

SEBI Grade A English Language

Directions (1-10): In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate words without changing the meaning of the passage.

Chess is certainly one of the oldest games in the world, and perhaps also the most widespread. No matter where you go, it is **(1)** that you will be able to find someone living there who plays, or at least knows **(2)**, chess. But the **(3)** of chess remain shrouded in mystery, and various writers have **(4)** the invention of the game to virtually every one of the great early civilizations.

A careful **(5)** at the competing claims, however, reveals that India at around 550 A.D. may in fact be the strongest **(6)**. A Persian poem written in 600 A.D. declares that chess came to Persia from India, and before 550 A.D. there are no specific references to the **(7)** in any literature whatsoever.

In India, chess was called chaturanga, meaning “four parts.”The name **(8)** to the four army divisions which were standard at the time: foot soldiers, cavalry, chariots, and elephants. Such terminology confirms **(9)** all doubt that chess was **(10)** an abstract representation of war from the outset. Over the following centuries, like a true conqueror, chess spread across the globe, becoming ever more popular even as earthly empires rose and fell.

- Q1.** (a) Probably
(b) Likely
(c) Surely
(d) Undoubtedly
(e) Mostly

- Q2.** (a) How
(b) Of
(c) That
(d) About
(e) Off.


- Q3.** (a) Beginners
(b) Births
(c) Initials
(d) Origins
(e) Discovery.

- Q4.** (a) Attributed
(b) Explained
(c) Claimed
(d) Reported
(e) Voiced.

- Q5.** (a) Study
(b) Look
(c) Examination
(d) Consideration
(e) Sight.



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Q6. (a) Applicant
(b) Player
(c) Candidate
(d) Inventor
(e) Example.

Q7. (a) Game
(b) Country
(c) Poem
(d) Persians
(e) Invention.

Q8. (a) Describes
(b) Responds
(c) Refers
(d) Equals
(e) References.

Q9. (a) Above
(b) Beyond
(c) Without
(d) In
(e) Almost.

Q10. (a) Designed
(b) Considered
(c) Thought
(d) Known
(e) Result off



Directions (11-15): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it. Certain words are given in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

This confusion concerns nothing less than the concepts of socialism itself. It may mean, and is often used to describe, merely the ideals of social justice, greater equality and security which are the ultimate aims of socialism. But it means also the particular method by which most socialists hope to attain these ends and which many competent people regard as the only methods by which they can be fully and quickly attained. In this sense socialism means the abolition of private enterprise, of private ownership of the means of production, and the creation of a system of “planned economy” in which the entrepreneur working for profit is replaced by a central planning body.

There are many people who call themselves socialists although they care only about the first, who fervently believe in those ultimate aims of socialism but neither care nor understand how they can be achieved, and who are merely certain they must be achieved, whatever the cost be. But to nearly all those to whom socialism is not merely a hope but an object of practical politics, the characteristic methods of modern socialism are as essential as the ends themselves. Most people, on the other hand, who value the ultimate ends of socialism no less than the socialists, refuse to support socialism because of the dangers of other values they see in the methods proposed by the socialists. The dispute about socialism has thus become largely a dispute about means and not about ends - although the question whether the different ends of socialism can be simultaneously achieved is also involved.

This would be enough to create confusion. And the confusion has been further increased by the common practice of denying that those who repudiate the means value the ends. But this is not all. The situation is still more complicated by the fact that the same means, the "economic planning" which is the prime instrument for socialist reform, can be used for many other purposes. We must centrally direct economic activity if we want to make the distribution of income conform to current ideas of social justice. "Planning", therefore, is wanted by all those who demand that "production for use" be substituted for production for profit. But such planning is no less indispensable if the distribution of incomes is to be regulated in a way which to us appears to be the opposite of just. Whether we should wish that more of the good things of this world should go to some racial elite, the Nordic men, or the members of a party or an aristocracy, the methods which we shall have to employ are the same as those which could ensure an equalitarian distribution.

It may, perhaps, seem unfair to use the term socialism to describe its methods rather than its aims, to use for particular method a term which for many people stand for an ultimate ideal. It is probably preferable to describe the methods which can be used for a great variety of ends as collectivism and to regard socialism as a species of that genus. Yet, although to most socialists only one species collectivism will represent true socialism, it must always be remembered that socialism is a species of collectivism that, therefore, everything which is true for collectivism such must apply also to socialism. Nearly all the points which are disputed between socialists and liberals concerns methods common to all forms of collectivism and not particular ends for which the socialists want to use them; and all the consequences with which we shall be concerned in book follow from the methods of collectivism irrespective the ends for which they are used. It must also not be forgotten that socialism is not only by far the most important specie collectivism or "planning"; but that it is socialism which persuaded liberal-minded people to submit once more to regimentation of economic life which they had overthrown because, in the words of Adam Smith, it puts governments in a position where "to support themselves they are obliged to be oppressive and tyrannical".

Q11. According to the author, those who agree to the aims of socialism would

- (a) Refuse to support socialism because of possible consequences of the methods advocated to achieve those ends.
- (b) Agree on the collectivization and centralization of economic activities since both require strong and powerful governments.
- (c) Have disagreed if only they had known that the only way to achieve the equalitarian ends of socialism required centralization and collectivization of economic activities.
- (d) Explicitly advocate strict control of economic and social life always since it is a matter of practical politics for them.
- (e) None of the above.

Q12. From the passage, it may be inferred that the author is a supporter of

- (a) The ideals of socialism and does not care much about the means required to achieve them.
- (b) Ends as portrayed by supporters of socialism but is sceptical of the efficacy of the means advocates to reach those ends.
- (c) The ends of socialism, since the means required to achieve those ends always involve collectivization and centralization.
- (d) A strong and powerful government as a means to achieve the ends of socialism, since there is no debate on the desirability of the aforementioned ends.
- (e) All the possible means of collectivization as they are the tools which can be used to achieve equalitarian distribution in society.

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Q13. The statement that the author of the passage would support the most is:

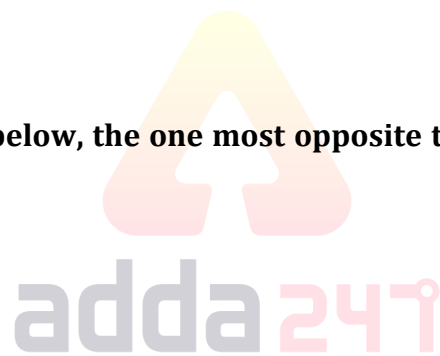
- (a) The development of society, if left to individuals, would be impossible as each individual would exploit opportunities for plundering and exploiting one's fellow citizens.
- (b) The development of society is best done individuals working for selfish interests within free economic environment that collectively end up improving the condition of society since the outcomes of each action of individuals are share the members of the society.
- (c) In the absence of a strong government, society would degenerate into anarchy as each individual tries to achieve success at the cost of one's fellow citizen
- (d) Individuals would create mechanisms to put a system in place that would have rules and regulations so that the society does not break down into chaos.
- (e) In a general environment of chaos, individuals would create clusters of order which would allow and encourage individual clusters' economic development.

Q14. Amongst the options below, the one that best captures the ideology being advocated by the author is

- (a) Fascism
- (b) Democratic socialism
- (c) Marxism
- (d) Fabien socialism
- (e) Capitalism

Q15. Amongst the options given below, the one most opposite to the ideology being advocated by the author

- (a) Fascism
- (b) Democratic socialism
- (c) Marxism
- (d) Fabien socialism
- (e) Capitalism



Directions (16-20): Five statements are given below, labelled a, b, c, d and e. Among these, four statements are in logical order and form a coherent paragraph. From the given options, choose the option that does not fit into the theme of the paragraph.

- Q16.** (a) However, the shock caused by the exercise was more a nasty shove than a nudge from the government.
- (b) Representatives of the government have stated that demonetisation intended to inculcate changes in behaviour in line with the government's moral "goals" and one may argue that it is a form of rule utilitarianism.
- (c) Uncertainty in definition, ironically, make the policy subject to the whims of its creator — exactly what Bentham sought to prevent.
- (d) Demonetisation has, for instance, created an alternative market for the demonetised (old) notes at a premium as well as newer forms of corruption.
- (e) Further, the institution of rules often has multiple additional costs and unintended consequences — provoking other acts to subvert it and acts to avoid the detection of such subversion.

- Q17.** (a) Very soon, almost everyone will have an Aadhaar number, seeded in hundreds of databases.
(b) Permanent surveillance of all residents becomes a possibility.
(c) India is at risk of becoming a surveillance state, with faint resistance from libertarians, intellectuals, political parties, the media, or the Supreme Court.
(d) Most of these databases will be accessible to the government without invoking any special powers.
(e) Nationalism is confused with obedience to the state.

- Q18.** (a) In 2012-13, these parties even agreed to have the sitting chief justice of the Supreme Court, Khil Raj Regmi, head a coalition government that included their representatives.
(b) Ironically, neither the ICJ nor any other international organisation warned against the consequences of the move.
(c) “The collective consent” sealed the fate of an independent judiciary.
(d) The judges were not asked in 1959 or in 1991, times of major political upheaval, to take fresh oaths.
(e) The four major parties — Nepali Congress, UML, Maoists and the Madhesi groups — that dominated politics post 2006 have benefited from the quota system that allows political groups a say in the appointment of judges.

- Q19.** (a) This encouraged extensive wheat cultivation.
(b) It surpassed Punjab.
(c) Wheat production in MP rose enormously — its share in all-India production shot from 8.6 per cent in 2005-06 to a whopping 20 per cent in 2014-15 making the state, the second largest wheat producer in the country after UP.
(d) The MP government incentivised wheat production by giving a 10 per cent bonus above the Centre’s minimum support price (MSP) from 2007-08 to 2014-15.
(e) MP’s agri-performance, therefore, has been more than three times better than that of UP’s.

- Q20.** (a) Medical experts view cycling as an exercise which, while being less strenuous on the body, is a workout for all the major muscles.
(b) The bicycle was invented in the 19th century and it remains a mode of transport for a large number of people.
(c) Developed countries in Europe have brought back the bicycle as a mode of urban commuting in a big way, while middle-income countries in Latin America are trying to replicate the model.
(d) If there is safety in cycling, many will use it as their prime mode of transport.
(e) It is time for India to promote bicycle culture as well, so that we burn less fossil fuel while improving our health.

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