

Quiz Date: 21st May 2020

Direction (1-7): **In each of the given questions an inference is given in bold which is then followed by three paragraphs. You must find the paragraph(s) from where it is inferred. Choose the option with the best possible outcome as your choice.**

Q1. Electric vehicles can reduce urban pollution significantly.

[I] Addressing vehicular emissions is within our grasp but requires a multi-pronged approach. It needs to combine the already-proposed tighter emission norms (in form of BS VI), with a push for shared mobility and public transport and adoption of alternate mobility technologies. While shared mobility can moderate the demand for individual vehicle ownership and usage, technology solutions today can allow for a sharp reduction in emissions per vehicle. Government policy will impact adoption that will affect both the extent and the future growth of urban pollution.

[II] The policy roadmap should encompass three key elements based on global learnings. First, incentives for adoption of alternate mobility technologies. Second, restrictions on elements that contribute negatively to strategic objectives (such as congestion charges on polluting technologies), and last provision of enabling infrastructure.

[III] There is a need to impose restrictions through supply-side regulations on OEMs to increase production of zero emission vehicles to curb urban pollution. Most Western countries adopt enforceable norms that ensure supply of electric vehicles. China has mandated OEMs to produce 10 per cent electric vehicles of their total production. There will, of course, be the need to think about improving the provision of non-polluting public transport. These include electric buses, metros, and shared EV fleets to reduce traffic and usage.

- (a) only (II)
- (b) only (III)
- (c) both (I) and (III)
- (d) all (I), (II) and (III)
- (e) none of these

Q2. NHPS's model tender document leaves several questions unanswered .

[I] Immediately after the announcement of National Health Protection Scheme (NHPS), questions were raised over the capacity of the country's healthcare system to handle a project of such proportions. There were also apprehensions that private hospitals would milk the NHPS by prescribing unnecessary investigations. The Model Tender Document for The Selection of Implementing Agencies For the NHPS, released by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, tries to address some of these concerns.

[II] The model tender document for The Selection of Implementing Agencies For the NHPS, released by the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare states that several procedures, including emergency consultation for acute colic, nebulisation for an asthma attack, hypoglycaemia in a diabetic and treatment of "dengue without complication", will be covered by the scheme only if the treatment is availed in a government hospital. Such ailments can indeed be taken care of at a primary health centre (PHC)

[III] The model tender document states that nearly 47 per cent of the packages under the NHPS, including those related to heart ailments and cancer, require pre-authorisation. In other words, hospitals empanelled under the scheme cannot perform these procedures until they have an authorisation letter from the NHPS's Implementation Support Agency. Such concerns were raised when the scheme was announced. With about two months to go for the NHPS's launch, it is disquieting that the government has not yet managed to address them convincingly.

- (a) only (II)
- (b) only (III)
- (c) both (I) and (III)
- (d) all (I), (II) and (III)
- (e) none of these

Q3. Latest alterations in textbooks short-circuit established processes, undermine NCERT autonomy

[I] In a major break with practices until 2016, in the current process of alterations in NCERT books, there was no consultation between the NCERT's chief advisors and the TDCs that prepared the books during 2005-9. There was no alert to writer-contributors who had not waived their rights over their contributions. Nor is there any indication that a prevailing system of revision, referring to TDCs, has itself been officially revised. The names that figure on the books as "textbook development committees" remain the same, though most of them have not been involved in the insertion/revision process. The lack of intimation reflects on the independence of such an establishment.

[II] The fact that much of the textbook material has been left alone in the latest NCERT changes indicates that the pedagogic purpose and outcome of the initiative are still able to argue for themselves; and that the initiative is still valued in the NCERT establishment. This, in turn, raises questions about why the current changes have been made as they have. The long arm of political directive is suggested to be an obstruction — in an autonomous body that has shown its ability to take an imaginative course while generating a discursive relationship with all those involved in education, without rendering itself an arm of the state.

[III] In history, this was to be achieved with due attention to the formative processes in Indian and world history from a plurality of perspectives; in economics, sociology and political studies, commerce and geography, it involved a wide invocation of the experiences of India's various communities while preserving the interactive domain of the Social Sciences and the value of the disciplines individually. A series of NCERT Focus Group Reports of the mid-2000s articulated aspects of this agenda.

- (a) both (I) and (II)
- (b) only (III)
- (c) only (II)
- (d) all (I), (II) and (III)
- (e) none of these

Q4. Since policy-making and implementation increasingly need specialists, lateral entry into senior levels of bureaucracy is a good idea.

[I] The UPSC system does draw people from diverse educational backgrounds — doctors, engineers, graduates in the social sciences, humanities and management studies — into the Indian Administrative Service (IAS). But the IAS's scheme of posting and transfer values general competency more than specialised skills. This means that by the time a bureaucrat attains seniority, she has served in so many departments that her original set of skills and expertise has attenuated considerably.

[II] The Centre's decision to make possible "lateral entry" of "talented and motivated Indian nationals" into the senior levels of the bureaucracy is a much-needed reform. In an advertisement issued on Sunday, the Department of Personnel and Training invited applications from outstanding individuals, including those from the private sector, for appointment to joint secretary-level posts. Although it is an initial offering of 10 posts in areas such as financial services, agriculture, environment, renewable

energy, transport and revenue, the move could be a significant step towards fulfilling the longstanding need for domain specialists in positions crucial to policy-making and implementation of government schemes.

[III] In the past, governments have occasionally inducted talent from outside the bureaucracy for administrative purposes. The UPA government appointed Nandan Nilekani to head the UIDAI. But in general, governments have tried to meet the need for experts by appointing consultants. The Second Administrative Reforms Commission's (ARC) recommendation of an "institutionalised and transparent process for lateral entry at both the Central and state levels" had so far gone unheeded.

- (a) both (I) and (II)
- (b) only (III)
- (c) only (II)
- (d) all (I), (II) and (III)
- (e) none of these

Q5. SBI to stop handling payments for oil imports from Iran.

[I] Although the government had cut imports from Tehran in 2017/18 due to a dispute over a giant gas field, Iran remained its third-biggest oil supplier. Iran supplied about 458,000 barrels per day (bpd), or about a tenth of the country's more than 4.5 million bpd of imports, in the fiscal year to March 2018.

[II] The new Indian government has promised to put the economy back on an accelerated growth path with reforms in the energy, financial, and employment sectors. Energy is the backbone of the Indian economy, so the right energy policies will spur growth in all other sectors. With India soon expected to be the world's third largest energy consumer, there is an urgent need to get these right: current demand for imported coal, oil, and natural gas is significantly outpacing domestic production, and the country is being forced to spend valuable foreign capital to procure additional energy resources.

[III] Imports was reported at 4,308.30 Barrel/Day th in Dec 2016. This records an increase from the previous number of 3,935.50 Barrel/Day th for Dec 2015. India's Crude Oil: Imports data is updated yearly, averaging 2,078.15 Barrel/Day th from Dec 1995 to 2016, with 22 observations. The data reached an all-time high of 4,308.30 Barrel/Day th in 2016 and a record low of 602.50 Barrel/Day th in 1995.

- (a) both (I) and (II)
- (b) only (III)
- (c) only (II)
- (d) all (I), (II) and (III)
- (e) none of these

Q6. South Korea's President doesn't share U.S. goals on North Korea.

[I] South Korean leader Moon claims to be the mediator between the White House and Pyongyang, but it isn't clear he's representing the U.S. position. Instead he is pressing the U.S. to give benefits to North Korea in return for mere steps toward denuclearization. He has adopted the North's position that the negotiations should agree to "phased and synchronous measures," meaning the North gets benefits in exchange for incremental steps such as allowing inspectors to visit nuclear sites.

[II] The matter of denuclearization of North Korea became worse since Moon was personally invested in a Trump-Kim summit. He and his administration worked tirelessly to make it happen in hopes that Washington and Pyongyang could agree on the future of North Korea's nuclear program. Of course, part of his motivation to do this was to protect South Koreans from Pyongyang's nuclear arsenal and forward South Korean interests. However, trump calls off the meeting

[III] North Korea's entire foreign policy and national identity has evolved around the threat of war with America. As a result, they've always been trying to improve their military capabilities in order to deter the US from invading.

- (a) only (I)
- (b) only (II)
- (c) only (III)
- (d) Both (I) and (II)
- (e) All (I), (II) and (III)

Q7. Banks needs to step up the digital game.

[I] With digital platforms are enjoying increasing customer trust and reliance, banks need to respond by improving their digital marketing capabilities — nurturing a digital brand image that places them top of mind for customers. Customer adoption of digital banking has gone beyond online transactions to an increased number of digital purchases of banking products.

[II] Traditional banks must evaluate their place within the payments ecosystem and be open to partnering with FinTechs and third-party developers to drive value collaboratively. The Internet of Things (IoT) is expected to transform the payments market landscape as more and more devices are connected. In mature markets, a combination of near field communication (NFC), contactless technology, internet banking and mobile payments are fueling growth.

[III] In Asia, customers rely quite heavily on the internet to evaluate banking products such as credit cards and auto loans, and to compare products, benefits and prices before purchase. For banks, a focused digital marketing effort will involve building up their online brand and presence and investing in customer acquisition campaigns and engagement through social media, internet advertising and other media.

- (a) only (I)
- (b) only (II)
- (c) only (III)
- (d) Both (I) and (III)
- (e) All (I), (II) and (III)



Direction (8-15): Select the phrase/connector (STARTERS) from the given three options which can be used to form a single sentence from the two sentences given below, implying the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences.

Q8. (I) The Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TNVASU) will hold its second round of counselling on September 22 at the Madras Veterinary College, Vepery.

(II) TNVASU will be going to fill up vacant seats in B. V.Sx. and AH (academic stream).

(i) The Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University will hold...

(ii) To fill up vacant seats...

(iii) TNVASU will be going...

(a) Both (i) and (ii)

(b) Both (ii) and (iii)

(c) Only (iii)

(d) All of (i), (ii) and (iii)

(e) None of the above

Q9. (I) Mr. Nambi Narayanan's career was "smothered" by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) spy scandal case 24 years ago.

(II) A three-judge Bench, led by Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra, found Mr. Nambi Narayan a victim of trumped-up allegations of espionage by the Kerala Police.

(i) More than 24 years after Mr. Nambi...

(ii) Because Mr. Nambi Narayan's career...

(iii) Although a three-judge Bench...

(a) Only (i)

(b) Only (ii)

(c) Only (iii)

(d) Both (iii) and (i)

(e) None of these

Q10. (I) Metropolitan Magistrate Charu Gupta ordered framing of charges against K. Pachauri under Sections 354, 354A and 509 of the IPC.

(II) Metropolitan Magistrate Charu Gupta discharged him of offences under Sections 354B, 354D, 506 and 341 of the IPC.

(i) while, she discharged him...

(ii) Metropolitan Magistrate Charu Gupta ordered...

(iii) Though, Metropolitan Magistrate Charu Gupta discharged him...

(a) Both (i) and (iii)

(b) Only (ii)

(c) Each of (i), (iii) and (ii)

(d) Only (i)

(e) None of the above

Q11. (I) the dual analog design is now the standard for all video game console controllers,

(II) It's odd that Sony decided to choose the controller with less features and a shorter lifespan.

(i) Considering that the dual analog...

(ii) Because the dual analog...

(iii) However the controller with less...

(a) Both (i) and (ii)

(b) Only (i)

(c) Only (iii)

- (d) Both (iii) and (i)
- (e) None of the above

Q12. (I) The controversy over the sealing of a mosque in Sheetla Mata Colony here two days ago remained unresolved on Friday.

(II) The Divisional Commissioner was going back and forth on the matter in a day marked by hectic parleys and police action against Muslims holding a protest against the sealing.

- (i) With the Divisional Commissioner...
 - (ii) Because the Divisional Commissioner...
 - (iii) For the Divisional Commissioner...
- (a) Only (i)
 - (b) Both (i) and (ii)
 - (c) Both (ii) and (iii)
 - (d) Both (i) and (iii)
 - (e) None of the above

Q13. (I) News of detente, talks with South Korea and potential Olympic medals have clearly focused attention on the Korean peninsula.

(II) The children of North Korean women in China, most of whom have been trafficked out of the sealed state into illegal marriages, prostitution and slavery, live stateless on the fringes of society, unrecognized as citizens or even refugees.

- (i) Although news of détente, talks...
- (ii) Notwithstanding that news of détente...
- (iii) As the children of North Korean women...

- (a) Only (i) is correct
- (b) Only (iii) is correct
- (c) Both (i) and (ii) are correct
- (d) Both (ii) and (iii) are correct
- (e) All are correct



Q14. (I) We hope that the Indian family continues to be stronger than in most countries and provides a caring environment for the elderly.

(II) It can't be the basis for our ability to support the elderly.

- (i) While we hope that Indian family...
- (ii) Hoping that the Indian family can't be the basis...
- (iii) To support the elderly, we hope that...

- (a) Only (i) is correct
- (b) Only (ii) is correct
- (c) Only (iii) is correct
- (d) Both (i) and (iii) are correct
- (e) All are correct

Q15. (I) The government has done well in areas such as infrastructure and energy.

(II) Government's performance has been lack luster in health, agriculture and education.

- (i) Although the government has done....

- (ii) Despite the government's performance to...
 (iii) But the government has done...
 (a) only (i)
 (b) only (ii)
 (c) only (iii)
 (d) both (i) and (ii)
 (e) All (i), (ii) and (iii)



Solutions

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S1. Ans. (b)

Sol. Read the paragraphs carefully. Among the given paragraphs, only the (III) paragraph concludes the given inference. It is describing about the production of more electric vehicles for private as well as for public transport, to reduce the increasing pollution. However, paragraph (I) has given emphasis on the adoption of alternate mobility technologies. It has also suggested that shared mobility would further help to reduce pollution. While paragraph (II) is suggesting ways that would help in reducing pollution such as presenting incentives, banning polluting technologies and improving infrastructure. It is to be noted that in paragraph (I) and (II) the alternate technology to reduce pollution has not been mentioned whereas, in paragraph (III) the alternate technology of electric vehicles is mentioned. Thus, option (b) becomes the most viable answer choice.

S2. Ans.(c)

Sol. After reading the paragraphs carefully, it can be understood that the paragraphs (I) and (III) depict the given inference. Paragraph (I) has mentioned the release of model tender document of NHPS which states its concerns regarding the implementation of the scheme in such a vast scale. Moreover, it also expresses its agitation towards the private hospitals which may receive undue benefits from the schemes. Paragraph (III) is describing about the issue mentioned in the model tender document of NHPS of the requisite of pre-authorization to perform on heart ailments and cancer from the NHPS's implementation support agency. Since, all three paragraphs mention the questions raised in The Model Tender Document for The Selection of Implementing Agencies For the NHPS, option (c) becomes the most suitable answer choice.

S3. Ans. (a)

Sol. Among the given paragraphs, paragraph (I) and (II) are deducing the given inference in bold. The inference is stating that the latest alterations made in NCERT books didn't follow the revision process like it used to earlier. Though being an autonomous body, this incident shows the weakness of NCERT. Drawing a hint from the sentence of paragraph (I) "The names that figure on the books as "textbook development committees" remain the same, though most of them have not been involved in the

insertion/revision process”, the given inference can be concluded. Moreover, paragraph (II) is also questioning these alterations in a critical manner. This can be understood from the sentence “This, in turn, raises questions about why the current changes have been made as they have”. While, the sentence “...in an autonomous body that has shown its ability to take an imaginative course while generating a discursive relationship with all those involved in education, without rendering itself an arm of the state” expresses that NCERT has failed to correctly implement the revision process in spite of being an autonomous body. However, paragraph (III) fails to depict the given inference as it is merely describing the alterations made by NCERT in the textbooks. Thus, option (a) becomes the most viable answer choice.

S4. Ans. (c)

Sol. The given inference in bold states that with the help of lateral entry at senior levels of bureaucracy better policy making and implementation can be done. After reading the paragraphs, it is inferential that only paragraph (II) provides the given inference since, it is describing about the entry of new and talented personnel at joint-secretary levels which is vital for policy-making and implementation of government schemes. However, paragraph (I) is describing about selecting employees in IAS scheme who becomes versatile while serving different departments which is irrelevant in the context of the inference. In addition to, paragraph (III) is describing about the proposal of selecting process for lateral entry to be clear and appropriate is still unheard. Thus, the given inference can be precisely deduced by only paragraph (II), hence, option (c) becomes the most suitable answer choice.

S5. Ans. (e)

Sol. The given inference is stating that SBI will not manage the oil payments of Iran. After reading the paragraphs it can be understood that this inference is not expounded in any of them. Paragraph (I) has illustrated the exports data of oil of Iran. While, paragraph (II) has mentioned India’s plan to spend foreign capital on energy resources as it might become the third largest energy consumer. Moreover, paragraph (III) has merely provided the imports data of oil of India. Therefore, option (e) becomes the most suitable answer choice.

S6. Ans. (d)

Sol. Read the paragraphs carefully. The given inference can be concluded from paragraph (I) as well as paragraph (II). Both the paragraphs are clearly depicting *the difference in the view of South Korea’s president and US president regarding the denuclearization of North Korea*. It can be noted from the sentence in the **paragraph (I)** “Instead he is...denuclearization”. *This sentence expresses that SK’s expects more benefits from US*. Moreover, **paragraph (II)** is describing how *the matters have gone worse about the denuclearization of North Korea. We can receive the hint from the sentence [the matter of denuclearization... Trump-Kim summit]*. However, **paragraph (III)** is describing about *North Korea’s foreign policy to protect itself from the US attacks*. Therefore, **option (d)** becomes the most viable answer choice.

S7. Ans. (e)

Sol. Read the paragraphs carefully. Among the given paragraphs all three of them provide the given inference. *It is to be noted that the paragraphs are describing about the requirement of technological innovations in banking industry according to the growing demands by customers for digitization*. Since, all three paragraphs describe the need to improve and innovate the technology in banking sector, **option (e)** becomes the most suitable answer choice.

S8. Ans. (d)

Sol. Each of (i), (ii) and (iii), as starters, could make a coherent paragraph after combining (I) and (II).

'The Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TNVASU) will hold its second round of counselling on September 22 at the Madras Veterinary College, Vepery, to fill up vacant seats in B.V.Sc. and AH (academic stream).'

'To fill up vacant seats in B.V.Sc. and AH (academic stream), the Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (TNVASU) will hold its second round of counselling on September 22 at the Madras Veterinary College, Vepery.'

'TNVASU will be going to fill up vacant seats in B.V.Sc and AH (academic stream) by holding its second round of counselling on September 22 at the Madras Veterinary College, Vepery.'

S9. Ans. (a)

Sol. Only (i), as a starter, could form a coherent paragraph after combining (I) and (II).

'More than 24 years after Mr. Nambi Narayanan's career was "smothered" by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) spy scandal case, a three-judge Bench, led by Chief Justice of India Dipak Misra, found him a victim of trumped-up allegations of espionage by the Kerala Police.'

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

S10. Ans. (c)

Sol. Each of (i), (iii) and (ii) as starters could form a coherent paragraph after combining (I) and (II).

'While, she discharged him of offences under Sections 354B, 354D, 506 and 341 of the IPC, the Metropolitan Magistrate Charu Gupta ordered framing of charges against him under Sections 354, 354A and 509 of the IPC.'

'Metropolitan Magistrate Charu Gupta ordered framing of charges against him under Sections 354, 354A, 506 and 509 of the IPC but discharged him of offences under Sections 354B, 354D, 506 and 341 of the IPC.'

'Though, Metropolitan Magistrate Charu Gupta discharged him of offences under Sections 354B, 354D, 506 and 341 of the IPC, she ordered framing of charges against him under Sections 354, 354A and 509 of the IPC.'

S11. Ans. (b)

Sol. Only option (i) can be appropriately used to frame a grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence combining both the sentence.

'Considering that the dual analog design is now the standard for all video game console controllers, it's odd that Sony decided to choose the controller with less features and a shorter lifespan.'

S12. Ans. (a)

Sol. Only (i) as starter is correct in forming a coherent paragraph after combining (I) and (II).

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

'With the Divisional Commissioner going back and forth on the matter in a day marked by hectic parleys and police action against Muslims holding a protest against the sealing, the controversy over the sealing of a mosque in Sheetla Mata Colony here two days ago remained unresolved on Friday.'

S13. Ans. (c)

Sol. Both the starters (i) and (ii) can be used to form the meaningful sentence without altering the intended meaning of the two statements. It is to be noted that both the conjunctions "**Although**" and

"Notwithstanding", mean the same i.e. **in spite of the fact that; even though**. In the given case, both these conjunctions give a contextual meaning to the given sentences. Hence (c) is the correct choice.

(I) *Although news of detente, talks with South Korea and potential Olympic medals have clearly focused attention on the Korean peninsula, the children of North Korean women in China, most of whom have been*

trafficked out of the sealed state into illegal marriages, prostitution and slavery, live stateless on the fringes of society, unrecognized as citizens or even refugees.

(II) Notwithstanding that news of detente, talks with South Korea and potential Olympic medals have clearly focused attention on the Korean peninsula, the children of North Korean women in China, most of whom have been trafficked out of the sealed state into illegal marriages, prostitution and slavery, live stateless on the fringes of society, unrecognized as citizens or even refugees.

S14. Ans. (a)

Sol. Only the first starter can be used to form a meaningful sentence connecting both the given statements without altering their intended meanings.

(I) While we hope that the Indian family continues to be stronger than in most countries and provides a caring environment for the elderly, it can't be the basis for our ability to support the elderly.

S15. Ans. (a)

Sol. Only starter (i) can be used to frame a meaningful sentence respectively without altering the exact meaning of the given sentences. However, it is not possible to construct a contextual sentence using the second and the third starters as it would alter the intended meaning. Hence option (a) is the correct choice.

(i) Although the government has done well in areas such as infrastructure and energy, its performance has been lack luster in health, agriculture and education.

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