseball and basketball: games that require little more than a field, a ball, and some players.

Although sport is sometimes considered exempt from racial inequality, sociological evidence has shown this not to be the case. Although it is true that nonwhites in Western society have enjoyed greater opportunities for high incomes in professional sports than in other occupations, it is also true that virtually all managers and owners of sports teams are white. There are very few nonwhite sportscasters, administrators, umpires, or referees. Furthermore, nonwhites are all but absent (even as players) from all professional sports except baseball, basketball, boxing, and football.

The history of women in traditionally male-oriented sports is also one of discrimination and inequality. When the first modern Olympic Games were held in 1896, women were virtually excluded from all forms of competition. Until fairly recently, girls were not even allowed to play Little League baseball. But the position of women in sports is currently changing as a result of the women's movement, court decisions, and governmental policies. Today many women excel not only in such traditional "female" sports as gymnastics and figure skating but also in more aggressively "male" sports like race car driving and basketball.

1. Which of the following is not a function of sport, as stated in the passage ?
  - A. It provides the required recreation which has become increasingly necessary in today's society.
  - B. It creates the spirit of healthy competition needed for one to rise up higher in life.
  - C. It is a medium for a nation's honour and prestige to be seen and felt.

D. All of the above.

2. Which of the following, if true, concurs best with what the author has to state in the passage ?

- A. Television has played a vital role in spreading the importance of sport in society.
- B. Sport is not exempt from racial and gender inequality.
- C. Role models are born of sport.
- D. All of the above.

3. The expression 'sports widows', as used in the passage, best means :

- A. women who have become widows on account of the death of their husbands in a sporting encounter.
- B. widows who have sportsman like qualities and who need to be encouraged to participate in sports.
- C. women who are neglected by their husbands preferring to stay glued to the television for week-end sports.
- D. None of the above.

4. The performance of women until recently, as made out by the passage, has been:

- A. below average, their participation being only for namesake.
- B. discouraging due to the interference of court decisions, governmental policies and resistance by women's movement.
- C. subdued on account of prevailing discriminatory attitude on grounds of gender.
- D. poor on account of the inhibitions present in women and is their own doing.

5. Which of the following is refuted by the passage ?

- A. Sports promote many positive aspects of society.
- B. Sports become the ready outlet for pent up emotions of anger and frustration.
- C. Sports is not an avenue of leisure and recreation, it involves undue strain and stress.
- D. Sports are responsible for players and participants becoming subjected to hero worship by the citizens of the country they represent.

6. The passage has portrayed sportsmen as :

- A. money making individuals.
- B. promoters of the organisations that employ them or are in contract with them.
- C. socialites working for a public cause but having political leanings.
- D. role models whose conduct and use of skills are emulatory.

7. The contents of the passage are not :

- A. informative
- B. up-to-date
- C. boring
- D. interesting

8. A suitable title for the passage could be :

- A. Sport As A Social Institution.
- B. Sports Administration.
- C. Ethics Governing Sportsmen.
- D. Towards Excellence In Sports.

9. The passage has not ruled out sports as creating :

- A. a feeling of unity among the people.
- B. a sense of patriotism in playing for the nation.
- C. a rift in the economic haves and have-nots.
- D. a better ability to manage and administer things.

10. Sports, as per the passage, has given rise to racial inequality by :

- A. not allowing the Black people to play with the White people.
- B. the team representing the country consisting of White people not competing with the team representing the country consisting of Black people.
- C. appointing White people to the posts of managers of sports teams, newscasters, administrators, umpires and referees.
- D. paying more to Black players than White ones.

#### ANSWER KEYS

1. (C) 2.(D) 3.(C) 4.(C) 5.(C) 6.(C) 7.(C) 8.(A) 9.(C) 10.(C)

#### SENTENCE IMPROVEMENTS

11. Since companies are rethinking their portfolios for the post crisis world, they should ask themselves if they are still the best owner of their assets.

- A. Since companies are rethinking their portfolios for the post crisis world, they should ask themselves if they are still the best owner of their assets
- B. As companies rethink their portfolios for the post crisis world, they will ask themselves if they still continue to be the best owner of their assets
- C. As companies rethink their portfolios for the post crisis world, they should ask themselves whether they are still the best owners of their assets
- D. As companies rethink their portfolios for the post crisis world, each of them should ask themselves if they are still the best owners of their assets
- E. Although companies rethink their portfolio for the post crisis world, they should ask themselves whether they are still the best owners of their assets

**Answer – C**

12. As investors are demanding companies to actively manage their business portfolios, executives must increasingly balance investment opportunities against the capital that's available to finance them.

- A. As investors are demanding companies to actively manage their business portfolios, executives must increasingly balance investment opportunities against the capital that's available to finance them
- B. As investors demand that companies actively manage their business portfolios, executives must increasingly balance investment opportunities against the capital that's available to finance these opportunities
- C. As investors demand that companies should actively manage their business portfolios, executives must increasingly balance investment opportunities with the capital that's available to finance it
- D. Due to the investors demand that companies actively manage their business portfolios, executives must increasingly balance investment opportunities with the capital that's available to finance them
- E. Because of investors who are demanding that companies should actively manage their business portfolios, executives must increasingly balance investment opportunities against the capital that's available to finance them

**Answer – B**

13. The telecom minister had been indicted by the Supreme court in the 2G spectrum scam, which resulted in a loss of about \$1.7 trillion to the exchequer.

- A. had been indicted by the Supreme court in the 2G spectrum scam, which resulted
- B. has been indicted in the 2G spectrum scam by the Supreme court, which resulted
- C. has been indicted by the Supreme court in the 2G spectrum scam, which resulted
- D. is indicted by the Supreme court in the 2G spectrum scam that resulted
- E. has been indicted by the Supreme court in the 2G spectrum scam, resulting

**Answer – C**

14. I-slate is targeted at millions of Indian school children who do not have access to electricity.

- A. I-slate is targeted at millions of Indian school children who do not have access to electricity.
- B. I-slate is targeted towards millions of Indian school children who do not have access to electricity.

- C. I-slate is targeted at millions of Indian school children that do not have access to electricity.  
D. I-slate is targeted for millions of Indian school children who did not have access to electricity.  
E. I-slate is targeted at millions of children in Indian schools who do not have access to electricity.

**Answer – A**

15. In October, the chairman of Tata Sons, Ratan Tata, gifted \$50 million for his alma mater, the Harvard Business School to give back to the school a little bit of what it had given him

- A. In October, the chairman of Tata Sons, Ratan Tata, gifted \$50 million for his alma mater, the Harvard Business School to give back to the school a little bit of what it  
B. In October, the chairman of Tata Sons, Ratan Tata, has gifted \$50 million to his alma mater, the Harvard Business School, which is an attempt to give back to the school a little bit of what it  
C. In October, the chairman of Tata Sons, Ratan Tata, gifted \$50 million to his alma mater, the Harvard Business School, in an attempt to give back to the school a little bit of what they  
D. In October, the chairman of Tata Sons, Ratan Tata, gifted \$50 million to his alma mater, the Harvard Business School, in an attempt to give back to the school a little bit of what it  
E. In October, the chairman of Tata Sons, Ratan Tata, decided to gift \$50 million to his alma mater, the Harvard Business School, it being an attempt to give back to the school a little bit of what it

**Answer – D**

16. Home security is blossoming for toy makers that can match the technical power and flexibility of the computer industry and the mass-market prices that come from large production runs.

- A. that can match the technical power and flexibility of the computer industry and the mass-market prices that come from  
B. who can match the technical power and flexibility of the computer industry with the mass-market prices that comes from  
C. that can match the technical power and flexibility in the computer industry as well as the mass-market prices which come from  
D. who can match the technical power and flexibility of the computer industry with the mass-market prices that come from  
E. that can match the technical power and flexibility of the computer industry and the mass-market prices that comes from

**Answer – D**

17. Starting Thursday, Wal-Mart Stores is planning to offer free shipping on its Web site on almost 60,000 gift items, including many toys and electronics

- A. is planning to offer free shipping on its Web site on almost 60,000 gift items, including  
B. plan to offer free shipping on its Web site on almost 60,000 gift items, including  
C. plans to offer free shipping on their Web site on almost 60,000 gift items, including  
D. will plan to offer free shipping on its Web site on almost 60,000 gift items, including  
E. is planning to offer free shipping on its Web site on almost 60,000 gift items, that include

**Answer – A**

18. For smaller retailers and Web sites, which pay regular mail rates and may be shipping from only one location, free shipping is not nearly as affordable and often must be added into prices

- A. which pay regular mail rates and may be shipping from only one location, free shipping is not nearly as affordable and often must  
B. that pay regular mail rates and may ship from only one location, free shipping is not nearly as affordable and often must  
C. who pay regular mail rates and may ship from only one location, free shipping is not nearly so affordable and it often must  
D. which pays regular mail rates and may ship from only one location, free shipping is not as nearly affordable and often must  
E. which pay regular mail rates and may ship from only one location, free shipping is not nearly as affordable and often must

**Answer – E**

#### **FILL IN THE BLANKS**

19. To ..... did Mark lend his video game?

- (a) who (b) who's (c) whom (d) what

**ANSWER-C**

20. .... of the cars is parked in the driveway?

- (a) Which (b) Who's (c) What (d) Whom

**ANSWER-A**

21. To ..... should the check be made payable?

- (a) who (b) who's (c) whom (d) which

**ANSWER-C**

22. I'm sorry, James isn't ..... at the moment. Can I take a message?

- (a) in (b) away (c) up (d) off

**ANSWER-A**

23. We've run ..... sugar. Could you please buy some more?

- (a) down on (b) away from (c) on with (d) out of

**ANSWER-D**

24. I don't know how you ..... with such noisy brothers. It would drive me crazy.

- (a) put up (b) put away (c) clear up (d) bring up

**ANSWER-A**

25. You've borrowed such a great deal of money from me lately. I need to ..... exactly how much you owe me.

- (a) make up (b) put out (c) work out (d) clear up

**ANSWER-C**

26. Can you ..... the time of the next train to Munich?

- (a) sort out (b) put out (c) find out (d) try out

## ANSWER-C

### SPOT THE ERRORS

27. My elder sister came home (1)/ after the sunset (2)/ and had gone (3)/ before sunrise. (4)/ No error (5)
28. In the meeting (1)/ Mr. Yadav was (2)/ selected the chairman (3)/ yesterday. (4) / No error (5)
29. Raza talked to Madhu (1)/ by a telephone (2)/ yesterday, but (3)/ she was not in her house. (4)/ No error (5)
30. Kabir and Rahim (1) / are great poets (2) / but the former is (3) / greater than latter. (4) / No error (5) '
31. The sun shines (1)/ by a day always and (2)/ not by night, because (3)/ it is the law of nature. (4)/ No error (5)
32. He (1)/ has abandoned (2)/ the criminal activities (3)/ after returning from Jail. (4)/ No error (5)
33. Mahatma Gandhi did not solve (1) / all the problems of the future (2)/ but he did solve (3)/ problems of his own age (4)/ No error (5)
34. A first step (1) / in a rational solution to any problem (2) / is the recognition (3)/ that a problem exists (4)/ No error (5)

### ANSWERS

27. (B) 28. (C) 29. (B) 30. (D) 31. (B) 32. (E) 33. (D) 34. (A)

### CRITICAL REASONING

35. The price the government pays for standard weapons purchased from military contractors is determined by a pricing method called " historical costing. " Historical costing allows contractors to protect their profits by adding a percentage increase, based on the current rate of inflation, to the previous year's contractual price.

Which of the following statements, if true, is the best basis for a criticism of historical costing as an economically sound pricing method for military contracts?

- (A) The government might continue to pay for past inefficient use of funds.
- (B) The rate of inflation has varied considerably over the past twenty years.
- (C) The contractual price will be greatly affected by the cost of materials used for the products.
- (D) Many taxpayers question the amount of money the government spends on military contracts.
- (E) The pricing method based on historical costing might not encourage the development of innovative weapons.

**The correct answer is A.**

36. Since the mayor's publicity campaign for Greenville's bus service began six months ago, morning automobile traffic into the midtown area of the city has decreased seven percent. During the same period, there has been an equivalent rise in the number of persons riding buses into the midtown area. Obviously, the mayor's publicity campaign has convinced many people to leave their cars at home and ride the bus to work.

Which of the following, if true, casts the most serious doubt on the conclusion drawn above?

- (A) Fares for all bus routes in Greenville have risen an average of five percent during the past six months.
- (B) The mayor of Greenville rides the bus to City Hall in the city's midtown area.
- (C) Road reconstruction has greatly reduced the number of lanes available to commuters in major streets leading to the midtown area during the past six months.

(D) The number of buses entering the midtown area of Greenville during the morning hours is exactly the same now as it was one year ago.

(E) Surveys show that longtime bus riders are no more satisfied with the Greenville bus service than they were before the mayor's publicity campaign began.

**The correct answer is C.**

37. Shelby Industries manufactures and sells the same gauges as Jones Industries. Employee wages account for forty percent of the cost of manufacturing gauges at both Shelby Industries and Jones Industries. Shelby Industries is seeking a competitive advantage over Jones Industries. Therefore, to promote this end, Shelby Industries should lower employee wages.

Which of the following, if true, would most weaken the argument above?

(A) Because they make a small number of precision instruments, gauge manufacturers cannot receive volume discounts on raw materials.

(B) Lowering wages would reduce the quality of employee work, and this reduced quality would lead to lowered sales.

(C) Jones Industries has taken away twenty percent of Shelby Industries' business over the last year

(D) Shelby Industries pays its employees, on average, ten percent more than does Jones Industries.

(E) Many people who work for manufacturing plants live in areas in which the manufacturing plant they work for is the only industry.

**The correct answer is B.**

38. Treatment for hypertension forestalls certain medical expenses by preventing strokes and heart disease. Yet any money so saved amounts to only one-fourth of the expenditures required to treat the hypertensive population. Therefore, there is no economic justification for preventive treatment for hypertension.

Which of the following, if true, is most damaging to the conclusion above?

(A) The many fatal strokes and heart attacks resulting from untreated hypertension cause insignificant medical expenditures but large economic losses of other sorts.

(B) The cost, per patient, of preventive treatment for hypertension would remain constant even if such treatment were instituted on a large scale.

(C) In matters of health care, economic considerations should ideally not be dominant.

(D) Effective prevention presupposes early diagnosis, and programs to ensure early diagnosis are costly.

(E) The net savings in medical resources achieved by some preventive health measures are smaller than the net losses attributable to certain other measures of this kind.

**The correct answer is A.**

39. Since the deregulation of airlines, delays at the nation's increasingly busy airports have increased by 25 percent. To combat this problem, more of the takeoff and landing slots at the busiest airports must be allocated to commercial airlines.

Which of the following, if true, casts the most doubt on the effectiveness of the solution proposed above?

(A) The major causes of delays at the nation's busiest airports are bad weather and overtaxed air traffic control equipment.

(B) Since airline deregulation began, the number of airplanes in operation has increased by 25 percent.

(C) Over 60 percent of the takeoff and landing slots at the nation's busiest airports are reserved for commercial airlines.

(D) After a small Midwestern airport doubled its allocation of takeoff and landing slots, the number of delays that were reported decreased by 50 percent.

(E) Since deregulation the average length of delay at the nation's busiest airports has doubled

**The correct answer is A.**

40. Unlike the wholesale price of raw wool, the wholesale price of raw cotton has fallen considerably in the last year. Thus, although the retail price of cotton clothing at retail clothing stores has not yet fallen, it will inevitably fall.

Which of the following, if true, most seriously weakens the argument above?

(A) The cost of processing raw cotton for cloth has increased during the last year

(B) The wholesale price of raw wool is typically higher than that of the same volume of raw cotton.

(C) The operating costs of the average retail clothing store have remained constant during the last year

(D) Changes in retail prices always lag behind changes in wholesale prices.

(E) The cost of harvesting raw cotton has increased in the last year

**The correct answer is A.**