

Quiz Date: 13<sup>th</sup> March 2020

Directions (1-8): **In the following passage, some of the words have been omitted, each of which is indicated by a number. Find the suitable word from the options given against each number and fill up the blanks with appropriate words to make the paragraph meaningful.**

Stock markets globally have declined since the big drop this 'Manic Monday'. They are reacting to the expected slowdown in the world economy due to the rapid spread of the SARS-CoV-2 virus to more than 100 countries. Crude oil prices also began \_\_\_\_\_ (1) due to fears of global recession and drop in demand for energy. With increasing \_\_\_\_\_ (2), there is even a possibility now that the Olympics to be held in Japan this summer may be postponed. Travel and trade have been severely affected in large parts of the world, with restrictions on movement and cancellations of visa, etc.

In recent times, China, the \_\_\_\_\_ (3) of the outbreak and the largest supplier of many basic and intermediate goods, has come to dominate the supply chain of production of a large number of final goods. So, multiple industries have been impacted due to the spread of the virus. For instance, India has come to depend on China for supply of inputs in the areas of electronics, medicines, automobile parts and components used by small and cottage sectors. The Chinese \_\_\_\_\_ (4) has been supplying even Indian cultural symbols like pichkaris for Holi and idols of Indian gods. China produces multiple items cheaply on a scale that other countries cannot match. Despite the low wages in India and the additional transport costs of getting these items from China, the Chinese goods have displaced a big portion of Indian manufacturing.

The current supply chain disruption requires that either Indian production is \_\_\_\_\_ (5) where possible, or alternative sources of supply abroad are found. But, given the fact that much of the alternative production possibilities have been disrupted in the last 20 years by cheap Chinese goods, finding producers who can quickly ramp up production is not easy. Even if alternative sources of supply are found within India, their prices will be higher, so inflation will go up. This inflationary tendency will be \_\_\_\_\_ (6) by the global decline in demand and a fall in commodity prices, similar to what is being witnessed in the case of energy.

In a recessionary scenario, there is a fall in incomes and reduction in demand in spite of a decline in inflation. Expenditures on health and disease control will rise but not enough to counter the slowdown.

The impact on the small producers is likely to be sharper due to the fact that they have small working capital. As demand declines, they are left holding inventory and also have to pay wages; this exhausts their working capital. If their units shut down for even a few months, it becomes difficult to bring them back to life. The financial sector is not very much \_\_\_\_\_ (7) to catering to their demand and, hence, they have to depend on the more expensive source of private funds.

Also, as the economy declines, the already substantial non-performing assets (NPAs) of banks and the non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) will increase in India. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has already reported falling business and consumer confidence and a decline in capacity utilisation in the organised sectors of the economy. These factors are being aggravated by the virus-related impact, further \_\_\_\_\_ (8) investment.

Q1.

- (a) deceive
- (b) dropping
- (c) model
- (d) bumper
- (e) None of these

Q2.

- (a) straits
- (b) unable
- (c) immune
- (d) uncertainty
- (e) None of these



Q3.

- (a) seldom
- (b) epicentre
- (c) pragmatic
- (d) protest
- (e) None of these

Q4.

- (a) ambience
- (b) pitting
- (c) juggernaut
- (d) subsequently
- (e) None of these

Q5.

- (a) monopoly
- (b) backing
- (c) ramped up
- (d) swayed
- (e) None of these

Q6.

- (a) overlap
- (b) layoffs
- (c) monotonous
- (d) countered
- (e) None of these

Q7.

- (a) policy
- (b) attuned
- (c) assets
- (d) signify

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(e) None of these

Q8.

- (a) review
- (b) allied
- (c) administered
- (d) denting
- (e) None of these

Directions (9-15): In the following given passage, certain words are highlighted which may or may not be fit in the sentence either grammatically or contextually. Each word is numbered followed by four possible replacements. If none of the given option could replace the highlighted word, mark your answer, (e); "None of the above".

With more Indians making payments using wallets and apps on smartphones, phone companies, with the technology to offer these services and above all the user base that is already using their handsets, are making a **acute**(9) for the lucrative digital payments market.

After Samsung, now Xiaomi, Realme, and Oppo are **ductile** (10) pre-loaded payment apps on their smartphones. Some of these support the widely used unified payments interface (UPI) platform **allowing** (11) users to send money to friends or pay to merchants at retail outlets. OnePlus is expected to join the club sometime this year.

Indian phone company Lava, yesterday, introduced a payment app, Lava Pay, which works with feature phones and does not require internet connectivity for payments.

Phone companies with an already strong **modest** (12) in the Indian market are well placed to make a foray into payments. In December 2019, there were 450 million smartphone users in India, according to the International Data Corporation (IDC).

A large base of captive customers provides phone companies a significant opportunity to offer native payment solutions with handsets. Convenient payment modes such as contactless, and **unduly** (13) options across virtual cards, and UPI would definitely **expatriate** (14) customers to use their phones for transactions given the **catechist** (15) presence of a smartphone

Q9.

- (a) prescribe
- (b) corrupt
- (c) beeline
- (d) warrant
- (e) No Replacement

Q10.

- (a) offering
- (b) prosaic
- (c) ensue
- (d) prone

(e) No Replacement

Q11.

- (a) jubilant
- (b) cunning
- (c) aplomb
- (d) inchoate
- (e) No Replacement

Q12.

- (a) diffident
- (b) suspect
- (c) footprint
- (d) desire
- (e) No Replacement

Q13.

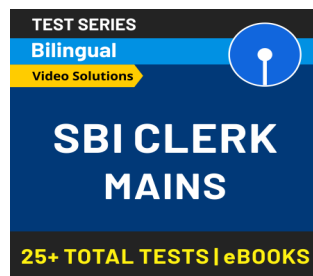
- (a) prey
- (b) attention
- (c) drift
- (d) flexible
- (e) No Replacement

Q14.

- (a) spur
- (b) abate
- (c) quite
- (d) reflect
- (e) No Replacement

Q15.

- (a) procrastinate
- (b) identify
- (c) ubiquitous
- (d) dictum
- (e) No Replacement



## Solutions

S1. Ans. (b)

Sol. The correct answer choice here which fits contextually here is option (b) i.e 'dropping.'

S2. Ans. (d)

Sol. The correct answer choice here which fits contextually here is option (d) i.e 'uncertainty.'  
Straits means- A strait is a narrow sea channel or a difficult situation.

S3. Ans. (b)

Sol. The correct answer choice here which fits contextually here is option (b) i.e 'epicentre' which means 'the central point of something'.

S4. Ans. (c)

Sol. The correct answer choice here which fits contextually here is option (c) i.e 'Juggernaut' which means - a huge, powerful, and overwhelming force.

S5. Ans. (c)

Sol. The correct answer choice here which fits contextually here is option (c) i.e 'ramped up' which means a large increase in activity or in the level of something.  
Swayed means- to move slowly from side to side

S6. Ans. (d)

Sol. The correct answer choice here which fits contextually here is option (d) i.e 'countered'

S7. Ans. (b)

Sol. The correct answer choice here which fits contextually here is option (b) i.e 'attuned' which means able to understand or recognize something.

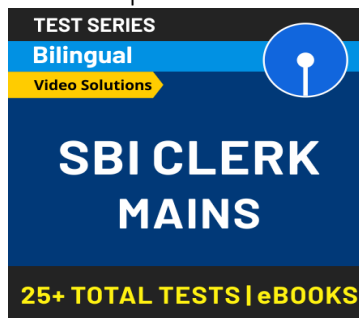
S8. Ans. (d)

Sol. The correct answer choice here which fits contextually here is option (d) i.e 'denting' which means have an adverse effect on; diminish.

S9. Ans. (c)

Sol. The correct option here is option (c). Other than that no other words can give the exact meaning with reference to the passage.

Beeline means -a straight line between two places which fits here contextually.



S10. Ans. (a)

Sol. The correct option here is option (a) i.e 'offering'. Other than that no other words can give the exact meaning with reference to the passage.

Ensnare- happen or occur afterwards or as a result.

Prosaic- Commonplace ; unromantic.

S11. Ans. (e)

Sol. There is no any interchange required as it gives the intact meaning with reference to the passage.

S12. Ans. (c)

Sol. The correct option here is option (c) i.e 'footprint.' Other than that no other words can give the exact meaning with reference to the passage.

S13. Ans. (d)

Sol. The correct option here is option (d) i.e 'flexible.' Other than that no other words can give the exact meaning with reference to the passage.

S14. Ans. (a)

Sol. The correct option here is option (a) i.e 'spur.' Other than that no other words can give the exact meaning with reference to the passage.

S15. Ans. (c)

Sol. The correct option here is option (c). Other than that no other words can give the exact meaning with reference to the passage.

Catechist here means a teacher of the principles of Christian religion which is contextually incorrect. So it should be replaced by 'ubiquitous' means 'present, appearing, or found everywhere'.



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