

SSC GD Constable Exam 2025: Reading Comprehension Practice Set (English)

Instructions:

- Read each passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.
- Total Passages: 10, Total Questions: 50 (5 questions per passage).

Passage 1

Forests play a crucial role in maintaining Earth's environment. They produce oxygen, reduce carbon dioxide, and support diverse wildlife. Trees stabilize soil, preventing erosion, and provide shade in cities. However, deforestation for farming and urban development threatens ecosystems, causing biodiversity loss and climate change. Reforestation efforts and community tree-planting programs are vital to restore balance. Protecting forests ensures a healthier planet for future generations.

1. What is a key role of forests mentioned in the passage?

- A) Producing oxygen
- B) Building infrastructure
- C) Creating jobs
- D) Reducing rainfall

Answer: A

Explanation: The passage states forests "produce oxygen," a key role.

2. What does the word "crucial" mean in the passage?

- A) Unimportant
- B) Essential
- C) Temporary
- D) Harmful

Answer: B

Explanation: "Crucial" means essential, as forests are vital for the environment.

3. What causes biodiversity loss, according to the passage?

- A) Reforestation

- B) Deforestation
- C) Community programs
- D) Urban shade

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage mentions deforestation causes biodiversity loss.

4. What is an antonym of “stabilize” in the passage?

- A) Balance
- B) Destabilize
- C) Support
- D) Strengthen

Answer: B

Explanation: “Stabilize” means to make steady; “destabilize” is the opposite.

5. What can help restore environmental balance?

- A) Urban development
- B) Tree-planting programs
- C) Increased farming
- D) Soil erosion

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage highlights tree-planting programs as vital for balance.

Passage 2

A prominent leader born in 1869 in Gujarat studied law in London. He worked in South Africa, fighting racial injustice, before returning to India in 1915. He led non-violent protests against colonial rule, including a famous salt march. His belief in non-violence, known as “Ahimsa,” inspired global movements. His simple life and dedication to truth made him an enduring figure.

6. Where did the leader fight racial injustice?

- A) London
- B) Gujarat
- C) South Africa

D) India

Answer: C

Explanation: The passage states he fought racial injustice in South Africa.

7. What is “Ahimsa” according to the passage?

A) Truth

B) Non-violence

C) Freedom

D) Justice

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage defines “Ahimsa” as non-violence.

8. When did the leader return to India?

A) 1869

B) 1915

C) 1930

D) 1947

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage mentions his return in 1915.

9. What is a synonym for “dedication” in the passage?

A) Indifference

B) Commitment

C) Neglect

D) Hesitation

Answer: B

Explanation: “Dedication” means commitment to a cause.

10. What made the leader an enduring figure?

A) His wealth

B) His education

C) His simple life and truth

D) His political power

Answer: C

Explanation: The passage highlights his simple life and dedication to truth.

Passage 3

The Solar System comprises the Sun and eight planets, including Earth. Mercury and Venus are nearest to the Sun, while Jupiter and Saturn are distant gas giants. It also includes moons, asteroids, and comets. Earth's water and atmosphere make it suitable for life. Scientists explore the Solar System to understand the universe, with Mars missions seeking evidence of past life.

11. What makes Earth suitable for life?

A) Its size

B) Its water and atmosphere

C) Its distance from the Sun

D) Its moons

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage states Earth's water and atmosphere support life.

12. What is a synonym for "comprises" in the passage?

A) Excludes

B) Includes

C) Removes

D) Separates

Answer: B

Explanation: "Comprises" means includes or consists of.

13. Which planets are gas giants?

A) Mercury and Venus

B) Jupiter and Saturn

C) Earth and Mars

D) Uranus and Neptune

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage identifies Jupiter and Saturn as gas giants.

14. What do Mars missions seek?

- A) New moons
- B) Evidence of past life
- C) Earth's atmosphere
- D) Asteroids

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage mentions seeking evidence of past life on Mars.

15. What does "explore" mean in the passage?

- A) Ignore
- B) Study
- C) Avoid
- D) Destroy

Answer: B

Explanation: "Explore" means to study or investigate.

Passage 4

Water is vital for all living beings, but shortages arise from overuse and pollution. Conserving water ensures a sustainable future. Actions like repairing leaks, using efficient devices, and minimizing waste help save water. Rainwater harvesting is an effective technique. Governments and communities must unite to protect water resources and spread awareness.

16. Why is conserving water necessary?

- A) To promote pollution
- B) To ensure a sustainable future
- C) To increase shortages
- D) To reduce rainfall

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage states conserving water ensures a sustainable future.

17. What is an antonym of “vital” in the passage?

- A) Essential
- B) Unimportant
- C) Critical
- D) Necessary

Answer: B

Explanation: “Vital” means essential; “unimportant” is the opposite.

18. What is an effective water conservation technique?

- A) Polluting water
- B) Wasting water
- C) Rainwater harvesting
- D) Ignoring leaks

Answer: C

Explanation: The passage highlights rainwater harvesting as effective.

19. Who should unite to protect water resources?

- A) Governments and communities
- B) Factories and farms
- C) Schools and hospitals
- D) Individuals alone

Answer: A

Explanation: The passage mentions governments and communities uniting.

20. What does “sustainable” mean in the passage?

- A) Temporary
- B) Long-lasting
- C) Wasteful
- D) Harmful

Answer: B

Explanation: "Sustainable" means capable of being maintained long-term.

Passage 5

India celebrates many festivals with enthusiasm. One festival involves lighting lamps to signify good triumphing over evil. Another uses colors to promote joy and unity. These events feature rituals, food, and gatherings, strengthening community bonds. However, they can lead to noise pollution and waste, prompting calls for eco-friendly celebrations.

21. What does the lamp-lighting festival signify?

- A) Harvest celebration
- B) Good triumphing over evil
- C) Arrival of winter
- D) New year beginning

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage states the festival signifies good over evil.

22. What is a synonym for "enthusiasm" in the passage?

- A) Excitement
- B) Apathy
- C) Boredom
- D) Sadness

Answer: A

Explanation: "Enthusiasm" means excitement or eagerness.

23. What does the color festival promote?

- A) Isolation
- B) Conflict
- C) Joy and unity
- D) Competition

Answer: C

Explanation: The passage mentions it promotes joy and unity.

24. What is a negative effect of festivals?

- A) Noise pollution and waste
- B) Strengthening bonds
- C) Eco-friendly practices
- D) Sharing food

Answer: A

Explanation: The passage highlights noise pollution and waste as negative effects.

25. What is encouraged for festivals?

- A) Increased waste
- B) Eco-friendly celebrations
- C) More noise
- D) Fewer gatherings

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage promotes eco-friendly celebrations.

Passage 6

Education forms the backbone of a progressive society. It provides people with skills to improve their lives. Schools deliver formal education, while self-study encourages creativity. Education reduces poverty and promotes equality. Yet, rural children often lack access to quality education due to inadequate facilities. Government initiatives aim to ensure education for all.

26. What is a main benefit of education?

- A) Providing skills
- B) Increasing poverty
- C) Reducing population
- D) Limiting creativity

Answer: A

Explanation: The passage states education provides skills to improve lives.

27. What does “encourages” mean in the passage?

- A) Prevents

B) Promotes

C) Stops

D) Limits

Answer: B

Explanation: "Encourages" means promotes, as in fostering creativity.

28. What does education reduce, according to the passage?

A) Wealth

B) Poverty

C) Infrastructure

D) Technology

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage mentions education reduces poverty.

29. Why do rural children lack quality education?

A) Too many schools

B) Inadequate facilities

C) Lack of interest

D) Government restrictions

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage cites inadequate facilities as the reason.

30. What is an antonym of "progressive" in the passage?

A) Backward

B) Advanced

C) Modern

D) Developed

Answer: A

Explanation: "Progressive" means forward-moving; "backward" is the opposite.

Passage 7

Preserving wildlife is essential for ecological balance. Species like elephants and leopards face threats from poaching and habitat loss. Protected areas like national parks save endangered animals. Awareness programs educate people about conservation. Governments and groups enforce laws to stop illegal hunting and promote sustainable practices.

31. Why is preserving wildlife essential?

- A) To maintain ecological balance
- B) To promote hunting
- C) To reduce protected areas
- D) To increase poaching

Answer: A

Explanation: The passage states preserving wildlife maintains ecological balance.

32. What is a synonym for “essential” in the passage?

- A) Unimportant
- B) Critical
- C) Minor
- D) Temporary

Answer: B

Explanation: “Essential” means critical or necessary.

33. What threatens elephants and leopards?

- A) Awareness programs
- B) National parks
- C) Poaching and habitat loss
- D) Government laws

Answer: C

Explanation: The passage mentions poaching and habitat loss as threats.

34. What do protected areas do?

- A) Destroy habitats

B) Save endangered animals

C) Promote hunting

D) Reduce awareness

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage states protected areas save endangered animals.

35. Who enforces laws against illegal hunting?

A) Poachers and hunters

B) Governments and groups

C) Schools and colleges

D) Farmers and traders

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage mentions governments and groups enforcing laws.

Passage 8

The internet has revolutionized communication and work. It provides quick access to information, online services, and banking. However, excessive use can cause addiction and reduce efficiency. Cybersecurity risks, like hacking, are a concern. Responsible use is necessary to maximize benefits and minimize risks.

36. How has the internet affected society?

A) Changed communication and work

B) Reduced services

C) Increased isolation

D) Eliminated banking

Answer: A

Explanation: The passage states the internet revolutionized communication and work.

37. What is a synonym for “quick” in the passage?

A) Slow

B) Gradual

C) Rapid

D) Delayed

Answer: C

Explanation: "Quick" means rapid or fast.

38. What is a drawback of excessive internet use?

A) Addiction

B) Improved efficiency

C) Better communication

D) Enhanced security

Answer: A

Explanation: The passage mentions addiction as a drawback.

39. What is a cybersecurity risk mentioned?

A) Banking

B) Hacking

C) Shopping

D) Communication

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage cites hacking as a cybersecurity risk.

40. What does "maximize" mean in the passage?

A) Reduce

B) Increase

C) Ignore

D) Limit

Answer: B

Explanation: "Maximize" means to increase to the greatest extent.

Passage 9

India's railway system is one of the world's largest, linking millions across regions. It offers low-cost travel and efficient goods transport. High-speed trains have enhanced connectivity, but

overcrowding and delays remain challenges. Upgrades like electrified tracks and digital ticketing aim to improve services.

41. What is a feature of India's railway system?

- A) Linking millions across regions
- B) High-cost travel
- C) Smallest globally
- D) Limited transport

Answer: A

Explanation: The passage states it links millions across regions.

42. What is a synonym for "low-cost" in the passage?

- A) Expensive
- B) Affordable
- C) Costly
- D) High-priced

Answer: B

Explanation: "Low-cost" means affordable or reasonably priced.

43. What has enhanced railway connectivity?

- A) Overcrowding
- B) Delays
- C) High-speed trains
- D) Manual ticketing

Answer: C

Explanation: The passage mentions high-speed trains enhancing connectivity.

44. What is a challenge for the railway system?

- A) Overcrowding
- B) Electrified tracks
- C) Digital ticketing

D) Efficient transport

Answer: A

Explanation: The passage lists overcrowding as a challenge.

45. What does “upgrades” mean in the passage?

A) Declines

B) Improvements

C) Reductions

D) Stoppages

Answer: B

Explanation: “Upgrades” means improvements or enhancements.

Passage 10

An old Indian practice combines physical exercises, breathing, and meditation to boost health. It reduces stress and helps manage conditions like hypertension. Regular practice improves strength and flexibility. Governments promote it through a global event, encouraging healthy lifestyles worldwide.

46. What does the practice boost?

A) Stress

B) Health

C) Illness

D) Weakness

Answer: B

Explanation: The passage states the practice boosts health.

47. What is an antonym of “old” in the passage?

A) Ancient

B) New

C) Traditional

D) Historic

Answer: B

Explanation: “Old” refers to the practice’s age; “new” is the opposite.

48. What conditions does the practice help manage?

- A) Genetic disorders
- B) Infectious diseases
- C) Lifestyle conditions
- D) Mental disorders

Answer: C

Explanation: The passage mentions conditions like hypertension, a lifestyle condition.

49. What does regular practice improve?

- A) Strength and flexibility
- B) Stress
- C) Weakness
- D) Illness

Answer: A

Explanation: The passage states it improves strength and flexibility.

50. How do governments promote the practice?

- A) Through a global event
- B) By banning it
- C) By reducing practice
- D) By ignoring it

Answer: A

Explanation: The passage mentions a global event for promotion.

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