

# Practice Exercise

**Directions** Each passage is followed by five questions. Read each passage carefully and answer the questions that follow. For each question four probable answer bearing letters (1), (2), (3) and (4) are given. Only one out of these is correct.

## Passage 1

Mahatma Gandhi is unanimously looked upon as the greatest man of the world today. This is no underserved epithet. The ideals of self-sacrifice and love of truth which he has brought before the world's eyes are simply adorable. His message of truth has awakened the sleeping population of India.

But Gandhiji, like all other personages, belongs not only to a particular country but the whole world. His philanthropic mission is exemplary in the history of mankind. It is no wonder if the future progeny will look upon him as the incarnation of God himself.

1. What has awakened the sleeping population of India?  
(1) Gandhiji's message of truth  
(2) Gandhiji's faith in non-violence  
(3) Gandhiji's ideal of self-sacrifice  
(4) Gandhiji's vision of free India
2. Like all other personages Gandhiji  
(1) belongs to the whole world  
(2) likes truth  
(3) believes only in non-violence  
(4) is worshipped as God
3. What does the expression 'unanimously looked upon' mean?  
(1) Loved by all  
(2) Regarded by all  
(3) Decided by all  
(4) Deputed by all
4. It is no wonder if the future generation will look upon Mahatma Gandhi as  
(1) a great man of India  
(2) a lover of human kind  
(3) the incarnation of God himself  
(4) a divine person
5. The two ideals Gandhiji brought before the world are  
(1) self-sacrifice and love of truth  
(2) truth and non-violence  
(3) self-sacrifice and non-violence  
(4) truth and tolerance

## Passage 2

It is strange that ducks mostly swim in water, though their feathers keep dry. They swim in water for long hours and sometimes plunge into water but the feathers still keep dry. What is the secret of it? There is a small oil limb produced in the root of a duck's tail. The duck expels oil by pressing this limb which spreads over their feathers. Generally, all the birds have this oil producing limb but it is well developed in an aquatic animal, there is no sweat producing limb in birds.

1. The above passage, describes about a duck's  
(1) sweat limb  
(2) oily feathers  
(3) oil limbs  
(4) secret of remaining dry
2. The peculiarity of ducks is that they  
(1) can swim for long  
(2) can swim very fast  
(3) can plunge quickly  
(4) can remain dry inspite of swimming in water
3. The oil limb of a duck is  
(1) on its back  
(2) in its tail  
(3) in its feathers  
(4) in its feet
4. "What is the secret of it?" Which action of a duck is represented by these words?  
(1) Swimming  
(2) Plunging  
(3) Remaining dry  
(4) Remaining in water for a long time
5. The oil limb is  
(1) not developed in all birds  
(2) not found in all ducks  
(3) not found in all birds  
(4) well developed in only some ducks

## Passage 3

The Sahara is the biggest desert in the world. It stretches across the whole of North Africa. The Arabian desert is also a very large desert. In India too, there is a desert called Thar desert in Rajasthan. Life in a desert is tough. The days are very hot and nights are cold.

1. The biggest desert in the world is in  
(1) India  
(2) Africa  
(3) Arabia  
(4) America
2. Date palms grow in  
(1) plains  
(2) hilly regions  
(3) deserts  
(4) snowy regions

3. In desert regions
  - (1) there is no rainfall      (2) it rains heavily
  - (3) there is enough rain    (4) there is a little rain
4. The antonym of the word 'hot' is
  - (1) cold                      (2) warm
  - (3) pleasant                (4) difficult
5. Very few trees grow in deserts because
  - (1) most trees need water to grow
  - (2) there is sand all around
  - (3) nights are very cold
  - (4) there is no one to take care of trees

### Passage 4

Mr. Verma is a typist in the town hospital. He lives near the hospital. He, his wife and their daughter, Leela, are a small and happy family. They are hard working. Mr. Verma's wife, Smt. Aruna is busy from morning to evening. She has no servant. She gets up before sunrise and begins her work. She sweeps the rooms, washes the vessels and cooks the food.

Leela wakes up before 6 o'clock. She helps her mother with her work in the kitchen. She brings water from the well and washes the clothes. So, she is busy too. She does her homework after breakfast and leaves for school at nine.

1. Who is a typist in the town hospital?
  - (1) Smt. Aruna                (2) Leela
  - (3) Mr. Verma                (4) None of these
2. Who is busy from morning to evening?
  - (1) Smt. Aruna                (2) Mr. Verma
  - (3) Leela                      (4) None of these
3. Smt. Aruna has no .....
  - (1) room                      (2) food
  - (3) work                      (4) servant
4. Who brings water from the well?
  - (1) Leela                      (2) Smt. Aruna
  - (3) Mr. Verma                (4) Servant
5. At what time does Leela get up?
  - (1) After 6 o'clock          (2) Before 6 o'clock
  - (3) At 6 o'clock              (4) None of these

### Passage 5

There was once a boy who would never pay any attention to his studies. His parents sent him to school but he took to playing on the road and did not care for the opinion of even those friends who helped him in danger. One day a gentleman who was on the look out for a boy-servant, happened to come across him, wandering all alone in the street. He carried him away to a different town and made

him work day and night as a servant. Now, the boy repented his folly and one day while his master was fast asleep, he slipped away and after a good deal of trouble, reached home. He applied himself hard to his books now and rose, in after life, to be a great man.

1. Who took to playing on the road?
  - (1) A servant
  - (2) A boy
  - (3) Parents
  - (4) A gentleman
2. Who helped him in danger?
  - (1) Friends                    (2) Parents
  - (3) A gentleman              (4) A boy-servant
3. What did the gentleman make him to do day and night?
  - (1) Play      (2) Study      (3) Work      (4) Sleep
4. "The boy slipped away when the master was ...."
  - (1) working                    (2) sleeping
  - (3) playing cards              (4) having lunch
5. The opposite gender for the word 'gentleman' is
  - (1) gentlewoman              (2) lady
  - (3) gentlemen                (4) madam

### Passage 6

The Earth is known as a 'watery planet' because it is the only planet of the solar system containing water in abundance. The presence of life on our planet is mainly due to water and air. More than two-thirds of the Earth's surface is covered with water. Oceans contain about 97% of the total water available on the Earth's surface. The fresh water found in the form of snow and ice on the ground and water in lakes and rivers accounts for the remaining 3%. Ocean water is always saline. Hence, it is not of direct use to man. It is however, important as it provides the bulk of water vapour that enters the atmosphere where it forms clouds.

1. The presence of life on our Earth is due to
  - (1) good food and crops
  - (2) good roads and motor cars
  - (3) air and water
  - (4) sunlight
2. .... surface of the Earth is covered with water.
  - (1) More than half
  - (2) More than two-thirds
  - (3) Less than half
  - (4) Less than two-thirds



## 3. Spot the correct statement.

- (1) Man uses ocean water directly
- (2) Fresh water is always saline
- (3) Ocean water is always saline
- (4) Earth gets water from Sun

## 4. Oceans contain

- (1) 50% of the total water
- (2) 3% of the total water
- (3) 97% of the total water
- (4) ice and snow

## 5. Which one of the following is not a synonym of 'abundance'?

- (1) Plenty
- (2) Ampleness
- (3) Lack
- (4) Riches

**Passage 7**

In our approach to life, be it pragmatic or otherwise a basic fact that confronts us squarely and unmistakably is the desire for peace, security and happiness. Different forms of life at different levels of existence make up the teeming denizens of this Earth of ours. And no matter whether they belong to the higher groups such as human beings or to the lower groups such as animals, all beings primarily seek peace, comfort and security. Life is as dear to a mute creature as it is to a man. Even the lowliest insect strives for protection against dangers that threaten its life. Just as each one of us wants to live and not to die, so do all other creatures.

## 1. The author's main point is that

- (1) different forms of life are found on Earth
- (2) different levels of existence are possible in nature
- (3) peace and security are the chief goals of all living beings
- (4) even the weakest creature struggles to preserve its life

## 2. How is life of a mute creature?

- (1) They are ignorant
- (2) It is as dear as a man itself
- (3) Cannot be forecast
- (4) It is comfortable

## 3. According to the passage, the higher groups are mentioned as

- (1) all the animals
- (2) all human beings
- (3) under threaten
- (4) mute like insects

## 4. The lowliest insect strives for

- (1) food
- (2) existence
- (3) peace
- (4) protection

## 5. Who does want to die?

- (1) One of us and all other creature
- (2) Happiness, peace
- (3) Human beings
- (4) Lower groups of animals

**Passage 8**

One of the major crises facing the country is the looming water shortage. A recent report of the UN has named India among the worst countries for poor quality of water. The report ranks 122 countries according to the quality of their water as well as their ability and commitment to improve the situation. Belgium is considered the worst basically because of the quality of its ground water. Rains failed in most parts of India last year and the vast areas of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra and Odisha were in the grip of devastating drought. People without water turn desperate and violent. Villagers in Rajasthan last year attacked the Food Corporation godowns. Worse may be coming. With man refusing to control pollution (America, the world's greatest polluter, refuses to cooperate with, other countries) the world's getting hotter. This means that the great ice shelves (weighing billions of tonnes) of the Antarctic are collapsing. We cannot even conceptualise the dangerous consequences.

## 1. Belgium, is suffering acutely because

- (1) the sluggish pace of its economy
- (2) the discharge of industrial effluents
- (3) quality of its ground water
- (4) rising cost of living

## 2. Villagers in Rajasthan attacked Food Corporation godowns because of

- (1) low prices offered to them for wheat
- (2) refusal of Food Corporation to buy wheat from the local farmers
- (3) no financial help from the government bodies
- (4) shortage of water

## 3. What major crises is the country facing today?

- (1) Rainfall
- (2) Water shortage
- (3) Drought
- (4) Violent

## 4. The word 'Devastating' means

- (1) Blessed
- (2) Disastrous
- (3) Fortunate
- (4) Peace

## 5. The world's greatest polluter country is

- (1) India
- (2) America
- (3) Belgium
- (4) Unknown

3. Spot the correct statement.
  - (1) Man uses ocean water directly
  - (2) Fresh water is always saline
  - (3) Ocean water is always saline
  - (4) Earth gets water from Sun
4. Oceans contain
  - (1) 50% of the total water
  - (2) 3% of the total water
  - (3) 97% of the total water
  - (4) ice and snow
5. Which one of the following is not a synonym of 'abundance'?
 

(1) Plenty	(2) Ampleness
(3) Lack	(4) Riches

### Passage 7

In our approach to life, be it pragmatic or otherwise a basic fact that confronts us squarely and unmistakably is the desire for peace, security and happiness. Different forms of life at different levels of existence make up the teeming denizens of this Earth of ours. And no matter whether they belong to the higher groups such as human beings or to the lower groups such as animals, all beings primarily seek peace, comfort and security. Life is as dear to a mute creature as it is to a man. Even the lowliest insect strives for protection against dangers that threaten its life. Just as each one of us wants to live and not to die, so do all other creatures.

1. The author's main point is that
  - (1) different forms of life are found on Earth
  - (2) different levels of existence are possible in nature
  - (3) peace and security are the chief goals of all living beings
  - (4) even the weakest creature struggles to preserve its life
2. How is life of a mute creature?
  - (1) They are ignorant
  - (2) It is as dear as a man itself
  - (3) Cannot be forecast
  - (4) It is comfortable
3. According to the passage, the higher groups are mentioned as
 

(1) all the animals	(2) all human beings
(3) under threaten	(4) mute like insects
4. The lowliest insect strives for
  - (1) food
  - (2) existence
  - (3) peace
  - (4) protection

5. Who does want to die?
  - (1) One of us and all other creature
  - (2) Happiness, peace
  - (3) Human beings
  - (4) Lower groups of animals

### Passage 8

One of the major crises facing the country is the looming water shortage. A recent report of the UN has named India among the worst countries for poor quality of water. The report ranks 122 countries according to the quality of their water as well as their ability and commitment to improve the situation. Belgium is considered the worst basically because of the quality of its ground water. Rains failed in most parts of India last year and the vast areas of Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra and Odisha were in the grip of devastating drought. People without water turn desperate and violent. Villagers in Rajasthan last year attacked the Food Corporation godowns. Worse may be coming. With man refusing to control pollution (America, the world's greatest polluter, refuses to cooperate with, other countries) the world's getting hotter. This means that the great ice shelves (weighing billions of tonnes) of the Antarctic are collapsing. We cannot even conceptualise the dangerous consequences.

1. Belgium, is suffering acutely because
  - (1) the sluggish pace of its economy
  - (2) the discharge of industrial effluents
  - (3) quality of its ground water
  - (4) rising cost of living
2. Villagers in Rajasthan attacked Food Corporation godowns because of
  - (1) low prices offered to them for wheat
  - (2) refusal of Food Corporation to buy wheat from the local farmers
  - (3) no financial help from the government bodies
  - (4) shortage of water
3. What major crises is the country facing today?
  - (1) Rainfall
  - (2) Water shortage
  - (3) Drought
  - (4) Violent
4. The word 'Devastating' means
 

(1) Blessed	(2) Disastrous
(3) Fortunate	(4) Peace
5. The world's greatest polluter country is
 

(1) India	(2) America
(3) Belgium	(4) Unknown

### Passage 9

In Asia and much of Third World, trees are still destroyed in the old-fashioned way: they are cut down for fuel and cropland. In Europe, there is new and potentially more deadly culprit, The Germans call it 'Waldsterben', the dying forest syndrome. But the disease is far more than a German phenomenon. Since, it was first observed by German scientists in the autumn of 1980, the mysterious malady has raced across Europe, blighting woods in countries as far apart as Sweden and Italy. Explanations for the epidemic range from a cyclic change in the environment to a baffling form of tree cancer. But the most convincing evidence points to air pollution. Indeed, saving the rapidly deteriorating forests of Europe will probably require a two-pronged strategy an offensive campaign that includes the breeding of pollution-immune trees and a defensive scheme that calls for reductions in toxic emissions. But both will require more money than is currently being spent on such measures, as well as total commitment to protecting the environment.

1. According to this passage, which one of the following statements is correct?
  - (1) There is less damage in Asia than in Europe
  - (2) More forests are dying in Germany than anywhere else in Europe
  - (3) A cyclic change in the environment is responsible for deforestation
  - (4) Air pollution is the main culprit of destroying European forests
2. Saving the trees of European forests
  - (1) should not be difficult because of the advances in experimental research
  - (2) appears to be a hopeless task and therefore pointless to undertake
  - (3) requires a much bigger budget
  - (4) demands vigilance and punitive measures against those who cut down the trees
3. The dying forest syndrome is a disease that
  - (1) is peculiar to the forests of Asia
  - (2) has spread rapidly over the forests of Europe
  - (3) is confined to the forests of Germany
  - (4) has affected forests all over the world
4. The writer suggests that
  - (1) it is no longer possible to grow trees in industrialised areas
  - (2) pollution immune trees will absorb toxic emissions
  - (3) all pollution-prone trees should be destroyed
  - (4) it is not possible to grow trees that remain unaffected by pollution

5. The writer's approach toward the problem of forest devastation is one of
  - (1) tolerance
  - (2) indifference
  - (3) well thought-out strategy
  - (4) despondency

### Passage 10

Thomas Edison was an American scientist. As a little boy, he used to sell newspapers on the American railway station. Most of the time, he was found in the telegraph office watching the operators at work. One day, he saw the station master's little boy in danger of meeting an accident. Jumping forward, he saved the child and in return for the service the station master taught him all about telegraphy. Many hours did the young man spend in research and to him we owe some of the greatest comforts of modern life. He was only twenty years old when he invented gramophone.

1. Which country did Thomas Edison belong to?
  - (1) India
  - (2) China
  - (3) America
  - (4) Japan
2. Where did he sell newspapers?
  - (1) At the railway station
  - (2) At the airport
  - (3) At the bus-stop
  - (4) At the mall
3. What did he do in the telegraph office?
  - (1) Talk to the people
  - (2) Help the people
  - (3) Fill the details
  - (4) Watch the operators
4. What was his age when he invented gramophone?
  - (1) Eighteen
  - (2) Twenty-four
  - (3) Twelve
  - (4) Twenty
5. Who was in danger?
  - (1) Thomas Edison
  - (2) The station master
  - (3) The station master's little boy
  - (4) None of the above

### Passage 11

Ram Mohan Roy was born at Radhanagar in the Hoogly district of Bengal on 22nd May, 1772. His father, Ramakant Roy, had settled at Radhanagar after giving up his post under Sirajuddoula, the Nawab of Bengal. He had been unjustly treated by the Nawab and he also had some trouble about his lands. So, he became unattached to the world and generally spent his time in prayer and thinking of God.



- Who was born at Radhanagar?
  - (1) Sirajuddoula
  - (2) Ram Mohan Roy
  - (3) Ramakant Roy
  - (4) The Nawab of Bengal
- According to the passage, the word 'unattached' means
  - (1) separate
  - (2) unloved
  - (3) involved
  - (4) trouble
- Who spent his most of the time in prayer?
  - (1) Ramakant Roy
  - (2) Sirajuddoula
  - (3) Ram Mohan Roy
  - (4) None of these
- Choose the incorrect statement.
  - (1) Radhanagar is in Bengal
  - (2) Ramakant Roy worked under Sirajuddoula
  - (3) Ram Mohan Roy had trouble about his lands
  - (4) Ramakant Roy became unattached to the world
- The district Hoogly is in
  - (1) Odisha
  - (2) Paschim Banga
  - (3) Bihar
  - (4) Uttar Pradesh

### Passage 12

On a summer day, a stag felt very thirsty. He went in search of water. After searching for a long time, he came across a lake. He began to drink water. While drinking, he saw his own reflection in the water. His beautiful branching horns attracted him very much. He was proud of his horns but he condemned God for giving him thin, ugly legs. In the meantime, a hunter came in the forest. The stag thought that his life was in danger. The dogs chased him. But his ugly legs helped him very much in running very fast. He defeated the dogs but his branching horns were caught in a thick bush. At the same time, the dogs came and killed him.

- What was the stag proud of?
  - (1) His height
  - (2) His horns
  - (3) His legs
  - (4) God
- Which season is mentioned in the story?
  - (1) Winter
  - (2) Summer
  - (3) Spring
  - (4) Autumn
- What did he hate in himself?
  - (1) His horns
  - (2) His stomach
  - (3) His body
  - (4) His thin legs
- The opposite of the word 'thick' is
  - (1) Small
  - (2) thin
  - (3) large
  - (4) fast
- ..... helped the stag.
  - (1) His horns
  - (2) His thin legs
  - (3) His body
  - (4) His stomach

### Passage 13

Florence Nightingale was born on 15th May, 1820, at Florence in Italy. Her parents called her Florence after the name of the city where she was born. Her main ambition was to be a nurse and so she gave up all thoughts of marriage and personal happiness. She spent years visiting hospital after hospital.

Day and night, she visited every bed in the hospital to see that no patient was neglected and all were as comfortable as possible. However hard, she might have worked all day, every night she would take her lamp and move from bed to bed. The soldiers named her 'The Lady with the Lamp'.

- In which city was Florence Nightingale born?
  - (1) France
  - (2) Italy
  - (3) Florence
  - (4) London
- What was her main ambition?
  - (1) Nursing
  - (2) Teaching
  - (3) Personal happiness
  - (4) Travelling
- Where did she spend years?
  - (1) In schools
  - (2) In forests
  - (3) In hospitals
  - (4) In the temple
- What did she do every night?
  - (1) Sleep in her bedroom
  - (2) Did not sleep at all
  - (3) Watched mysterious dreams
  - (4) Visited all the patients
- What did the soldiers name her?
  - (1) The Lady without the Lamp
  - (2) The Lamp with the Lady
  - (3) The Lady with the Lamp
  - (4) No Lady without the Lamp

### Passage 14

The blue whale is the largest living animal to have ever lived on the planet Earth. Blue whales are way larger than the largest dinosaur that ever lived. The largest blue whales can grow as large as 100 feet long, which is longer than three school buses put together!

Even though blue whales are huge, they eat tiny creatures known as krill. The blue whale may eat over 8000 pounds of krill in a single day!

- Which is the largest living animal on the Earth?
  - (1) Elephant
  - (2) Human
  - (3) Ostrich
  - (4) Blue whale

2. The blue whale eats.....
  - (1) sharks
  - (2) big fish
  - (3) humans
  - (4) small creatures called krill
3. Blue whales can grow
  - (1) 1100 ft
  - (2) 100 ft
  - (3) 1000 ft
  - (4) 10 ft
4. 8000 pounds of krill may be eaten by
  - (1) elephant
  - (2) crocodile
  - (3) blue whale
  - (4) dinosaur
5. Opposite of 'longer' is
  - (1) bigger
  - (2) higher
  - (3) shorter
  - (4) greater

### Passage 15

A woodpecker is a kind of bird. Woodpeckers are found all over the world except in the North and South poles, Australia and New Zealand. There are over 200 different kinds of woodpeckers. The two largest woodpeckers, the imperial woodpecker and the ivory-billed woodpecker are most likely extinct. Animals that are extinct are no longer found on Earth.

Woodpeckers have sharp bills for drilling into wood and short, stiff tails. Woodpeckers also have very long tongues, which help them get at insects deep within trees. Woodpeckers are often heard drumming loudly on trees. Woodpeckers can even become pests if they learn to drum on siding of a house.

1. Why do woodpeckers have long tongues?
  - (1) So they can drum on trees
  - (2) To get at insects on the ground
  - (3) To get at insects within trees
  - (4) To eat seeds
2. When do woodpeckers sometimes become pests?
  - (1) When they become extinct
  - (2) When they drum on houses
  - (3) When they eat suet
  - (4) When they visit feeders
3. Woodpeckers are not found in
  - (1) South Poles
  - (2) Australia
  - (3) New Zealand
  - (4) All of these
4. The word 'extinct' means
  - (1) the two largest woodpeckers
  - (2) pest
  - (3) insects
  - (4) animals that are no longer found

5. Woodpeckers use their sharp bills for
  - (1) flying high
  - (2) drilling wood
  - (3) sitting on the tree branches
  - (4) drinking

### Passage 16

Rainbows are often seen when the Sun comes out after or during a rainstorm. Rainbows are caused when sunlight shines through drops of water in the sky at a specific angle. When white sunlight enters a raindrop, it exits the raindrop a different colour. When light exits lots of different raindrops at different angles, it produces the red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo and violet that you see in a rainbow. Together, these colours are known as the spectrum. These colours can sometimes be seen in waterfalls and fountains as well.

1. Rainbows are often seen
  - (1) after a rainstorm
  - (2) before a rainstorm
  - (3) after the Sun sets at night
  - (4) before a storm
2. Rainbows are produced when
  - (1) light exits many raindrops at different angles
  - (2) the Sun causes a rainstorm
  - (3) the spectrum causes a rainstorm
  - (4) the Sun comes out after a storm
3. Which one of the following is a synonym of the word 'specific'?
  - (1) exact
  - (2) general
  - (3) common
  - (4) similar
4. What is spectrum?
  - (1) Bright part of the rainbow
  - (2) Entire colour of rainbow
  - (3) Indigo and violet
  - (4) Sunlight
5. How many colours are there in a rainbow?
  - (1) 5
  - (2) 7
  - (3) 6
  - (4) 4

### Passage 17

Venus, named after the Roman God of love and beauty, is the second planet from the Sun and the closest planet to Earth. The thick cloud cover on Venus reflect the Sun's light which causes Venus to be the second brightest object in our night sky. Venus is also called the evening star.

Venus is also the hottest planet. It is covered by very thick, rapidly spinning clouds of water vapour and carbon dioxide. These clouds hold in heat and are continually warming the planet. The surface of Venus can reach almost 900° F!

- Which planet is closest to Venus?  
(1) Mars (2) Jupiter  
(3) Earth (4) Mercury
- The surface of Venus can reach  
(1) 9000° (2) 900° (3) 910° (4) 90°
- Venus is often known as  
(1) Roman Star (2) Night Star  
(3) Morning Star (4) Evening Star
- Venus was named after the  
(1) God of Sacrifice (2) Roman God  
(3) Love and Rome (4) Love and Beauty
- Venus is the.....planet.  
(1) closet (2) coldest  
(3) hottest (4) darkest
- We must strive with our total commitment  
(1) defeat and overcome the enemies of the nation  
(2) revitalise our rich past culture  
(3) inject scientific temper into our past culture  
(4) make scientific advancements
- Our freedom fighters envisioned that in free India  
(1) there should be an egalitarian society  
(2) women would enjoy higher privileges and rights than others  
(3) the country would be taken forward by some selected classes of the society  
(4) industrialisation should occupy the top priority
- Opposite word for 'equal' is  
(1) complete (2) inequal  
(3) equality (4) unequal

### Passage 18

The martyrs who laid down their lives for the freedom of the country, had a lofty vision of the future. They wanted the nation to be free from all the slavery and bondage. They wanted an India in which all the communities would live in perfect harmony and in which there would be no high class and no low class and no low class of people, the curse of untouchability having been wiped out completely.

Women would enjoy equal rights with men and contribute their fullest to the making of a great nation. Such a vision was in keeping with the ancient glory of the country renowned for its splendid achievements in literature, art and culture. We must now revitalise this ancient culture of ours with tolerance as its masthead. If we forget or cease to take pride in our noble heritage. We shall have to face severe indictment in the court of history which is a ruthless judge and seldom spares the erring people.

- The martyrs who died for the freedom of India wanted  
(1) the country to be the strongest nation in the world  
(2) the country to rule over the other nations  
(3) the country to be free from slavery  
(4) the people to give up their antiquated customs
- These martyrs wanted that  
(1) there should be reservation in the jobs for the backward section of the society  
(2) there should be perfect communal love and peace in the country  
(3) the old caste system should be retained in the future  
(4) the women should look after their families only

### Passage 19

Dr. S Radhakrishnan, the illustrious philosopher statesman of India, was one of the greatest sons of our motherland. He cautioned the world against the domination of Science in society. It is erroneous to claim that scientific knowledge would bring with it perpetual progress and a steady improvement in human relations.

The recent period of great scientific achievements has also increased human misery in the world wars, concentration camps, atomic destruction, cold war, deadly wars in the middle East, Persian Gulf and at many other places in the world. Growth in human wisdom has not been commensurate with the increase in scientific knowledge and power.

The fear of universal destruction hangs over the world. There is a feeling of disenchantment, anxiety and even despair. Science had failed to liberate man from the tyranny of his own nature. Mankind is passing through a critical period and an education of the human spirit has become essential. In order to remake society, man has to remake himself. If humanity is to survive, man must integrate his knowledge with a social responsibility.

- Dr. S Radhakrishnan has  
(1) emphasised that Science should be banished from the society  
(2) opposed the teaching of Science in educational institutions  
(3) favoured scientific thinking in life  
(4) counseled that preponderance of Science in life does not necessarily generate happiness



2. The recent past of tremendous scientific progress has
  - (1) made the world a very happy place
  - (2) led to global warming
  - (3) brought about internal transformation in men
  - (4) shown that human wisdom has not kept pace with galloping scientific knowledge
3. Man is despaired of Science because
  - (1) Science has given too much knowledge
  - (2) Science has brought him excessive material comforts
  - (3) he has become a captive of Science
  - (4) he is confronted with the nightmare of total annihilation of the world
4. Man can save humanity only if he
  - (1) abandons Science
  - (2) brings about an internal transformation in himself
  - (3) makes his life more comfortable with scientific gadgets
  - (4) goes back to nature and primitive times
5. In this passage, the writer has tried to show that
  - (1) Science is the only savior that shall lead humanity forward
  - (2) Science can bring about an end to all the wars
  - (3) social change comes with the advancement of Science
  - (4) human wisdom must grow proportionately with growth of knowledge to evolve a creative integration to help mankind

### Passage 20

Most of us use the products of science railways, aeroplanes, electricity, wireless and thousands of others—without thinking how did they come into existence. We take them for granted, as if we were entitled to them as a matter of right. And we are very proud of the fact that we live in an advanced age and are so very advanced. Now, there is no doubt that our age is a very different one from previous ages and I think it is perfectly correct to say that it is far more advanced. But that is a different thing from saying that we as individuals or groups are more advanced. It would be the height of absurdity to say that because an engine driver can run an engine and Plato or Socrates could not, the engine driver is more advanced than, or is superior to, Plato or Socrates. But it would be perfectly correct to say that the engine itself is a more advanced method of locomotion than Plato's chariot was.

1. Which one of the following statements is correct?
  - (1) An engine driver cannot be compared to Plato or Socrates
  - (2) Plato or Socrates is in no way inferior to the engine driver
  - (3) Plato or Socrates surpassed the engine driver in every respect
  - (4) An engine driver is cleverer than Plato or Socrates
2. According to the passage, the word 'doubt' means
 

(1) unsureness	(2) surity
(3) distinct	(4) precise
3. Many of us make use of machines
  - (1) with full knowledge of their genesis
  - (2) without knowing how were they invented
  - (3) with very little knowledge of their mechanism
  - (4) without any knowledge of their historical significance
4. In this passage, the writer mentions Plato and Socrates to emphasise that
  - (1) they had a great respect for learning
  - (2) they were men of great scholarship
  - (3) people as individuals in the modern age are not more advanced than their predecessors
  - (4) the engine is a better mode of locomotion than Plato's chariot
5. Which is not the product of Science?
 

(1) Wireless	(2) Aeroplanes
(3) Electricity	(4) Wood

### Passage 21

Bees are insects. Bees are special insects because they can fly! They can move through the air like an airplane! They need to fly to get to the flowers!

Bees can have three colours. They can be yellow, red and orange. All bees are black in some places. Bees have three main parts. They have a head. They have a body. And, they have a stinger. The stinger is used to defend against enemies. They also have six legs. They use their legs to stand and climb. They also use their legs to eat and collect pollen. Bees live in many places. They live in Africa, Australia, Asia, Europe, North America, South America. The only continent that bees do not live on is Antarctica!

1. What are bees?
  - (1) Mammals
  - (2) Birds
  - (3) Reptiles
  - (4) Insects

## 2. How do bees fly?

- (1) They use their legs (2) They use their head  
(3) They use their wings (4) None of the above

## 3. The bees defend against enemies with their

- (1) legs (2) wings  
(3) head (4) stinger

## 4. Bees do not live in

- (1) Antarctica (2) Australia  
(3) Europe (4) Africa

## 5. Bees have

- (1) five legs, two wings (2) six legs, two wings  
(3) six legs, one wing (4) five legs, one wing

**Passage 22**

My name is Sam. Today is very hot. The Sun is very strong. I am hot. I want to be cool. How can I get cool?

Wait.... I know!

I can go to the pool. The pool is cool. I can swim in the pool. Is the pool open? Or is the pool closed?

Where is the phone? I need to call the pool. I need to find out if the pool is open or closed.

—Ring! Ring!—

“Hello! My name is Andrea. I am at the pool. Can I help you?”

“Hi, Andrea. Is the pool open?”

“Yes. The pool is open.”

“Okay. Thank you!”

“You are welcome. Bye!”

Great! The pool is open! Now I can cool down!

## 1. What is the weather like today?

- (1) It is cold (2) It is cool  
(3) It is warm (4) It is hot

## 2. Sam is hot but Sam wants to be

- (1) cold (2) cool (3) warm (4) hot

## 3. How can Sam get cool?

- (1) He can go to the library  
(2) He can go to the pool  
(3) He can go to school  
(4) He can go to work

## 4. Why does Sam talk to Andrea?

- (1) Because she is his friend  
(2) Because she knows his sister  
(3) Because Sam needs to know what time it is  
(4) Because Sam wants to know if the pool is open

## 5. Opposite word of ‘open’ is

- (1) strong  
(2) down  
(3) close  
(4) hot

**Passage 23**

The Ganga is a holy river of the Hindus. The Hindus call the Ganga ‘Mother Ganga’. Every Hindu wishes to die on the banks of the holy Ganga, so that he may reach heaven. At Allahabad, the Yamuna also joins it and the confluence is known as Triveni. After flowing through Bihar and Bengal, it flows into the Bay of Bengal.

The Ganga is very useful for the country. It brings with it rich soil from the mountains and spreads it on the land to make it very fertile. The fields in this area produce two crops a year. The Ganga is also very useful in other ways. Many saints and holy persons live on its banks and we can learn much from their teachings and wisdom.

## 1. Which is the holy river of the Hindus?

- (1) The Ganga (2) The Yamuna  
(3) The Sindhu (4) None of these

## 2. What do Hindus call it?

- (1) Father Ganga (2) Mother Ganga  
(3) Devi Ganga (4) Sister Ganga

## 3. What is the opposite of ‘Heaven’?

- (1) Earth (2) Paradise  
(3) Hell (4) Ganga

## 4. What is the name of the confluence?

- (1) Hindus (2) Ganga  
(3) Allahabad (4) Triveni

## 5. What does every Hindu wish to do at the bank of holy Ganga?

- (1) Prayer (2) Sacrifice  
(3) Meditation (4) Die

**Passage 24**

In Shantiniketan, the boys rise very early in the morning. Sometimes, before it is light. They attend to the drawing of water for their bath. They make-up their beds. They do all those things that tend to cultivate the spirit of self-help. I believe in the hour of meditation and I set fifteen minutes both in morning and evening for that purpose. I do not insist on this period of meditation because it can make them hypocrites and make them believe that they are meditating. But I do insist that they remain quiet, so that they can exert the power of self-control.

## 1. .... get up early in the morning.

- (1) Students  
(2) Attendants  
(3) Teachers  
(4) Boys

2. What do they do early in the morning?
  - (1) Their homework
  - (2) Pray to God
  - (3) Cook their lunch
  - (4) Do all their work like drawing water from wells and washing their clothes
3. How much time is set for meditation?
  - (1) One hour
  - (2) Ten minutes twice a day
  - (3) Fifteen minutes twice a day
  - (4) Fifteen minutes thrice a day
4. Why should they remain quiet?
  - (1) Not to make noise
  - (2) Not to disturb others
  - (3) To practice silence
  - (4) To practice self-control
5. The opposite of 'before' is
 

(1) forward	(2) after
(3) backward	(4) early

### Passage 25

People think all insects are our enemies. Children like to kill flies, bugs and mosquitoes. Many kinds of insects are our enemies. Some of them harm our trees, our clothes, our books, our houses and some of them poison our food. Some of them bite us and spread diseases.

But many insects are our friends too. They eat insects that we want to get rid of.

There are many insects that are neither our friends nor our enemies. They do nothing to help or harm us.

1. "Some of them bite us..."  
'Some' here refers to
 

(1) People	(2) Children
(3) Enemies	(4) Insects
2. Some insects do good to us because
  - (1) they live in our houses
  - (2) they spoil some kinds of food
  - (3) they save us from harmful insects
  - (4) they eat harmful insects
3. Some insects do more harm than good because
  - (1) they are annoying
  - (2) they are covered with dirt
  - (3) they spread diseases
  - (4) they eat other insects
4. In this passage, the writer tells us about
  - (1) the nature of children
  - (2) many kinds of insects
  - (3) usefulness of insects
  - (4) the nature of insects

5. Which of the following statements about the insects is wrong?
  - (1) Insects are harmful
  - (2) Insects harm our important belongings
  - (3) Insects are the carriers of many diseases
  - (4) Insects live in clean conditions

### Passage 26

Have you heard of a place called Kanya Kumari? It is a cape at the Southernmost end of India. We sometimes say that the Himalayas are the crown of Mother India, so we can regard Kanya Kumari as her holy feet. At Kanya Kumari, there is a famous old temple. It stands on the Southern most point of land, very near the shore. Pilgrims bathe in the sea and go up into the temple for worship. In the temple, there stands a praying figure of a girl-Goddess; she stands facing the Bay of Bengal in the East. The Goddess is called Kanya Kumari. The place is called Kanya Kumari after her. In foreign countries, it is generally known by the name Cape Camorine; but its Indian name Kanya Kumari has now become popular.

1. Kanya Kumari is situated
  - (1) in the Bay of Bengal
  - (2) at the Southern most end of India
  - (3) in the Arabian Sea
  - (4) at the South-Eastern end of India
2. At Kanya Kumari, there is an old temple which is
 

(1) in the sea	(2) in the deep sea
(3) very near the sea	(4) on a hill top
3. The temple at Kanya Kumari is named after
  - (1) the Goddess called Kanya Kumari
  - (2) the Goddess of the sea
  - (3) the Himalayas
  - (4) a girl who built the temple
4. What is true about the Kanya Kumari temple?
  - (1) A famous old temple
  - (2) Very near the sea
  - (3) A deity of Goddess Kanya Kumari
  - (4) All of the above
5. What does the word 'holy' mean?
 

(1) sacred	(2) whole
(3) hole	(4) a festival name

### Passage 27

To sum up the whole, we should say that the aim of the Platonic philosophy was to exalt man into a God. The aim of the Baconian Philosophy was to



provide man with what he requires while he continues to be a man. The aim of Platonic philosophy was to raise us far above the vulgar wants. The aim of Baconian Philosophy was to supply our vulgar wants. The former aim was noble; but the latter was attainable. Plato drew a good bow; he aimed at the stars and therefore, though there was no want of strength or skill, the shot was thrown away. His arrow was indeed followed by a track of dazzling radiance; but it struck nothing. Bacon fixed his eye on a mark which was placed on Earth and hit it in the white. The Philosophy of Plato began with words and ended in words, noble words indeed, words such as were to be expected from the finest of human intellects exercising boundless dominion over the fittest of languages.

- The above passage presents Platonic Philosophy as
  - (1) giving rise to vulgar wants
  - (2) too idealistic in terms of a realistic/assessment of a man
  - (3) no more than mere words
  - (4) being pragmatic
- What does the word 'vulgar' mean?
  - (1) Dirty
  - (2) Ordinary
  - (3) Mannerly
  - (4) Polite
- Which one of the following best reflects the underlying tone of the passage?
  - (1) All ideas regarding man are couched in noble words
  - (2) Man when exalted into a God comes to nothing
  - (3) It is better for man to continue to the man
  - (4) It is the image of man conceived differently that makes the basic distinction between different systems
- Which of the following words/sentences in the passage confirm the exalted notions of man according to Plato?
  - (1) Exercising boundless dominion
  - (2) He aimed at the stars
  - (3) Fixed his eye on the mark and hit it in the white
  - (4) There was no want of strength or skill, the shot was thrown away

### Passage 28

Butterflies are some of the most interesting insects on the planet Earth. There are more than seventeen thousand different kinds of butterflies ! Butterflies come in all shapes and sizes.

Butterflies go through four main stages of life. The first stage is the egg stage, followed by the larva stage. As a larva, or caterpillar, the future butterfly eats as much as possible. As it grows, it sheds its outer skin, or exoskeleton. This may happen four or five times. After a few weeks, the caterpillar enters the next stage of its life, the chrysalis stage. In the chrysalis, the caterpillar will liquify into a soup of living cells. Then, it will reorganise into a butterfly and the metamorphosis is complete. In later parts of the chrysalis stage, you can see the forming butterfly through the chrysalis.

When the butterfly emerges from the chrysalis, it pumps its wings to send blood through them so that it can fly. Most butterflies only live a couple of weeks, just enough time to drink flower nectar and to mate. Some, like the Monarch butterfly, however, may live many months.

- Which of the following is not true?
  - (1) Butterflies must wait until blood drains into their wings before flying
  - (2) The butterfly may shed its skin 10 to 12 times
  - (3) Caterpillars liquifies into a soup of living cells
  - (4) Most butterflies live for weeks, at the most for a few months
- The second stage of life of a butterfly is .....
  - (1) larva
  - (2) egg
  - (3) chrysalis
  - (4) butterfly
- Which of the following statements is true?
  - (1) There are about a thousand different kinds of butterflies in the world
  - (2) There are more than seventeen thousand different kinds of butterflies
  - (3) There are only a few hundred different kinds of butterflies
  - (4) There is only one kind of butterfly in the world
- The word 'metamorphosis' used in the passage would mean .....
  - (1) translation
  - (2) transformation
  - (3) stagnation
  - (4) adjustment
- Find the antonym of the word 'emerges' given in the last paragraph.
  - (1) appears
  - (2) reveals
  - (3) disappears
  - (4) rises

### Passage 29

One day, a rich man took his son on a trip to village. He wanted to show him how poor someone can be. They spent time on the farm of poor family. Dad asked, "Did you see how poor they are? What did you learn?" Son said, "We have one dog, they have four, we have pool, they have rivers, we have lanterns at night, they have stars, we buy foods, they grow theirs, we have walls to protect us, they have friends, we have encyclopaedias, they have Bible" Then, he headed, "Thanks dad for showing me how poor we are."

- Where did the rich man take his son?  
(1) Park (2) Trip  
(3) Hospital (4) Picnic
- Encyclopaedia is a kind of  
(1) newspaper  
(2) games  
(3) set of books containing vast information  
(4) place of rural area
- What did the rich man want to show his son?  
(1) Friends (2) Poor family  
(3) Dogs (4) Rivers
- Who grows food?  
(1) Rich man (2) Farmers  
(3) Poor family (4) Nobody
- What will be the moral of this passage?  
(1) It's not about money that make us rich  
(2) We should not visit poor family  
(3) One should believe in God  
(4) We should avoid hurting others

### Passage 30

Once, an old man was sitting on a bench of a garden with his 25 years old son. There was a tree beside the bench. Old man saw a bird sitting on the tree. He asked the son- what's this? Son replied- it's a crow. The old... man again asked what's this? Son said- I already told you that it's crow. The old man again asked what's this? Son angrily said- are you deaf or mad, papa? How many times to tell you it's a crow. Can't you understand?

Old man patiently replied- my dear son, when you were 5 years old, you asked me 174 times the same question that what's this and I replied every time with a kiss that, it's a crow! Now, I asked you 3 times and you were irritated.

- Who was sitting with the old man in a garden?  
(1) Unknown (2) Friend  
(3) Nobody (4) Son
- How many times did the old man ask the same question to his son?  
(1) 3 times (2) 174 times  
(3) 5 times (4) 25 times
- Who got irritated?  
(1) An old man (2) Son  
(3) Crow (4) Not known
- Who was deaf?  
(1) An old man (2) Son  
(3) Crow (4) Nobody else
- What was the age of the son, when he asked the similar question again and again?  
(1) 25 years (2) 5 years  
(3) 174 years (4) Not clear

### Passage 31

I felt lonely in a classroom full of boys and girls and a teacher. The teacher walked up to me smiling. She put her hand tenderly on my shoulder and asked—"What is your name?" 'Abhayankar...'— I whispered.

"Say loudly, so I can hear it," she said. I tried but I could not. My lips were dry, perhaps sealed. I could not open my mouth. Then the teacher asked me to write my name on the blackboard. I went up to the blackboard, lifted the white chalk and as I was about to write, my mind went blank. I knew my name, I knew how to write it, but standing in front of so many boys and girls and the teacher made me uncomfortable.

- What does not describe the narrator?  
(1) Nervous (2) Uncomfortable  
(3) Confident (4) Timid
- The opposite of 'sealed' is .....  
(1) close (2) tight  
(3) open (4) free
- The word 'whispered' means  
(1) said slowly (2) told loudly  
(3) kept quiet (4) did not speak
- The boy could not write his name, because he was .....  
(1) lonely (2) afraid  
(3) sick (4) nervous
- The teacher was ..... towards the boy.  
(1) sympathetic (2) rude  
(3) unhelpful (4) indifferent

**Passage 32**

Pratap was a king and yet he had no love of comfort. He had the welfare of his people at heart. He was proud of his honour and he was so good to the people that they were ever willing to sacrifice their all for his welfare. There is a story that Pratap once gave his turban to a poet who had pleased him with his verses. The poet went to Akbar's court but took off the turban before bowing to the emperor, who was surprised and asked him why he bowed bare headed. The poet answered, "Your Majesty, this turban belonged to a man, who has never bowed his head to another man. This is Maharana Pratap's turban."

1. What was the name of the king in the story?  
(1) Akbar (2) Shah Jahan  
(3) Ranjit Singh (4) Pratap
2. What did Pratap give to the poet?  
(1) His horse (2) His turban  
(3) His necklace (4) His kingdom
3. Who bowed bare headed to Akbar?  
(1) The poet (2) Pratap  
(3) The people (4) All of these
4. Choose the incorrect statement.  
(1) Rana Pratap was a great king  
(2) He hated poets  
(3) He was proud of his honour  
(4) He never bowed his head to another man
5. The antonym of 'comfortable' is  
(1) relaxed (2) pleasant  
(3) free from pain (4) uncomfortable

**Passage 33**

Theseus was the son of Aegeus, king of Athens. The people of Athens were sad because the king of Crete demanded a human sacrifice from them every year. So, seven youths and seven maidens were sent to Crete each year. They never came back to Athens, for a monster ate them. This monster was a man with a bull's head and was called the Minotaur. Theseus decided to go to Crete as one of the seven young men and to kill the monster. With his courage and cleverness, he succeeded in his plan and killed the monster.

1. What was the name of the father?  
(1) Theseus (2) King of Athens  
(3) Aegeus (4) Crete
2. What did the king of Crete demand?  
(1) A human sacrifice (2) Theseus  
(3) Kingdom (4) King of Athens

3. Who were sent to Crete every year?  
(1) Ten animals  
(2) Seven boys and seven girls  
(3) Seven men (4) Seven women
4. What was the name of the monster?  
(1) Theseus (2) Crete  
(3) Aegeus (4) Minotaur
5. Who is the hero of the story?  
(1) Aegeus (2) Minotaur  
(3) King of Crete (4) Theseus

**Passage 34**

Issac Newton was a great scientist. He was born in 1642 and died in 1727. He discovered the law of gravitation. It was the falling of an apple in the garden that set him thinking. He was trying to find why the Earth went round the Sun and the Moon round the Earth. He asked himself, "Why does an apple fall to the Earth?" This led him to his discovery. Newton also found out that white light is made up of seven colours. We see these colours in the rainbow. He also made many other discoveries. Newton was a very learned man. But he was very humble. Shortly before his death, he said, "I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the sea-shore while the great ocean of truth lay undiscovered before me."

1. Issac Newton was a great  
(1) doctor (2) teacher (3) leader (4) scientist
2. He was born  
(1) in 1727 (2) in 1627  
(3) in 1642 (4) in 1742
3. .... colours make the white light.  
(1) Five (2) Ten  
(3) Three (4) Seven
4. Choose the word which means of opposite of 'discovered'.  
(1) Found (2) Lost  
(3) Searched (4) Started
5. Choose the word that has the same meaning as 'learned'.  
(1) Knowledgable (2) Lazy  
(3) Clever (4) Happy

**Passage 35**

Venus is sometimes called Earth's sister planet, though its similarities with Earth are limited, apart from size and relative condition of its surface. It is easily observed with the naked eye and is sometimes called the "evening star" or



“morning star.” Venus is covered by thick, noxious clouds of sulphuric acid that obscure its surface. The thick layers of cloud create an extreme insulating effect (like the greenhouse effect) that radiates heat back to the surface and raises the temperature to over 425°C.

Its surface is rocky, dusty and dotted with mountains and canyons and a few volcanic hot spots. There are many lava flows.

1. Why is Venus called Earth's sister planet?
  - (1) It is close to Earth
  - (2) It is similar in size to Earth
  - (3) It is hotter than Earth
  - (4) Much like Earth, Venus can support life
2. What does the word “obscure” mean in the sentence, “Venus is covered by thick, noxious clouds of sulphuric acid that obscure its surface.”
  - (1) cover
  - (2) damage
  - (3) extend
  - (4) create
3. Which of the following is not a feature of Venus-surface?
  - (1) volcanoes
  - (2) canyons
  - (3) plains
  - (4) glaciers
4. The thick clouds on Venus .....
  - (1) make it much colder than Earth
  - (2) radiate extreme heat back to the surface
  - (3) allow heat to escape into space
  - (4) make the planet very colourful
5. Give the suitable title for the passage?
  - (1) Planets
  - (2) Venus and Earth
  - (3) Venus, A Planet
  - (4) None of these

### Passage 36

There are two types of camels in the world. One has a single hump, and the other has two. The dromedary camel has a single hump, and has domesticated in Arabia over 4,000 years ago. They are also found in North Africa, India, Pakistan and Australia. The size of the hump varies, becoming smaller and leaning to one side during times of starvation. The lips of dromedary camels are thick to allow them to eat coarse and thorny desert plants. Their long legs keep their bodies high off the ground to avoid the baking heat of the desert's surface.

Bactrian camels have two humps, and are found in the deserts of Central Asia. They are extremely adept at withstanding wide variations in temperature—from freezing cold to blistering heat.

They can survive without water for months at a time, but when water is available, they may drink up to 57 liters at once. When well fed, the humps are plump and erect.

1. What types of camel are there in the world?
  - (1) Dromedary
  - (2) Bactrian
  - (3) Both (1) and (2)
  - (4) None of these
2. Single hump camels are found in .....
  - (1) India and Pakistan
  - (2) India and Sri Lanka
  - (3) Pakistan and Nepal
  - (4) Australia and Nepal
3. One unique characteristics of Dromedary camel to avoid the baking heat of the desert's surface is
  - (1) thick lips
  - (2) thick hump
  - (3) long neck
  - (4) long legs
4. Bactrian camels have ..... humps.
  - (1) one
  - (2) two
  - (3) three
  - (4) four
5. The feature that make Bactrian camels unique is
  - (1) Adept at various temperature
  - (2) Adept only at freezing temperature
  - (3) Adept only at hot temperature
  - (4) None of the above

### Passage 37

A woodpecker is a kind of bird. Woodpeckers are found all over the world except in the North and South poles, Australia and New Zealand. There are over 200 different kinds of woodpeckers. The two largest woodpeckers, the Imperial Woodpecker and the Ivory-billed Woodpecker are most likely extinct. Animals that are extinct are no longer found on Earth.

Woodpeckers have sharp bills for drilling into wood, and short, stiff tails which help prop them up against tree trunks and branches. Woodpeckers also have very long tongues, which help them get at insects deep within trees. Woodpeckers are often heard drumming loudly on trees before they are seen. Woodpeckers can even become pests if they learn to drum on siding of a house. Woodpeckers can easily be attracted to backyard bird feeders with sunflower seeds or suet. Suet is a kind of animal fat that is very tasty to woodpeckers and other birds.

1. Why do woodpeckers have long tongues?
  - (1) To get at insects on the ground
  - (2) To eat seeds
  - (3) To get at insects deep within trees
  - (4) So that they can drum on trees

2. When do woodpeckers sometimes become pests?
  - (1) When they become extinct
  - (2) When they visit feeders
  - (3) When they eat suet
  - (4) When they drum on houses
3. Woodpeckers are often .....
  - (1) found in Australia
  - (2) found in the North Pole
  - (3) heard before they are seen
  - (4) seen before they are heard
4. The two largest woodpeckers in the world are
  - (1) pests
  - (2) most likely no longer on Earth
  - (3) normally found at bird feeders
  - (4) found all over the world
5. Which one of the following is a synonym of the word 'Attracted'?
 

(1) Prevent	(2) Reject
(3) Discourage	(4) Charm

### Passage 38

Humming birds are amazing little birds. They are the smallest of all birds and weigh less than even a penny. The bee humming bird, at barely more than two inches long, is the smallest bird in the world!

Unlike most birds, humming birds have iridescent feathers. Iridescent feathers glitter and shine in the Sun. Humming birds are often dazzling combinations of greens and reds or greens and blues. Others are violet, orange, golden, silver or other combinations only Mother Nature could dream up. All humming birds have long bills to insert into flowers. Some humming birds have special bills to fit into specific flowers. Humming birds are the only birds that can fly backwards.

Humming birds are also unique among bird species in that they drink nectar from flowers. You can attract humming birds to your yard with special feeders that are filled with sugar water. These feeders are usually bright red in colour because humming birds are attracted to red.

1. Humming birds are the only birds that
  - (1) can fly backwards
  - (2) are small
  - (3) will come to bird feeders
  - (4) are green
2. Compared to other birds, humming birds are
 

(1) about the same size	(2) lighter
(3) heavier	(4) larger

3. To attract humming birds to your yard, put up feeders with ..... in them.
 

(1) sugar water	(2) flowers
(3) berries	(4) seeds
4. What colour is most humming birds feeders?
 

(1) White	(2) Green
(3) Red	(4) Golden
5. Humming birds eat
 

(1) insects	(2) berries
(3) the story doesn't say	(4) flower nectar

### Passage 39

The first battle of the American Revolution occurred at Lexington, Massachusetts in 1775. The American colonists were angry about numerous taxes issued by the British king. In 1776, the colonists issued the Declaration of Independence, a document written by Thomas Jefferson that outlined America's intention to become a new country separate from England. England wanted to maintain control of America, and vowed to fight the colonists. The war lasted eight long years. The Americans won many important battles such as those at Saratoga and Yorktown. Many American heroes emerged such as George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin. Finally, in 1781, the British surrendered at Yorktown, Virginia and a new nation was born two years later.

1. Why did the war happen?
  - (1) Colonists were angry about their bad living conditions.
  - (2) England attacked the colonists.
  - (3) Colonists were angry about having to pay so many taxes.
  - (4) Colonists wanted to have more land.
2. Which of the following was not true about the Declaration of Independence?
  - (1) It said that the colonists wanted their own country.
  - (2) It said that England wanted a separate country.
  - (3) It said that colonists wanted to be separate from England.
  - (4) It was written by Thomas Jefferson.
3. Which of the following was not an American hero who emerged from the war?
  - (1) Thomas Jefferson
  - (2) George Washington
  - (3) Benjamin Franklin
  - (4) Abraham Lincoln

4. What happened first?
  - (1) The Declaration of Independence
  - (2) The Revolutionary War
  - (3) Evolution of heroes
  - (4) Many taxes were issued against the colonists
5. What happened last?
  - (1) The Battle of Lexington
  - (2) The Declaration of Independence
  - (3) Many taxes were issued against the colonists
  - (4) The Americans won important battles at Saratoga and Yorktown

### Passage 40

At this stage of civilisation, when many nations are brought into close and vital contact for good and evil, it is essential, as never before, that their gross ignorance of one another should be diminished, that they should begin to understand a little of one another's historical experience and resulting mentality. It is the fault of the English to expect the people of other countries to react as they do, to political and international situations. Our genuine goodwill and good intentions are often brought to nothing, because we expect other people to be like us. This would be corrected if we knew the history, not necessarily in detail but in broad outlines, of the social and political conditions which have given to each nation its present character.

1. According to the author of 'Mentality' of a nation is mainly product of its
  - (1) history
  - (2) international position
  - (3) politics
  - (4) present character
2. The need for a greater understanding between nations
  - (1) was always there
  - (2) is no longer there
  - (3) is more today than ever before
  - (4) will always be there
3. The character of a nation is the result of its
  - (1) mentality
  - (2) cultural heritage
  - (3) gross ignorance
  - (4) socio-political conditions
4. According to the author his countrymen should
  - (1) read the story of other nations
  - (2) have a better understanding of other nations
  - (3) not react to other actions
  - (4) have vital contacts with other nations

5. Englishmen like others to react to political situations like
 

(1) us	(2) themselves
(3) others	(4) each others

### Passage 41

What needs to be set right is our approach to work. It is a common sight in our country of employees reporting for duty on time and at the same time doing little work. If an assessment is made of time they spent in gossiping, drinking tea, eating 'pan' and smoking cigarettes, it will be shocking to know that the time devoted to actual work is negligible. The problem is the standard which the leadership in administration sets for the staff. Forget the ministers because they mix politics and administration. What do top bureaucrats do? What do the below down officials do? The administration setup remains weak mainly because the employees do not have the right example to follow and they are more concerned about being in the good books of the bosses than doing work.

1. The employees in our country
  - (1) are quite punctual but not duty conscious
  - (2) are not punctual, but somehow manage to complete their work
  - (3) are somewhat lazy but good natured
  - (4) are not very highly qualified
2. According to the writer, the administration in India
  - (1) is by and large effective
  - (2) is very strict and firm
  - (3) is affected by red tape
  - (4) is more or less ineffective
3. The word 'assessment' means
 

(1) enquiry	(2) report
(3) evaluation	(4) summary
4. The leadership in administration
  - (1) sets a fine example to the employees
  - (2) is of a reasonably high standard
  - (3) is composed of idealists
  - (4) is of a very poor standard
5. The central idea of the passage could be best expressed by the following
  - (1) The employee outlook towards work is justified
  - (2) The employees must change their outlook towards work
  - (3) The employees would never change their work culture
  - (4) The employer-employee relationship is far from healthy



**Passage 42**

Emily and dad planted a garden. Emily waited for the plants to grow. Then, she watched for the vegetables to get ripe. "When can we pick the tomatoes?" Emily asked. "Tomorrow", said Dad. But, as the Sun came up, squirrel chomped on every tomato.

Emily's dog, Molly, munched on the cucumbers.

When the Sun climbed high in the sky, Emily put on her garden gloves. She picked ten jalapeno peppers.

Squirrel watched from a tree. Rabbit watched from behind a bush. Molly watched from a lawn chair. In the kitchen, Emily and Dad made a big batch of spicy salsa. Emily dipped a tortilla chip in the salsa, Crunch! Everyone was happy with the harvest.

1. What did the squirrel chomp?  
(1) Tomatoes (2) Potatoes  
(3) Guava (4) Berries
2. What did the dog named Molly munch on?  
(1) Tomatoes (2) Potatoes  
(3) Cucumber (4) Pea
3. What did Emily and her dad do with the peppers?  
(1) They made salsa  
(2) They sold it  
(3) They threw it  
(4) They didn't do anything
4. What did Emily pick from the garden?  
(1) Lemone (2) Jalapeno  
(3) Berries (4) Pea
5. Who were happy with the harvest?  
(1) No one (2) Some one  
(3) Any one (4) Every one

**Passage 43**

The Rajputs have always been fighting-men. They brought up their sons to become warriors. Before a child could lift real sword, he was given a toy one and with it he slashed at the heads of animals to strengthen his baby arm. Before he could walk, he was lifted on to the back of his father's war-horse. And if he could neither read nor write, he was not ashamed, if he could ride. In this way, the Rajput boys grew up strong and hardy, perfect horsemen and swordsmen and as a rule perfect gentlemen for they fought clean and fair.

1. What are Rajputs?  
(1) Labourers (2) Beggars  
(3) Saints (4) Fighting men

2. What did they want their sons to become?  
(1) To become kings  
(2) To become saints  
(3) To become warriors  
(4) To become farmers
3. What did the boys do to strengthen their arm?  
(1) Played with a toy-sword  
(2) Fired guns  
(3) Wrestled with siblings  
(4) Took exercise daily
4. Give the antonym of 'war'.  
(1) Holiday (2) Peace  
(3) Special (4) Fight
5. What is given to child before using the real sword?  
(1) A toy gun (2) A statue  
(3) A toy sword (4) An arrow and bow

**Passage 44**

Gandhiji always loved his people—Muslims as much as Hindus. Even when Pakistan was formed, he spoke for the Muslims of India who were comparatively few in number. Many Hindus thought that he favoured the Muslims too much. Nathuram Godse held misguided ideas of this kind. At a prayer meeting at Birla House in New Delhi, Godse shot Gandhiji on 30th January, 1948. The Great Mahatma died with 'Hey Ram' on his lips. He was murdered, yet he was calm and peaceful even in death. It seemed as if he were sleeping.

1. Which two religions are mentioned in the passage?  
(1) Hinduism  
(2) Islamism  
(3) Jainism  
(4) Both (1) and (2)
2. Who shot Gandhiji?  
(1) Nathuram Godse  
(2) Kalooram Godse  
(3) Vikram Godse  
(4) Shivrul Godse
3. Who died with 'Hey Ram' on his lips?  
(1) Mahatma Gandhi  
(2) Subhash Chandra Bose  
(3) Bhagat Singh  
(4) Jawaharlal Nehru
4. Who were less in number?  
(1) Hindus (2) Muslims  
(3) Jains (4) Buddhists
5. When did Gandhiji die?  
(1) 1947 (2) 1946  
(3) 1948 (4) 1949

### Passage 45

Nagaland, one of India's smallest states, is located in the North-East part of India. It is bound by Myanmar on the East, Arunachal Pradesh on the North, Asom on the West and Manipur on the South. Nagaland is mostly mountainous except for the part bordering the Asom valley. The Nagas, inhabitants of Nagaland, form more than twenty tribes. *Konyak* is the largest of the Naga tribes.

Folk songs and ballads popular among the Nagas uphold such values as bravery, love, generosity etc. Dances are mostly woven around war themes and are performed with amazing mock war emotions. The bamboo dance is a well-known dance of the Nagas.

Wood carving is a famous Naga craft. The *Konyaks*, the best wood carvers among all the Naga tribes, are skilled in carving human and animal figures. Weaving is a traditional Naga art in which each tribe has its own special designs and colours. Shawls, shoulder bags and intricately woven mats and baskets make magnificent souvenirs for tourists.

1. Naga folk dances are mostly based on the theme of .....  
 (1) harvesting (2) religion  
 (3) war (4) health
2. Which Naga tribe is having the best wood carvers?  
 (1) The Angamis (2) The Konyaks  
 (3) The Zemis (4) The Aos
3. Which of the following statements is not correct?  
 (1) The Western part of Nagaland is not mountainous.  
 (2) Moatsu is a festival associated with agriculture.  
 (3) Naga girls perform the bamboo dance.  
 (4) The Konyaks are the smallest of the Naga tribes in number.
4. The word 'souvenirs' in the last paragraph means .....  
 (1) trophies or prizes  
 (2) some things to preserve the memory of an occasion  
 (3) crowns  
 (4) special shoes
5. A synonym for the word 'mock' used in the fourth paragraph is .....  
 (1) real (2) laughing  
 (3) artificial (4) ridiculing

### Passage 46

A person who looks at the good side of things sees good things. We call such a person an optimist. One, who looks at the dark side of things, is a pessimist. One, who looks at the good qualities of others, will make many friends and live a happy life. The others, will make their own as well as the lives of others miserable. We expect others not to look at or mind our bad qualities. Let us remember that the others too expect the same from us. A very good way to live a happy life with several friends is to learn to look at the qualities of others.

1. Who is an optimist?  
 (1) One who looks at the good side of things  
 (2) One who looks at the bad side of things  
 (3) One who thinks in a different way  
 (4) One who has a scientific attitude
2. What do we expect from others?  
 (1) They must help us financially  
 (2) They must be social and helpful to the poor  
 (3) They must work hard day and night  
 (4) They must not look at or mind our bad qualities
3. What does a pessimist do?  
 (1) One who looks at the good side of things  
 (2) One who looks at the dark side of things  
 (3) One who craves for status and money  
 (4) One who seeks help from others always
4. What life does an optimist lead?  
 (1) Sorrowful (2) Tensed  
 (3) Happy (4) Jealous
5. Which is the synonym to 'unhappy'?  
 (1) Miserable (2) Miser  
 (3) Stake (4) Jealous

### Passage 47

Having taken leave of his father at last, the young man set-off on a long journey into foreign lands. "When luck does not favour, an artist goes to a place where his name is not known." He said to himself and turned in a direction which he did not know. He was footsore and hungry when at last he arrived on the bank of a turbulent river, hindering his further passage until he could cross it. Espying a boat at a nearby ferry, he went thither. There were other men too, each with his fare ready in his hand. But, the young man had not even a broken cowrie on him.

"Pay the fare and only then step into the boat," the boatman told him. The young man was at his wit's end and the other people began to smile at his foolishness of going about without any money on him.

- Where was the young man going?  
(1) Foreign lands (2) Another state  
(3) Town (4) Village
- What was his condition when he came to the river bank?  
(1) Happy (2) Angry  
(3) Hungry (4) Embarrassed
- What did the other people have in their hands?  
(1) Luggage (2) Fare  
(3) Goat (4) Bucket
- What did the boatman tell him?  
(1) To go and take a bath first  
(2) To help him unload the luggage from boat  
(3) To sing a song for his entertainment  
(4) To pay the fare and then step into boat
- Why did the other people smile?  
(1) On his foolishness of going without money  
(2) On his ragged clothes  
(3) On his manners of behaviour  
(4) On his story that he told them

### Passage 48

Sugar comes from a plant which is called 'sugarcane'. The sugarcane grows in the hot countries. When sugarcanes are ripe, they are cut down. Then, their large green leaves are taken off. The canes, then are tied in bundles and sent to the sugar mills. Here, they are pressed hard, so that all the juice comes out of them. The juice now looks like dirty water. It is, then cleaned and heated in iron pans. All the water goes off, leaving the sugar behind. The sugar is brown in colour. It is heated again and cleaned till it becomes white. This is called cane sugar. In the past, all the sugar we used came to India from Java and other countries. Now, sugar is made in our own country. There are many sugar mills in Uttar Pradesh and Bihar.

- In which type of countries are sugarcanes grown?  
(1) Hot countries  
(2) Cold countries  
(3) Humid countries  
(4) Arid countries
- Which are the sugar producing states in India?  
(1) Uttar Pradesh (2) Bihar  
(3) UP and Bihar (4) None of these
- What is the first colour of sugar?  
(1) Black (2) Brown  
(3) Red (4) White

- Which part of sugarcanes is cut off before sending them to sugar mills?  
(1) Roots (2) Branches  
(3) Seeds (4) Leaves
- The opposite word for 'tied' is  
(1) Untied (2) Crooked  
(3) Threw (4) Kept

### Passage 49

One day a cat dies due to old age and goes to heaven. There she meets the lord God himself. The lord tells the cat, "You've lived a good life and if there is any way I can make your stay in heaven more comfortable, please let me know." The cat thinks for a moment and says, "Lord, all my life I have lived with a poor family and had to sleep on the hard wooden floor. Can I have a pillow to sleep on?" The lord stops the cat and says, "Say no more", and a wonderful fluffy pillow appears.

About a week later, the lord God stops by to see the cat and finds her in a deep sleep on the pillow. The lord gently wakes the cat and asks her, "How are things since you arrived?" The cat stretches, yawns and then replies, "It's wonderful here! In fact, it is much better than I could have expected! And those little meals on wheels you've been sending by are the best!"

- The mice were tired of .....  
(1) eating whatever they could get  
(2) searching for new places to live  
(3) looking for work  
(4) getting chased by everyone
- What did the cat ask God for?  
(1) A mouse to eat every day.  
(2) Send her back to earth.  
(3) Give her a comfortable pillow to sleep on.  
(4) Make the world a better place to live.
- What will be a suitable title for this story?  
(1) God is great  
(2) The tired mice  
(3) Tom and Jerry  
(4) Cat in heaven
- Which of the following is an antonym of the word 'fluffy' in the passage?  
(1) Rough (2) Hard  
(3) Woolly (4) Messy
- Which of the following is the meaning of 'deep' in the passage?  
(1) Sound (2) Blissful  
(3) Relaxing (4) Obscure