

LIC AAO English Language Questions 2025

Directions (1-8): In the questions given below a statement is given with two blanks in it. For each blank three alternatives are provided in the corresponding columns. Choose the alternative from the corresponding column that would fit the respective blank to make the given sentence grammatically correct and contextually meaningful.

Q1. America's _____ on visas is at odds with the efforts being made by its institutions to make the best of _____ circumstances.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Inflexibility	(D) Upcoming
(B) Thinness	(E) Terrible
(C) Convincing	(F) Intimidated

- (a) B-E
- (b) A-D
- (c) A-F
- (d) C-F
- (e) A-E

Q2. Analysts said concerns about a macroeconomic slowdown and market _____ could be reasons for the lower _____ into equity schemes in May.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Volatility	(D) Wholesome
(B) Obesity	(E) Suggestive
(C) Realistic	(F) Inflow

- (a) B-E
- (b) A-D
- (c) A-F
- (d) C-F
- (e) A-E

Q3. Pension fund regulator PFRDA has given _____ the option of choosing in between physical and e-PRAN cards with both being treated _____ for all purposes.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Audiences	(D) Unhealthy
(B) Subscribers	(E) Equivalent
(C) Viewers	(F) Consolation

- (a) B-E
- (b) A-D
- (c) A-F
- (d) C-F
- (e) A-E

Q4. The spread of covid-19 has created a/an _____ effect on businesses and society _____ professional and personal lives alike, of individuals in many ways.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Relieving	(D) Diseasing
(B) Ailing	(E) Alleviated
(C) Overwhelming	(F) Impacting

- (a) B-E
- (b) A-D
- (c) A-F
- (d) C-F
- (e) A-E

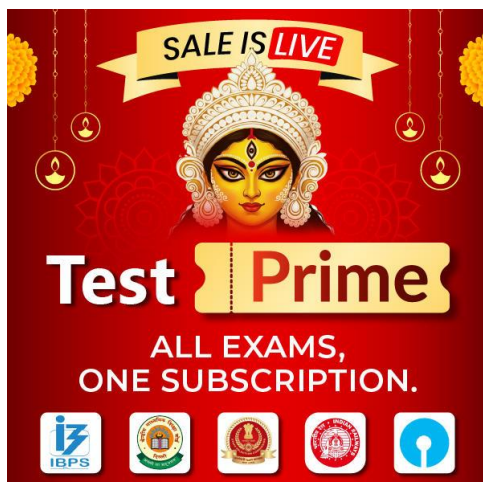
Q5. ICICI Bank had _____ WhatsApp banking services three months ago to enable its retail customers to undertake a/an _____ of banking requirements from their home.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Introduced	(D) Slew
(B) Announcement	(E) Disturbance
(C) Fascinated	(F) Awe

- (a) B-E
- (b) A-D
- (c) A-F
- (d) C-F
- (e) A-E

Q6. Market regulator Sebi's new framework which enables trading in _____ debt is likely to create a _____ bond market in India.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Defaulted	(D) Persuaded
(B) Misbehaved	(E) Courageous
(C) Cowardice	(F) Distressed



- (a) B-E
(b) A-D
(c) A-F
(d) C-F
(e) A-E

Q7. The social media app's _____ advertisements in India aim to position it as a platform that's cuddly and convenient, but it should also launch a/an _____ against fake news

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Pressurized	(D) Effective
(B) Lapsed	(E) Evident
(C) Debut	(F) Broadside

- (a) B-E
(b) A-D
(c) A-F
(d) C-F
(e) A-E

Q8. The announcement should help in _____ the poor, large numbers of whom have found themselves unable to earn a livelihood as a result of the COVID-19 _____ lockdown.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Reassuring	(D) Manifested
(B) Puzzle	(E) Induced
(C) Collective	(F) Ranged

- (a) B-E
(b) A-D
(c) A-F
(d) C-F
(e) A-E

Directions (9-15): 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 statements.

- Q9.** (I) Dr. Abdullah would be detained initially for 12 days.
(II) The period for detention could be extended for a maximum of three months.
(i) Though Dr. Abdullah would be detained.....
(ii) However Dr. Abdullah would be detained.....
(iii) While detaining Dr. Abdullah.....
(a) Only (i)
(b) Only (iii)
(c) Both (i) and (ii)
(d) Both (ii) and (iii)
(e) All of these

Q10. (I) Mr. Khan is considered to be close to the guardians of the Pakistani state.

(II) Mr. Khan possesses the 'mandate' to redraw borders.

(i) Not only is Mr Khan is considered to be...

(ii) If Mr. Khan is considered to be close...

(iii) Mr. Khan, who is considered to be...

- (a) Both (i) and (ii)
(b) Both (i) and (iii)
(c) Only (i)
(d) Only (iii)
(e) None of these

Q11. (I) Rishabh Pant played a blistering knock (78 not out, 36b)

(II) Rishabh Pant lead Delhi Capitals to a six-wicket win with four balls to spare.

(i) Rishabh Pant played ...

(ii) Although Rishabh Pant...

(iii) If Rishabh Pant...

- (a) Only (i)
(b) Both (i) and (iii)
(c) Both (i) and (ii)
(d) Only (iii)
(e) None of these

Q12. (I) Mr. Hareesh declared that he has withdrawn his novel.

(II) Mr. Hareesh has no intention of publishing the novel in book form from now.

(i) Although Mr. Hareesh declared that

(ii) Mr. Hareesh declared that

(iii) The declaration has been made by Mr. Hareesh that

- (a) Only (ii)
(b) Only (iii)
(c) Both (i) and (iii)
(d) Both (ii) and (iii)
(e) All of the above

Q13. (I) There was a strategic use of state patronage in administration.

(II) local party cadres were used in administration

(i) There was strategic

(ii) There were strategies for

(iii) For local party cadres

- (a) Only (ii)
(b) Only (i)
(c) Both (ii) and (iii)
(d) Only (iii)
(e) None of the above

Q14. (I) Long history of states meddling in elections needs to be recognized.

(II) It does not mean elections should be accepted much less condoned.

(i) Accepting elections as much less condoned

- (ii) Meddling in elections
- (iii) Recognizing the long history of states
- (a) Options (i) and (ii)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Only (i)
- (d) Only (iii)
- (e) None of the above

Q15. (I) Recent foreign policy moves by New Delhi indicate an inflexion point.

(II) It recast its approach to the maritime Indo-Pacific.

(i) Recasting its approach to foreign policy.....

(ii) Recently, the approach to

(iii) Indicating foreign policy moves

(a) Options (i) and (ii)

(b) Only (ii)

(c) Only (i)

(d) Only (iii)

(e) None of the above

Directions (16-22): In the following questions a sentence is given with a blank in it. Following each sentence five words are provided. Choose the appropriate word that can fill the given blank to make the sentence both grammatically and contextually correct.

Q16. Santibanez _____ on a social media platform called Discord, a five-year-old video-and-voice chat app that's a cross between Reddit and Slack.

- (a) Careless
- (b) Stumbled
- (c) Sloppy
- (d) Diligent
- (e) Imperfect

Q17. The broader appeal of the application has _____ the attention of venture investors.

- (a) Sinned
- (b) Slapdash
- (c) Scrupulous
- (d) Unexplained
- (e) Captured

Q18. The funding comes with the _____ that stake holders will continue to focus on growing revenue.

- (a) Supreme
- (b) Appropriately
- (c) Understanding
- (d) Keeping
- (e) Sincerity

Q19. The Sports Commission kept us _____ along the way and gave us a direct line to the governor's office.

- (a) Appraised
- (b) Effectiveness
- (c) Succeed
- (d) Convicted
- (e) Intended

Q20. With private trains expected to begin operations by April 2023, the Railways said the move would only _____ travellers by way of confirmed tickets and faster trains.

- (a) Inefficacy
- (b) Productive
- (c) Frivolous
- (d) Benefit
- (e) Effective

Q21. Among the major objectives of this project is _____ of modern technology and reduction in transit time and the demand-supply deficit.

- (a) Intense
- (b) Productions
- (c) Induction
- (d) Effectively
- (e) Seriously

Q22. Large swathes of the tribal blocks and belts protected during the British regime have already been _____ upon.

- (a) Resumed
- (b) Encroached
- (c) Opted
- (d) Capable
- (e) Comforted

Directions (23-30): In each of the questions given below four words are given in bold. These four words may or may not be in their correct position. The sentence is then followed by options with the correct combination of words that should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Find the correct combination of the words that replace each other. If the sentence is correct as it is then select option (e) as your choice.

Q23. In their **defense (1)**, the marines claimed they **international (2)** the fishermen for "pirates" and that the **shooting (3)** occurred in **mistook (4)** waters.

- (a) 1-2
- (b) 2-3
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Q24. To **enable** (1) the search for **inaugurated** (2) donors more systematic, the Delhi government **plasma** (3) India's first plasma **bank** (4) at ILBS Hospital.

- (a) 1-4
- (b) 2-3
- (c) 3-4
- (d) Both (a) & (b)
- (e) None of these

Q25. The committee shall **explore** (1) reform measures that **improve** (2) ease of doing business in Delhi and **recovery** (3) the process of economic **shorten** (4) from the impact of COVID-19

- (a) 1-2
- (b) 2-3
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 3-4
- (e) None of these

Q26. To reduce academic loss **alternative** (1) due to schools remaining **shut** (2) in the wake of the **pandemic** (3), the Directorate of Education (DoE) has launched an **incurred** (4) "remote" teaching-learning plan for students.

- (a) 1-4
- (b) 2-3
- (c) 3-4
- (d) Both (a) & (b)
- (e) None of these

Q27. The Delhi High Court **property** (1) response of the Centre on a **petition** (2) seeking e-registration of **sought** (3) documents at all sub-registrar **offices** (4) in view of the COVID-19 pandemic.

- (a) 1-2
- (b) 2-3
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Q28. The court **asked** (1) for clarification from **government** (2) about the blacklisting and **cancellation** (3) of visas of the foreign **nationals** (4).

- (a) 1-4
- (b) 2-3
- (c) 3-4
- (d) Both (a) & (c)
- (e) None of these

Q29. The **convene** (1) government will **State** (2) monthly meetings with the Secretaries of the **departments** (3) concerned as well as the **nodal** (4) officers.

- (a) 1-2
- (b) 2-3
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Q30. Mr. Gupta has given **purpose** (1) to the related **coordination** (2) to enhance **departments** (3) with the Department of Information Technology for the **instructions** (4).

- (a) 1-4
- (b) 2-3
- (c) 3-4
- (d) Both (a) & (b)
- (e) None of these

Directions (31-35): In the following questions two columns are given containing three sentences/phrases each. In first column, sentences/phrases are A, B, and C and in the second column, the sentences/phrases are D, E and F. A sentence/phrase from the first column may or may not connect with another sentence/phrase from the second column to make a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. Each question has five options, four of which display the sequence(s) in which the sentences/phrases can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. If none of the options given forms a correct sentence after combination, mark (e), i.e. "None of these" as your answer.

Q31.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) The Rohini commission has, had to depend on British-era caste censuses	(D) Grapples with declining revenues as a fallout of the Covid-19 pandemic.
(B) You don't get to set the pace	(E) The challenges you face
(C) IndiGo has decided to lay off 10 per cent of its workforce as it	(F) To ascertain the various sub-communities' shares in the OBC population

- (a) Both A-F and C-D
- (b) Only A-E
- (c) Both B-D and C-E
- (d) Both A-E and B-D
- (e) None of these

Q32.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) To power those leaps of	(D) Need to be involved in answering
(B) The employees will be given notice pay	(E) In lieu of serving notice applicable to them
(C) Next, identify the people	(F) Think beyond your own four walls

- (a) C-F and B-E
- (b) A-F
- (c) B-E
- (d) A-E
- (e) None of these

Q33.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Airlines have been facing a severe cash	(D) Based income in the June quarter
(B) Banks may be staring at falling fee	(E) Crunch because of the disruption caused by Covid-19 outbreak.
(C) The Coronavirus pandemic has caused	(F) Lets users raise money for personal causes

- (a) Both A-F and C-D
- (b) Only A-E
- (c) Both B-D and C-E
- (d) Both A-E and B-D
- (e) None of these

Q34.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Analysts feel private sector banks will be	(D) people search for information related to the Coronavirus
(B) Instagram has launched a number of	(E) Expanding nonprofit fundraising to additional countries
(C) To increase access to accurate information	(F) More affected compared with their PSU counterparts

- (a) C-F and B-E
- (b) A-F
- (c) B-E
- (d) A-E
- (e) None of these

Q35.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Investors felt the bank had posted steady numbers in the	(D) You're losing out on human contact
(B) The efforts towards resolving additional	(E) First quarter of the fiscal which was a challenging period for the sector
(C) Just because you're in a contactless	(F) Debt of Rs 6,600 crore are likely to continue beyond the year

- (a) Both A-F and C-D
- (b) Only A-E
- (c) Only B-D
- (d) Both A-E and B-F
- (e) None of these

Directions (36-40): In each of the given questions, a word has been highlighted in the statement. In the options given below, a pair of words has been given. Find the pair of the word where the first word is the synonym of the highlighted word whereas the second word is the antonym of the given word.

Q36. It's important to evolve the understanding of who we are over time, being careful not to **stray** too far from our roots.

- (a) Quandary: Abandon
- (b) Deviate: Organized
- (c) Problem: Solution
- (d) Lose: Injure
- (e) None of these

Q37. Message your employees weekly to **apprise** them of key happenings, and be sure to link to a survey asking them what they thought about it

- (a) Rescue: Retrieve
- (b) Perceptible: Imperceptible
- (c) Notify: Mislead
- (d) Apparently: Really
- (e) none of these

Q38. Allow your child's **incessant** questioning to guide learning, and read lots of books together.

- (a) Appraise: Willful
- (b) Ceaseless: Intermittent
- (c) Cattiness: Malevolence
- (d) Spreading: Suppress
- (e) none of these

Q39. Personal **proclivity** is one of the most potent strategic steps towards individual and organizational success that a family business can take.

- (a) Always: Sometimes
- (b) Atrocity: Liking
- (c) Propensity: Indisposition
- (d) Dissemination: Discountenance
- (e) none of these

Q40. **Blistering** pace is the new market standard, and as a leader, your job is to equip organizations to achieve an internal pace that (at least) keeps up.

- (a) Recompense: Absolve
- (b) Breakneck: Leisurely
- (c) Demand: Disavowal
- (d) Inimical: Harmless
- (e) none of these

Directions (41-45): In each of the following paragraph, there are three words omitted. Below each paragraph, there are five options and each option consists of three words which can fill the blanks respectively to make the paragraph grammatically and coherently correct. Find the most appropriate set of words that fit into the blanks contextually. If none of the given sets of words fill the blanks appropriately mark option (e) i.e., 'none of these' as your answer choice.

Q41. With world _____ of China and reduce their _____ the dragon nation, analysts said India needs to get its _____ right to go to the negotiating table for a quid-pro-quo deal.

- (a) considerate, accord, evident
- (b) wary, dependence, priorities
- (c) practicing, intending, concerns
- (d) committed, issuance, approached
- (e) None of these

Q42. Britannia Industries is planning to _____ up capacity despite the ongoing pandemic and _____ over Rs 700 crore in the next two-and-a-half years across the country to _____ to the demand.

- (a) establish, uttered, conduct
- (b) engage, obtain, scarce
- (c) policies, straighten, stock
- (d) ramp, invest, cater
- (e) None of these

Q43. A _____ of measures, including production-linked incentives to fiscal _____ and handholding through import duties, are being _____ to cut down on imports and build domestic production.

- (a) combination, sops, considered
- (b) apparently, property, fantasized
- (c) conceptualization, courts, appointments
- (d) passages, vain, instantaneous
- (e) None of these

Q44. The US e-commerce company would invest \$1 billion in _____ small and medium businesses in India and expected to _____ Indian-made goods _____ \$10 billion by 2025.

- (a) coasting, project, commission
- (b) constantly, constitute, leveled
- (c) digitizing, export, worth
- (d) affecting, institutionalized, rendering
- (e) None of these

Q45. Von der Leyen pointed out that any _____ needs to include our usual _____ in terms of market access, public _____ and, of course, sustainable development.

- (a) appeal, generate, theoretically
- (b) deal, requirements, procurement
- (c) range, campaign, leagues
- (d) laboring, confers, granting
- (e) None of these

Directions (46-52): Select the phrase/connector (STARTERS) from the giventhree options which can be used to form a single sentence from the two sentencesgiven below, implying the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences.

Q46. (I) It is critical to try to make sense of Beijing's actions.
(II) India must use the 'subtler tools' of power available for this.

- (i) While it is critical.....
- (ii) Trying to make.....

(iii) Before India begins to.....

- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Only (iii)
- (d) Both (i) and (ii)
- (e) Both (ii) and (iii)

Q47.

(I) What prompted China's aggressive behavior is unclear.
(II) It had the effect of shredding the painstakingly devised Border Agreement of 1993.

- (i) Though what prompted.....
- (ii) As soon as China's.....
- (iii) Having had the.....

- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Both (i) and (iii)
- (c) Both(ii) and (iii)
- (d) Both (i) and (ii)
- (e) All (i), (ii), and (iii)

Q48.

(I) The higher the infection outbreaks, the more the economy falters.

(II) It is the clear trend discernible from more than a quarter of full and partial lockdowns.

- (i) Where the higher.....
- (ii) Provided that the higher.....
- (iii) The higher the.....

- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Both (ii) & (iii)
- (d) Both (i) and (ii)
- (e) None of These

Q49. (I) 'Civil society' does not mean only the urban intelligentsia.

(II) It centrally includes the masses with their deep, wordless wisdom.

- (i) Ever since meaning.....
- (ii) Centrally including the.....
- (iii) Besides the urban

- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Only (iii)
- (d) Both (i) and (ii)
- (e) Both (ii) and (iii)

Q50. (I) The agreement envisages the two countries giving each other access to a wide range of products.

(II) It will possibly restore the zero tariffs enjoyed by Indian exporters on a wide range of items.

- (i) While the agreement.....
- (ii) Besides envisaging the.....
- (iii) Now that the agreement.....

- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Both (ii) & (iii)
- (d) Both (i) and (ii)
- (e) All (i), (ii), (iii)

Q51. (I) The Supreme Court has turned down an extended schedule of payments spread over 20 years.

(II) Vodafone Idea (VIL) is staring at a bleak future.

(i) With the Supreme Court turning.....

(ii) As the Supreme

(iii) After the Supreme.....

(a) Only (i)

(b) Both (i) and (ii)

(c) Both(ii) and (iii)

(d) Both (i) and (iii)

(e) All (i), (ii), and (iii)

Q52. (I) Finance Minister says the government is starting to see green shoots of recovery in a pandemic-battered economy in some high frequency data.

(II) The Finance Minister surprisingly suggested that its optimism stemmed from the PMI data among other indicators.

(i) By the time the Finance.....

(ii) Saying that the.....

(iii) Surprisingly suggesting that.....

(a) Only (i)

(b) Only (ii)

(c) Only (iii)

(d) Both (i) and (ii)

(e) Both (ii) and (iii)

Directions (53-50): In the following questions two columns are given containing three sentences/phrases each. In first column, sentences/phrases are A, B, and C and in the second column, the sentences/phrases are D, E and F. A sentence/phrase from the first column may or may not connect with another sentence/phrase from the second column to make a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. Each question has five options, four of which display the sequence(s) in which the sentences/phrases can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. If none of the options given forms a correct sentence after combination, mark (e), i.e. "None of these" as your answer.

Q53.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Wedged between China and India, Nepal	(D) Overall vehicle registrations fell 42 per cent year-on-year in the month of June
(B) The Federation of Automobile Dealers Association said	(E) Enforced a nationwide lockdown, halting scheduled flights, in March
(C) Two-wheeler sales declined 40.92 per cent	(F) Total sales across categories slipped to

(a) Both A-F and C-D

(b) Only A-E

(c) Both B-D and C-E

(d) Both A-E and B-D

(e) None of these

Q54.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) The acqui-hire will help the company strengthen its e-commerce	(D) beating street estimates on strong performance
(B) The quarterly results released on Tuesday	(E) in consolidated net profits during
(C) The NBFC reported a 19.50 per cent fall	(F) platforms as they continue to innovate across multiple technology

(a) C-F and B-E

(b) A-F

(c) B-E

(d) A-E

(e) None of these

Q55.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) By securing this telecom license	(D) Survive this crisis without a strong balance sheet
(B) Airlines will find it impossible to	(E) Per cent of its 23,500-strong workforce amid a lack of demand
(C) Indigo plans to hand over pink slips to 10	(F) Will be able to seamlessly bring carrier-neutral services

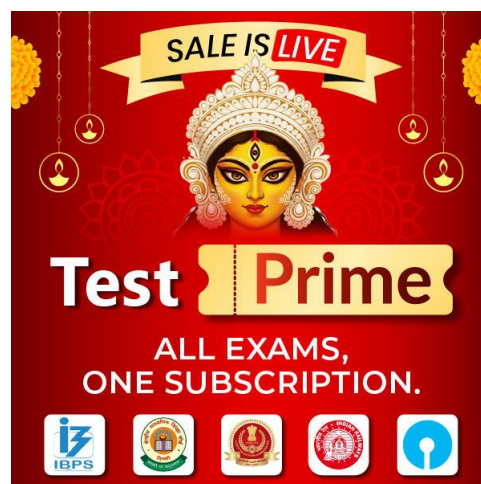
(a) Both A-F and C-D

(b) Only A-E

(c) Both B-D and C-E

(d) Both A-E and B-D

(e) None of these



Q56.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) It is expected to help simplify the digital experience	(D) Enterprises to provide a secure connected digital experience
(B) The imports, legal and contraband, come by air,	(E) Across waters and through entry points on land
(C) The unbridled cascade of Chinese goods	(F) Into India is neither new nor news

- (a) C-F and B-E
(b) A-F
(c) B-E
(d) A-E
(e) None of these

Q57.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) Exams of professional courses such as	(D) From other enterprise commerce tools
(B) In India, the first couple of years in a	(E) Chartered accountancy have been postponed.
(C) Tata Communications has been working	(F) Job basically serve as finishing school

- (a) Both A-F and C-D
(b) Only A-E
(c) Only B-D
(d) Both A-E and B-F
(e) None of these

Q58.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) The firm owns and operates the world's	(D) Outbreak in Bengal asserting there was no need to be afraid of the numbers
(B) Chief minister Mamata Banerjee tried to allay fears over the Covid-19	(E) The toll in the pandemic rose to 1,182
(C) With 35 deaths reported till Tuesday 9am,	(F) Shares of the company today settled nearly

- (a) Both A-F and C-D
(b) Only A-E
(c) Both B-D and C-E
(d) Both A-E and B-D
(e) None of these

Q59.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) The Swedish company will deploy the latest	(D) the telco's mobile network performance and customer experience
(B) The PMI for both manufacturing and services.	(E) Are in contraction and have been for the past few months
(C) Nomura has forecast 6.1 per cent contraction	(F) This fiscal if economic activity remains weak

- (a) C-F and B-E
(b) A-F
(c) B-E
(d) A-E
(e) None of these

Q60.

Column (1)	Column (2)
(A) The Burmans may partner with the Khaitans	(D) Proved to be a huge drag on the entire WM group
(B) Mounting losses at McNally Bharat Engineering Company Ltd	(E) Going forward and manage the business
(C) Ericsson has been providing telecom network	(F) Recently both the companies started running 5G trials

- (a) Both A-F and C-D
(b) Only A-E
(c) Both B-D and C-E
(d) Both A-E and B-D
(e) None of these

Directions (61-67): In the following questions, a sentence consists of four highlighted words. Choose the option reflecting the word which is either misspelt or grammatically incorrect. If all the highlighted words are correct, choose option (e) i.e. "all are correct" as your answer choice.

Q61. A **cascade** of scholarships is **coming** the way of 17-year-old G. Dhevayani, the student from a **nomadic** tribe near Madurai, who **hopped** her school in the Class 12 board exams.

- (a) Cascade
(b) Coming
(c) Nomadic
(d) Hopped
(e) All are correct

Q62. According to new **recommendations** made by the sub-committee, **admissions** under this quota will now be based **entiraly** on certificates submitted by **applicants**.

- (a) Recommendations
(b) Admissions
(c) Entiraly
(d) Applicants
(e) All are correct

Q63. The e-commerce **portels** will have to set up a **robust** consumer redressal **mechanism** as part of the rules **under** the Consumer Protection Act, 2019.

- (a) Portels
- (b) Robust
- (c) Mechanism
- (d) Under
- (e) All are correct

Q64. E-commerce **giant** Amazon is asked to **leveraged** its global operation to provide Indian MSMEs with **insights** that might help them to better design and **market** their products.

- (a) Giant
- (b) Leveraged
- (c) Insights
- (d) Market
- (e) All are correct

Q65. The Navy has recently **undertaken** several PASSEXs, which officials **described** as an opportunity to improve **interoperability** on the high **sees**.

- (a) Undertaken
- (b) Described
- (c) Interoperability
- (d) Sees
- (e) All are correct

Q66. Mr. Rao was **hallucinating** and feeling **giddy** at Taloja Central jail and was **taken** to J.J. Hospital, where he **tasted** COVID-19 positive.

- (a) Hallucinating
- (b) Giddy
- (c) Taken
- (d) Tasted
- (e) All are correct

Q67. **Tertiary** care hospitals in Kerala were the **latest** point of COVID-19 **transmission** with scores of health workers forced to go into **quarantine**, after patients tested positive.

- (a) Tertiary
- (b) Latest
- (c) Transmission
- (d) Quarantine
- (e) All are correct

Directions (68-75): In each of the questions given below four words are given in bold. These four words may or may not be in their correct position. The sentence is then followed by options with the correct combination of words that should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Find the correct combination of the words that replace each other. If the sentence is correct as it is then select option (e) as your choice.

Q68. While the district **people (1)** had no plans to extend the **lockdown(2)**, authorities were mulling over steps to **discourage(3)** large gatherings of **administration(4)**.

- (a) 2-3
- (b) 1-4
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Q69. State and national **summaries (1)** are important but are not as **accuracy(2)** as ensuring the **critical(3)** and timeliness of district-level **tracking (4)**.

- (a) 1-2
- (b) 3-4
- (c) 2-3
- (d) 1-4
- (e) None of these

Q70. Increased **stemming(1)** is not only necessary **indeed (2)** it will be the **single (3)** biggest contributor to **testing(4)** the tide of morbidity and mortality.

- (a) 1-2
- (b) 2-4
- (c) 2-3
- (d) 1-4
- (e) None of these

Q71. The course of the COVID-19 **pandemic (1)** remains far from **avoiding(2)**, posing for the Central government the dilemma of **salvaging (3)** part of the school academic year, while **predictable(4)** a fresh wave of infections.

- (a) 2-3
- (b) 1-4
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Q72. While the **addition (1)** of more trains with high **technology (2)** coaches to meet passenger **privatising(3)** is a welcome feature, it is the way of **expectations(4)** these trains that is the problem.

- (a) 1-2
- (b) 3-4
- (c) 2-3
- (d) 1-4
- (e) None of these

Q73. To raise the **strengthening(1)** speed to 160 kmph, as **proposed (2)**, there has to be track strengthening, **elimination (3)** of curves and level crossing gates and **running(4)** of bridges.

- (a) 1-2
- (b) 3-4
- (c) 2-3
- (d) 1-4
- (e) None of these

Q74. Full **liberty (1)** is being given to the **trains(2)** to unilaterally fix fares for these proposed **concessionaire(3)** that are on a **par (4)** with air and air-conditioned bus fares.

- (a) 2-3
- (b) 1-4
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Q75. Scientists at Oxford University say their **hundreds (1)** Coronavirus vaccine has been **shown (2)** in an early trial to **prompt (3)** a protective immune response in **experimental(4)** of people who got the shot.

- (a) 2-3
- (b) 1-4
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Directions (76-80): In each of the questions given below four words are given in bold. These four words may or may not be in their correct position. The sentence is then followed by options with the correct combination of words that should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Find the correct combination of the words that replace each other. If the sentence is correct as it is then select option (e) as your choice.

Q76. **Lying (1)** to 11 districts of Delhi, the facility **mirrors (2)** the low-bed **occupancy (3)** across the Capital, where over two-third of COVID beds are **catering (4)** vacant.

- (a) 2-3
- (b) 1-4
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Q77. Delhi has **benefited (1)** from stringent testing measures, priority **offered (2)** of cases and their contacts and the **medical (3)** support that has been **containment (4)** to patients at home isolation.

- (a) 2-3
- (b) 1-4
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Q78. The healthcare **facility (1)** follows naturopathy and **boosting (2)** of Ayurveda for **protocols (3)** immunity of the in-patients at the **centre (4)**.

- (a) 2-3
- (b) 1-4
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Q79. India's clinical **testing (1)** has focused on early **detection (2)** through widespread **protocol(3)**surveillance, prompt **triaging (4)** and clinical management of cases.

- (a) 2-3
- (b) 1-4
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Q80. Authorities in Delhi have put on **hold (1)** their plan to use stadiums as **makeshift (2)** COVID care centres for now in **witnessing (3)** of the city **view (4)** a good recovery rate.

- (a) 1-2
- (b) 3-4
- (c) 2-3
- (d) 1-4
- (e) None of these

Q81. A government **fatality (1)**said that there has been a **sharp (2)** decline in daily **study (3)** figures in the city in the **past (4)** two weeks.

- (a) 2-3
- (b) 1-4
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Q82. I got **disillusioned (1)** by CPI ideology but the recent **motivated (2)** being undertaken in Swabhiman Anchal **development (3)** me to join the **mainstream (4)**.

- (a) 1-2
- (b) 3-4
- (c) 2-3
- (d) 1-4
- (e) None of these

Q83. If anyone thinks that the migrants' **opening (1)** return journey to their **native (2)** places has ended following the **agonizing(3)** up of public transport options, then he or she is **mistaken (4)**.

- (a) 2-3
- (b) 1-4
- (c) 2-4
- (d) 1-3
- (e) None of these

Q84. The agency's **application (1)** seeking his custody was on the **grounds (2)** that it had to **confront (3)** him with data recovered from **seized (4)** electronic articles.

- (a) 1-2
- (b) 3-4
- (c) 2-3
- (d) 1-4
- (e) None of these

Q85. 10-day **lockdown (1)** in Pune district was an attempt to **normalcy (2)** the failures of the State government, and was **unfair (3)** to the citizens of a city limpingback to **disguise(4)**.

- (a) 1-2
- (b) 2-4
- (c) 2-3
- (d) 1-4
- (e) None of these

Directions (86-90): In each of the following questions, a sentence is given with a phrasehighlighted. These phrases may or may not be correct. Following the sentencesare four phrases, from which one phrase will replace the incorrect phrase. Thenumber of that correct phrase will be your answer. If the phrase is correct thenoption (e) i.e. "No improvement" will be your answer.

Q86. The factory owner arrived soon after the incident and **the police was informed** around 8 a.m.

- (a) The police was inform
- (b) The police were informing
- (c) The police were informed
- (d) The police was informing
- (e)No improvement

Q87. People **scramble to stocked essentials** ahead of the 10-day lockdown commencing at the midnight of July 13.

- (a) Scrambled to stock essentials
- (b) Scrambles to stock essential
- (c) Scrambled to stocked essentials
- (d) Scrambled to stocks essentials
- (e) No improvement

Q88. Rapid progress **require a strategic shift** to aid competitive domestic manufacturing.

- (a) Require a strategized shifted
- (b) Requires a strategic shift
- (c) Require a strategic shifts
- (d) Required a strategically shift
- (e)No improvement

Q89. The insistence that exams be held is "wrong" as it **put the lives of** students and their parents at risk.

- (a) Put the lives of
- (b) Puts the life of
- (c) Put the life of
- (d) Puts the lives of
- (e) No improvement

Q90. When Dr. Singh was the Union Finance Minister, he **gave new directions to** Indian economy.

- (a) Give new direction to
- (b) Given new direction to
- (c) Gave new directional to
- (d) Given new directions to
- (e) No improvement

Directions (91-98): Given below are a set of phrasal verbs and their meanings. Choose the option that best describes the meaning of the phrasal verb given in bold in the statements below.

Q91. For another statement look, **plump for** these pyramid marbled candles and available in an array of colors, they are hand marbled and shun the classic candle shape.

- (a) Order
- (b) Choose
- (c) Dictate
- (d) Unjust
- (e) Cheerful

Q92. Shukla's work is a reminder that the journalist's duty is to **peel away** the layers of ambiguities and versions an event invariably gets encrusted in.

- (a) Consider
- (b) Imitate
- (c) Conceive
- (d) Foretell
- (e) Separate

Q93. Burglars **struck** at a Shiva temple and **made off** with the panchaloha idol of the deity at Chittari near Kanhangad.

- (a) Ignore
- (b) Superb
- (c) Leave
- (d) Distress
- (e) Predict

Q94. Just because all the girls **fawn over** you doesn't mean you're that good-looking.

- (a) Assist
- (b) Difficult
- (c) Weaken
- (d) Anxious
- (e) Praise

Q95. The planet's shrouded surface has cooled, and this allowed the winds to **die down** and the fine dust to begin settling.

- (a) Decrease
- (b) Enviably
- (c) Liberating
- (d) Persist
- (e) Unpleasant

Q96. Brock scored four more goals in the third period to **cap off** the romp with three of those coming in the last five minutes of the game.

- (a) Suddenly
- (b) Complete
- (c) Refrain
- (d) Undetected
- (e) Noticing

Q97. Anyone who thinks these people play anything remotely original needs to **bone up on** their musicology.

- (a) Close
- (b) Thrive
- (c) Unsavory
- (d) Study
- (e) Scorn

Q98. The subject matter of the social sciences is conscious sentient beings who **act out** of choice.

- (a) Upset
- (b) Magnify
- (c) Forgive
- (d) Payback
- (e) Behave

Directions (99-115): In each of the following questions four words are given, of which two words are most nearly the same or opposite in meaning. Find the two words which are most nearly the same or opposite in meaning and indicate the number of the correct letter combination.

Q99.

- (A) Leniency
- (B) Command
- (C) Dictate
- (D) Pity
- (a) A and B
- (b) B and C
- (c) A and C
- (d) B and D
- (e) A and D

Q100.

- (A) Opponent
- (B) Biased
- (C) Decay
- (D) Discriminatory
- (a) A and B
- (b) B and C
- (c) A and C
- (d) B and D
- (e) A and D

Q101.

- (A) Eagerness
- (B) Ripening
- (C) Foe
- (D) Apathy
- (a) A and B
- (b) B and C
- (c) A and C
- (d) B and D
- (e) A and D

Q102.

- (A) Impartial
- (B) Discourage
- (C) Fair
- (D) Realistic
- (a) A and B
- (b) B and C
- (c) A and C
- (d) B and D
- (e) A and D

Q103.

- (A) Charitable
- (B) Abysmally
- (C) Appallingly
- (D) Socialize
- (a) A and B
- (b) B and C
- (c) A and C
- (d) B and D
- (e) A and D

Q104.

- (A) Palpable
- (B) Symbolic
- (C) Plain
- (D) Perceptible
- (a) A and B
- (b) B and C
- (c) A and C
- (d) B and D
- (e) A and D

Q105.

- (A) Humane
- (B) Amateur
- (C) Unskillful
- (D) Indecision
- (a) A and B
- (b) B and C
- (c) A and C
- (d) B and D
- (e) A and D

Directions (106-110): In the following questions, a phrase is given in bold whose meaning can be inferred from one of the highlighted words/phrases of four sentences given below each phrase. Choose the most appropriate meaning of the phrase among the four options that can also be replaced by the given phrase without altering the meaning of the sentence. If none of the sentences conveys the correct meaning, choose (e) i.e., "None of the above" as your answer.

Q106. A dime a dozen

- (a) Websites on health and fitness are **very common** nowadays, but not all of them are accurate and have correct information.
- (b) Their piercing war-whoops were blended with the loud beatings of a kind of drum which they had **fabricated**.
- (c) The importance of this invention to the cotton industry of the world cannot be **overestimated**.
- (d) The IMF also does not **shy away** from helping countries meet their debt service obligations.

(e) None of the above.

Q107. Run-of-the-mill

- (a) Every year he adds some fresh decoration, some new and **exceptional** scene.
- (b) He was determined to open a **select** school for advanced scholars.
- (c) All **mundane** phenomena were inexplicably contorted that night.
- (d) There are courses that are foundational and that must therefore be governed by an **eclectic** aim.
- (e) None of the above.

Q108. Man of straw

- (a) His presence was hardly noticed at first, so **insignificant** was the man.
- (b) Everybody can't be as **sensible** and handsome as we are, you know.
- (c) Napoleon, himself a sceptic, was **cognizant** of this slave philosophy.
- (d) As usual he addressed the dog as though he were a **sentient** being.
- (e) None of the above

Q109. High and dry

- (a) But the voice was so **enfeebled** by disease as to be scarcely audible.
- (b) Karl has been **disabled** by a wound in the right arm, and can render no further help.
- (c) He was decorated again and given the battlewagon of an **ailing** four-striper.
- (d) They were **stranded**, as it were, on some reef above a dense void.
- (e) None of the above.

Q110. Soft soap

- (a) At the lowest mark, the balance will be even, and there'll be no **obligation** at all.
- (b) The singularity that struck me most about her ladyship was her indifference to **flattery**.
- (c) When I came on to the stage I was always greeted by **applause** from these young men.
- (d) I am deeply impressed with **gratitude** for the confidence reposed in me.
- (e) None of the above.

Directions (111-115): Which of the words/phrases (a), (b), (c) and (d) given below should replace the words/phrases given in bold in the following sentences to make it meaningful and grammatically correct? If the given words perfectly fit into the sentence and do not require any replacement, choose (e) i.e. 'No replacement required' as the answer.

Q111. The American College Health Association **viewed** 100,000 college students at 53 American campuses and **fixed** that 84 per cent of them feel unable to cope, 79 per cent are **energized**, 60 per cent feel very sad and more than half are **exploiting** overwhelming anxiety.

- (a) surveyed, found, exhausted, experiencing
- (b) checked, raised, limped, doing
- (c) examined, predicted, blown, trying
- (d) assessed, concluded, lost, neglecting
- (e) No replacement required

Q112. There are **certain** books which when you put them down keep you absolutely still for a while. Apart from making you **acutely** aware of an alternate reality, they never fail to produce a flash of **insight**, a spark of **intuition** that would not occur to you otherwise.

- (a) dubious, roughly, wisdom, perception
- (b) strict, severely, ignorance, feeling
- (c) definite, plainly, guile, smartness
- (d) concrete, overtly, sharp, idea
- (e) No replacement required

Q113. Although the **desirable** butterfly has a life span of one or two weeks, or a wondrous flower usually **sink** within a day, yet each of them **fixedly** spreads silently the message of cheer unlike humans, quite **concern** of the chances of their survival even for the all-too-brief period allotted to them.

- (a) pretty, expand, explicitly, insensible
- (b) engaged, diminish, inevitably, abstract
- (c) bewitching, wilts, unfailingly, oblivious
- (d) lovely, fade, assuredly, sensitive
- (e) No replacement required

Q114. Various other research studies **cite** that the American first-use option and keeping its weapons on **tardy** launch mode plays a large role in forcing Russia and China to field a **delayed** amount of their nuclear forces in a launch-under-attack mode so as to avoid any kind of **serving** nuclear strike.

- (a) show, prompt, sizable, disarming
- (b) arrays, rapid, considerable, charming
- (c) views, immediate, gross, silky
- (d) parade, activate, massive, civil
- (e) No replacement required

Q115. The **issue** of development as underlined in Doha Development Round is important, and that is related to **unjustified** subsidies given by developed nations, and this can't be **sacrificed**. Discussion on Doha Development Round is still **pending** and that has to be completed.

- (a) subject, reasonable, absolved, improbable
- (b) source, flimsy, honored, clouded
- (c) question, false, revoked, overdue
- (d) deal, idle, repudiated, sneaky
- (e) No replacement required

Directions (116-120): Pick out the words opposite or nearly so in the meaning of the given words.

Q116. EXTRAVAGANT

- (a) Developing
- (b) Wonderful
- (c) Disappearing
- (d) Economical
- (e) Real

Q117. VIVID

- (a) Protagonist
- (b) Uncanny
- (c) Evocative
- (d) Stifle
- (e) Peculiar

Q118. DESULTORY

- (a) Isolated
- (b) Lacking order
- (c) Pertinent
- (d) Random
- (e) Frequent

Q119. ERUDITE

- (a) Aversion
- (b) Sleazy
- (c) Sagacious
- (d) Loquacious
- (e) Disheveled

Q120. DEBONAIR

- (a) Awkward
- (b) Windy
- (c) Balmy
- (d) Sportive
- (e) Stomy

Directions (121-125): 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.

Q121. (I) Pakistan has continued to facilitate their military operations against US troops.

(II) It has repeatedly promised to act against the Taliban, or to push them into peace negotiations.

- (i) Though Pakistan has...
- (ii) Continuing to facilitate...
- (iii) Despite repeatedly promising...
- (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

Q122. (I) Expansion of BharatNet, a project to connect all the 2.5 lakh gram panchayats is a move in the direction of access to reliable, stable and high-speed broadband service all over the country.

(II) Raising allocation from Rs 6,000 crore in 2016-17 to Rs 10,000 crore for the current fiscal is hardly adequate for this sector.

- (i) While expansion of...
- (ii) Although raising allocation...
- (iii) In a move to expand...
- (a) Only (i) is correct
- (b) Only (ii) is correct
- (c) Both (i) and (iii) are correct
- (d) Both (ii) and (iii) are correct
- (e) All are correct

Q123. (I) Malaysia has maintained good terms with all claimants, notably China.

(II) Malaysia was the first to claim some of the Spratly Islands way back in 1979 in its Exclusive Economic Zone.

- (i) While maintaining good...
- (ii) As Malaysia was the first...
- (iii) In order to maintain...
- (a) Only (i) is correct
- (b) Only (ii) is correct
- (c) Only (iii) is correct
- (d) Both (i) and (ii) are correct
- (e) All are correct

Q124. (I) The government has been making efforts to encourage the acquisition of weapons systems and defence equipment through the “make in India” route.

(II) However about 70 per cent of the requirements are still imported.

- (i) In an effort to encourage...
- (ii) Though the government...
- (iii) The acquisition of weapons systems and defence equipment.....
- (a) Only (ii) is correct
- (b) Only (iii) is correct
- (c) Both (i) and (iii) are correct
- (d) Both (ii) and (iii) are correct
- (e) All are correct

Q125. (I) The Defence Budget is a statement of account.

(II) It is a tool for demonstrating the country’s resolve and for enhancing deterrence through signalling.

- (i) Since the Defence Budget...
- (ii) Apart from being a statement...
- (iii) Besides being a statement...
- (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

Q126. (I) It is important not to extrapolate the outcome to interpret what will happen in 2019.

(II) It will have an impact on the fortunes and stature of leaders, national as well as regional.

- (i) Nevertheless it will have an impact on the.....
- (ii) While it is important not to extrapolate.....
- (iii) As exemplified by the importance of not to.....
- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Only (ii)
- (c) Only (iii)
- (d) Both (ii) and (ii)
- (e) None of the above

Q127. (I) The research team, working through ESA’s Climate Change Initiative, found only modest elevation changes in the early 1990s.

(II) The pace of thinning is clear in the satellite observations from 2003 onwards.

- (i) In spite of the fact that the research team ,
- (ii) Although the research team, working through.....
- (iii) Even though the research team , working through
- (a) Only (iii)
- (b) Both (ii) and (iii)
- (c) Both (i) and (ii)
- (d) Both (i) and (iii)
- (e) All (i),(ii) and (iii)

Q128. (I) US has not dismissed the proposal out of hand and it must be seen as a last ditch effort.

(II) The proposal must be seen as a last-ditch effort to resolve the existential crisis facing the important institution.

- (i) In a broader perspective US has not taken any.....
- (ii) US not dismissing the proposal out of hand.....
- (iii) As a matter of fact US has not resolved the proposal.....
- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Both (ii) and (iii)
- (c) Only (ii)
- (d) Both (i) and (iii)
- (e) None of the above

Q129. (I) It is noted that the India-US relationship in defense has acquired the dimensions of a strategic partnership over the last decade.

(II) Nirmala Sitharaman said the two countries have made considerable progress.

- (i) On the contrary it is noted that Nirmala Sitharaman.....
- (ii) Unfortunately it is noted that the India-US relationship.....
- (iii) Noting that the India-US relationship in defense.....
- (a) Only (i)
- (b) Both (i) and (ii)
- (c) Only (ii)
- (d) Only (iii)
- (e) None of the above

Q130. (I) It is open to question whether the White House will pursue a tougher stance towards Russia.

(II) The President and his Republican cabal have consistently debunked the inquiry.

- (i) Given that the President and...
- (ii) Seeing that the President and...
- (iii) Despite questioning whether...
- (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

Q131. (I) Medical science, neuroscience and psychology can reveal the benefits of forgiveness to our mental, physical, emotional and even spiritual wellbeing,

(II) They fail to explain the deep connections that we have with one another and our desire to live in peace and harmony in our communities.

- (i) Although medical science, neuroscience...
- (ii) While medical science, neuroscience...
- (iii) Notwithstanding that medical science...
- (a) Only (ii) is correct
- (b) Only (iii) is correct
- (c) Both (i) and (iii) are correct
- (d) Both (ii) and (iii) are correct
- (e) All are correct

Q132. (I) Mahatma Gandhi inspires the spirit of goodness.
(II) One can negotiate all conflicts and constraints with joy and togetherness, freedom of thought and expression and tolerance.

- (i) While negotiating all conflicts and...
- (ii) As Mahatma Gandhi inspires...
- (iii) With the spirit of goodness as...
- (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

Q133. (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

Q134. (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

Q135. (I) More and more countries are pledging to combat global warming and protecting the environment.

(II) The United States has not only pulled out of the 2015 Paris Agreement but has also taken climate change out of its National Security Strategy.

- (i) With more and more countries...
- (ii) Despite pulling out of the 2015...
- (iii) While more and more countries...
- (a) Only (i) is correct
- (b) Only (ii) is correct
- (c) Both (i) and (iii) are correct
- (d) Both (ii) and (iii) are correct
- (e) All are correct

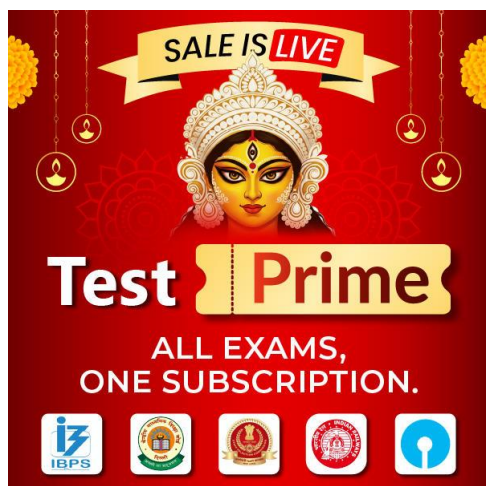
Directions (136-142): In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, five words are suggested, one of which fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate word in each case.

Q136. The traumatic months of the national lockdown lay bare many troubling truths about the profound _____

(136) of people of privilege from the working poor. They reveal a society in which the privileged are extraordinarily comfortable with inequality, and wanting in elementary empathy and solidarity. They confirm that the _____ **(137)** of modernity and the progressive, egalitarian values of the Constitution remain — in the prophetic words of Babasaheb Ambedkar — no deeper than a coat of paint.

In this writer's book, *Looking Away: Inequality, Prejudice and Indifference in New India*, I described the Indian rich and middle-class to be among the most uncaring in the world, _____ **(138)** still in the cruelties of caste and class, with a singular capacity to look at injustice and suffering and just turn their faces away. I wrote of the exile of the poor from our conscience and our consciousness. The lockdown disclosed precisely how absolute and _____ **(139)** is this exile. For any young person growing up in middle-class homes, the poor are visible at every turn, but only in their _____ **(140)** as people who exist to service our every need. They never know them as classmates, as colleagues or competitors at work, or as friends in a playground or cinema theatre.

When the COVID-19 infection hit us, we saw the working poor suddenly as dangerous potential spreaders. We wanted them suddenly at bay. We ignored that it was not the poor who _____ **(141)** us, but we who endangered the poor when they came into contact with us. After all, it was people who could afford flight tickets who brought the novel coronavirus into India. We welcomed the strategy of a lockdown — possibly, the harshest and largest in the world, with the smallest relief package. We adjusted also to working from home, secure that our salaries and savings would tide us through. With running water on tap, we washed our hands regularly. We were untroubled because our health insurance would pay for treatment in expensive private hospitals. We _____ **(142)** with boredom and occasional depression, but it was a time also to rebuild our bonds with our families.



- (a) Awful
- (b) Estrangement
- (c) Skirmish
- (d) Armistice
- (e) Excellent

Q137. The traumatic months of the national lockdown lay bare many troubling truths about the profound _____ (136) of people of privilege from the working poor. They reveal a society in which the privileged are extraordinarily comfortable with inequality, and wanting in elementary empathy and solidarity. They confirm that the _____ (137) of modernity and the progressive, egalitarian values of the Constitution remain — in the prophetic words of Babasaheb Ambedkar — no deeper than a coat of paint.

In this writer's book, *Looking Away: Inequality, Prejudice and Indifference in New India*, I described the Indian rich and middle-class to be among the most uncaring in the world, _____ (138) still in the cruelties of caste and class, with a singular capacity to look at injustice and suffering and just turn their faces away. I wrote of the exile of the poor from our conscience and our consciousness. The lockdown disclosed precisely how absolute and _____ (139) is this exile. For any young person growing up in middle-class homes, the poor are visible at every turn, but only in their _____ (140) as people who exist to service our every need. They never know them as classmates, as colleagues or competitors at work, or as friends in a playground or cinema theatre.

When the COVID-19 infection hit us, we saw the working poor suddenly as dangerous potential spreaders. We wanted them suddenly at bay. We ignored that it was not the poor who _____ (141) us, but we who endangered the poor when they came into contact with us. After all, it was people who could afford flight tickets who brought the novel coronavirus into India. We welcomed the strategy of a lockdown — possibly, the harshest and largest in the world, with the smallest relief package. We adjusted also to working from home, secure that our salaries and savings would tide us through. With running water on tap, we washed our hands regularly. We were untroubled because our health insurance would pay for treatment in expensive private hospitals. We _____ (142) with boredom and occasional depression, but it was a time also to rebuild our bonds with our families.

- (a) Standoff
- (b) Untimely
- (c) Convenient
- (d) Veneer
- (e) Sociable

Q138. The traumatic months of the national lockdown lay bare many troubling truths about the profound _____ (136) of people of privilege from the working poor. They reveal a society in which the privileged are extraordinarily comfortable with inequality, and wanting in elementary

empathy and solidarity. They confirm that the _____ (137) of modernity and the progressive, egalitarian values of the Constitution remain — in the prophetic words of Babasaheb Ambedkar — no deeper than a coat of paint.

In this writer's book, *Looking Away: Inequality, Prejudice and Indifference in New India*, I described the Indian rich and middle-class to be among the most uncaring in the world, _____ (138) still in the cruelties of caste and class, with a singular capacity to look at injustice and suffering and just turn their faces away. I wrote of the exile of the poor from our conscience and our consciousness. The lockdown disclosed precisely how absolute and _____ (139) is this exile. For any young person growing up in middle-class homes, the poor are visible at every turn, but only in their _____ (140) as people who exist to service our every need. They never know them as classmates, as colleagues or competitors at work, or as friends in a playground or cinema theatre.

When the COVID-19 infection hit us, we saw the working poor suddenly as dangerous potential spreaders. We wanted them suddenly at bay. We ignored that it was not the poor who _____ (141) us, but we who endangered the poor when they came into contact with us. After all, it was people who could afford flight tickets who brought the novel coronavirus into India. We welcomed the strategy of a lockdown — possibly, the harshest and largest in the world, with the smallest relief package. We adjusted also to working from home, secure that our salaries and savings would tide us through. With running water on tap, we washed our hands regularly. We were untroubled because our health insurance would pay for treatment in expensive private hospitals. We _____ (142) with boredom and occasional depression, but it was a time also to rebuild our bonds with our families.

- (a) Mired
- (b) Truced
- (c) Concurred
- (d) Ill-timed
- (e) Separated

Q139. The traumatic months of the national lockdown lay bare many troubling truths about the profound _____ (136) of people of privilege from the working poor. They reveal a society in which the privileged are extraordinarily comfortable with inequality, and wanting in elementary empathy and solidarity. They confirm that the _____ (137) of modernity and the progressive, egalitarian values of the Constitution remain — in the prophetic words of Babasaheb Ambedkar — no deeper than a coat of paint.

In this writer's book, *Looking Away: Inequality, Prejudice and Indifference in New India*, I described the Indian rich and middle-class to be among the most uncaring in the world, _____ (138) still in the cruelties of caste and class, with a singular capacity to look at injustice and suffering and just turn their faces away. I wrote of the exile of the poor from our conscience and our consciousness. The

lockdown disclosed precisely how absolute and _____ (139) is this exile. For any young person growing up in middle-class homes, the poor are visible at every turn, but only in their _____ (140) as people who exist to service our every need. They never know them as classmates, as colleagues or competitors at work, or as friends in a playground or cinema theatre.

When the COVID-19 infection hit us, we saw the working poor suddenly as dangerous potential spreaders. We wanted them suddenly at bay. We ignored that it was not the poor who _____ (141) us, but we who endangered the poor when they came into contact with us. After all, it was people who could afford flight tickets who brought the novel coronavirus into India. We welcomed the strategy of a lockdown — possibly, the harshest and largest in the world, with the smallest relief package. We adjusted also to working from home, secure that our salaries and savings would tide us through. With running water on tap, we washed our hands regularly. We were untroubled because our health insurance would pay for treatment in expensive private hospitals. We _____ (142) with boredom and occasional depression, but it was a time also to rebuild our bonds with our families.

- (a) Demarcation
- (b) Conflagration
- (c) Contemplate
- (d) Belated
- (e) Unforgiving

Q140. The traumatic months of the national lockdown lay bare many troubling truths about the profound _____ (136) of people of privilege from the working poor. They reveal a society in which the privileged are extraordinarily comfortable with inequality, and wanting in elementary empathy and solidarity. They confirm that the _____ (137) of modernity and the progressive, egalitarian values of the Constitution remain — in the prophetic words of Babasaheb Ambedkar — no deeper than a coat of paint.

In this writer's book, *Looking Away: Inequality, Prejudice and Indifference in New India*, I described the Indian rich and middle-class to be among the most uncaring in the world, _____ (138) still in the cruelties of caste and class, with a singular capacity to look at injustice and suffering and just turn their faces away. I wrote of the exile of the poor from our conscience and our consciousness. The lockdown disclosed precisely how absolute and _____ (139) is this exile. For any young person growing up in middle-class homes, the poor are visible at every turn, but only in their _____ (140) as people who exist to service our every need. They never know them as classmates, as colleagues or competitors at work, or as friends in a playground or cinema theatre.

When the COVID-19 infection hit us, we saw the working poor suddenly as dangerous potential spreaders. We wanted them suddenly at bay. We ignored that it was not the poor who _____ (141) us, but we who endangered

the poor when they came into contact with us. After all, it was people who could afford flight tickets who brought the novel coronavirus into India. We welcomed the strategy of a lockdown — possibly, the harshest and largest in the world, with the smallest relief package. We adjusted also to working from home, secure that our salaries and savings would tide us through. With running water on tap, we washed our hands regularly. We were untroubled because our health insurance would pay for treatment in expensive private hospitals. We _____ (142) with boredom and occasional depression, but it was a time also to rebuild our bonds with our families.

- (a) Inferno
- (b) Abandon
- (c) Instrumentality
- (d) Vulnerable
- (e) Inadvertence

Q141. The traumatic months of the national lockdown lay bare many troubling truths about the profound _____ (136) of people of privilege from the working poor. They reveal a society in which the privileged are extraordinarily comfortable with inequality, and wanting in elementary empathy and solidarity. They confirm that the _____ (137) of modernity and the progressive, egalitarian values of the Constitution remain — in the prophetic words of Babasaheb Ambedkar — no deeper than a coat of paint.

In this writer's book, *Looking Away: Inequality, Prejudice and Indifference in New India*, I described the Indian rich and middle-class to be among the most uncaring in the world, _____ (138) still in the cruelties of caste and class, with a singular capacity to look at injustice and suffering and just turn their faces away. I wrote of the exile of the poor from our conscience and our consciousness. The lockdown disclosed precisely how absolute and _____ (139) is this exile. For any young person growing up in middle-class homes, the poor are visible at every turn, but only in their _____ (140) as people who exist to service our every need. They never know them as classmates, as colleagues or competitors at work, or as friends in a playground or cinema theatre.

When the COVID-19 infection hit us, we saw the working poor suddenly as dangerous potential spreaders. We wanted them suddenly at bay. We ignored that it was not the poor who _____ (141) us, but we who endangered the poor when they came into contact with us. After all, it was people who could afford flight tickets who brought the novel coronavirus into India. We welcomed the strategy of a lockdown — possibly, the harshest and largest in the world, with the smallest relief package. We adjusted also to working from home, secure that our salaries and savings would tide us through. With running water on tap, we washed our hands regularly. We were untroubled because our health insurance would pay for treatment in expensive private hospitals. We _____ (142) with boredom and occasional depression, but it was a time also to rebuild our bonds with our families.

- (a) Resilient
- (b) Ignorance
- (c) Quieted
- (d) Endangered
- (e) Despoiling

Q142. The traumatic months of the national lockdown lay bare many troubling truths about the profound _____ **(136)** of people of privilege from the working poor. They reveal a society in which the privileged are extraordinarily comfortable with inequality, and wanting in elementary empathy and solidarity. They confirm that the _____ **(137)** of modernity and the progressive, egalitarian values of the Constitution remain — in the prophetic words of Babasaheb Ambedkar — no deeper than a coat of paint. In this writer's book, *Looking Away: Inequality, Prejudice and Indifference in New India*, I described the Indian rich and middle-class to be among the most uncaring in the world, _____ **(138)** still in the cruelties of caste and class, with a singular capacity to look at injustice and suffering and just turn their faces away. I wrote of the exile of the poor from our conscience and our consciousness. The lockdown disclosed precisely how absolute and _____ **(139)** is this exile. For any young person growing up in middle-class homes, the poor are visible at every turn, but only in their _____ **(140)** as people who exist to service our every need. They never know them as classmates, as colleagues or competitors at work, or as friends in a playground or cinema theatre.

When the COVID-19 infection hit us, we saw the working poor suddenly as dangerous potential spreaders. We wanted them suddenly at bay. We ignored that it was not the poor who _____ **(141)** us, but we who endangered the poor when they came into contact with us. After all, it was people who could afford flight tickets who brought the novel coronavirus into India. We welcomed the strategy of a lockdown — possibly, the harshest and largest in the world, with the smallest relief package. We adjusted also to working from home, secure that our salaries and savings would tide us through. With running water on tap, we washed our hands regularly. We were untroubled because our health insurance would pay for treatment in expensive private hospitals. We _____ **(142)** with boredom and occasional depression, but it was a time also to rebuild our bonds with our families.

- (a) Amplified
- (b) Shirked
- (c) Grappled
- (d) Plundered
- (e) Thrashed

Directions (143-150): In the following passage, certain words which may be either contextually or grammatically incorrect have been highlighted and numbered. For each highlighted word four alternatives are provided that could replace the highlighted word to make the given sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. Option corresponding to that word will be your answer. If none of the given word could replace the highlighted word then choose option (e), i.e. 'None of these' as your answer.

Q143. It is a matter of relief that the Supreme Court has at last taken **cognizant (143)** of the plight of millions of inter-State workers looking for transport home and relief from the unrelenting misery unleashed on them by the lockdown. This could have taken place seven or eight weeks earlier, when petitions were filed before the top court on behalf of those left in the **frantic (144)** across India after the Centre announced a lockdown, with just four hours' notice. With a kind of self-effacement and **paramount (145)** not in keeping with its institutional history, the Court had then accepted the government's sweeping claim that there were no migrants on the roads any more, and that the initial exodus of workers from cities to their home States had been set off by "fake news" to the effect that the lockdown would last for months. In an unfortunately limited **surveillance (146)**, the Court merely advised the police to treat the workers on the roads with kindness and directed the media to highlight the Centre's version of the developments. The Court's **divulgence (147)** to intervene may have stemmed from a belief in letting the executive handle the fallout of an unprecedented global crisis, but, in the process, it abandoned its primary responsibility of protecting fundamental rights, especially of those most vulnerable. Such was the resultant dismay that retired judges called it out for apparent **dismal (148)** of its duty. A former High Court judge even said the ghost of ADM Jabalpur was lingering, in an unflattering reference to an Emergency-era judgment, now mercifully overruled, that held that personal liberty was not absolute during a state of emergency. Whether it was shamed into taking recognition of the issue or it felt that the situation is ripe for intervention, one should now expect the Court to take a more critical look at the government's lapses, and emulate the **perish (149)** role that High Courts are playing in holding administrations accountable. The top court must now find out if the Centre, which imposed a stringent lockdown to buy time for preparing the health infrastructure, had discharged its responsibilities. The government should also do more than asking its law officers to **stipulate (150)** against activists, denounce the media and question the patriotism of those critical of its actions. A national tragedy requires a more statesmanlike response.

- (a) Slapdash
- (b) Cognizance
- (c) Punctilious
- (d) Inescapable
- (e) none of these

Q144. It is a matter of relief that the Supreme Court has at last taken **cognizant (143)** of the plight of millions of inter-State workers looking for transport home and relief from the unrelenting misery unleashed on them by the lockdown. This could have taken place seven or eight weeks earlier, when petitions were filed before the top court on behalf of those left in the **frantic (144)** across India after the Centre announced a lockdown, with just four hours' notice. With a kind of self-effacement and **paramount (145)** not in keeping with its institutional history, the Court had then accepted the government's sweeping claim that there were no migrants on the roads any more, and that the initial exodus of workers from cities to their home States had been set off by "fake news" to the effect that the lockdown would last for months. In an unfortunately limited **surveillance (146)**, the Court merely advised the police to treat the workers on the roads with kindness and directed the media to highlight the Centre's version of the developments.

The Court's **divulgence (147)** to intervene may have stemmed from a belief in letting the executive handle the fallout of an unprecedented global crisis, but, in the process, it abandoned its primary responsibility of protecting fundamental rights, especially of those most vulnerable. Such was the resultant dismay that retired judges called it out for apparent **dismal (148)** of its duty. A former High Court judge even said the ghost of ADM Jabalpur was lingering, in an unflattering reference to an Emergency-era judgment, now mercifully overruled, that held that personal liberty was not absolute during a state of emergency. Whether it was shamed into taking recognition of the issue or it felt that the situation is ripe for intervention, one should now expect the Court to take a more critical look at the government's lapses, and emulate the **perish (149)** role that High Courts are playing in holding administrations accountable. The top court must now find out if the Centre, which imposed a stringent lockdown to buy time for preparing the health infrastructure, had discharged its responsibilities. The government should also do more than asking its law officers to **stipulate (150)** against activists, denounce the media and question the patriotism of those critical of its actions. A national tragedy requires a more statesmanlike response.

- (a) Inevitable
- (b) Rigorous
- (c) Lurch
- (d) Persistent
- (e) none of these

Q145. It is a matter of relief that the Supreme Court has at last taken **cognizant (143)** of the plight of millions of inter-State workers looking for transport home and relief from the unrelenting misery unleashed on them by the lockdown. This could have taken place seven or eight weeks earlier, when petitions were filed before the top court on behalf of those left in the **frantic (144)** across India after the Centre announced a lockdown, with just four hours' notice. With a kind of self-effacement and **paramount (145)** not in

keeping with its institutional history, the Court had then accepted the government's sweeping claim that there were no migrants on the roads any more, and that the initial exodus of workers from cities to their home States had been set off by "fake news" to the effect that the lockdown would last for months. In an unfortunately limited **surveillance (146)**, the Court merely advised the police to treat the workers on the roads with kindness and directed the media to highlight the Centre's version of the developments.

The Court's **divulgence (147)** to intervene may have stemmed from a belief in letting the executive handle the fallout of an unprecedented global crisis, but, in the process, it abandoned its primary responsibility of protecting fundamental rights, especially of those most vulnerable. Such was the resultant dismay that retired judges called it out for apparent **dismal (148)** of its duty. A former High Court judge even said the ghost of ADM Jabalpur was lingering, in an unflattering reference to an Emergency-era judgment, now mercifully overruled, that held that personal liberty was not absolute during a state of emergency. Whether it was shamed into taking recognition of the issue or it felt that the situation is ripe for intervention, one should now expect the Court to take a more critical look at the government's lapses, and emulate the **perish (149)** role that High Courts are playing in holding administrations accountable. The top court must now find out if the Centre, which imposed a stringent lockdown to buy time for preparing the health infrastructure, had discharged its responsibilities. The government should also do more than asking its law officers to **stipulate (150)** against activists, denounce the media and question the patriotism of those critical of its actions. A national tragedy requires a more statesmanlike response.

- (a) Rudderless
- (b) Perpetual
- (c) Unwary
- (d) Self-abnegation
- (e) none of these

Q146. It is a matter of relief that the Supreme Court has at last taken **cognizant (143)** of the plight of millions of inter-State workers looking for transport home and relief from the unrelenting misery unleashed on them by the lockdown. This could have taken place seven or eight weeks earlier, when petitions were filed before the top court on behalf of those left in the **frantic (144)** across India after the Centre announced a lockdown, with just four hours' notice. With a kind of self-effacement and **paramount (145)** not in keeping with its institutional history, the Court had then accepted the government's sweeping claim that there were no migrants on the roads any more, and that the initial exodus of workers from cities to their home States had been set off by "fake news" to the effect that the lockdown would last for months. In an unfortunately limited **surveillance (146)**, the Court merely advised the police to treat the workers on the roads with kindness and directed the media to highlight the Centre's version of the developments.

The Court's **divulgence (147)** to intervene may have stemmed from a belief in letting the executive handle the fallout of an unprecedented global crisis, but, in the process, it abandoned its primary responsibility of protecting fundamental rights, especially of those most vulnerable. Such was the resultant dismay that retired judges called it out for apparent **dismal (148)** of its duty. A former High Court judge even said the ghost of ADM Jabalpur was lingering, in an unflattering reference to an Emergency-era judgment, now mercifully overruled, that held that personal liberty was not absolute during a state of emergency. Whether it was shamed into taking recognition of the issue or it felt that the situation is ripe for intervention, one should now expect the Court to take a more critical look at the government's lapses, and emulate the **perish(149)** role that High Courts are playing in holding administrations accountable. The top court must now find out if the Centre, which imposed a stringent lockdown to buy time for preparing the health infrastructure, had discharged its responsibilities. The government should also do more than asking its law officers to **stipulate (150)** against activists, denounce the media and question the patriotism of those critical of its actions. A national tragedy requires a more statesmanlike response.

- (a) Intervention
- (b) Perennial
- (c) Intensify
- (d) Seasonal
- (e) none of these

Q147. It is a matter of relief that the Supreme Court has at last taken **cognizant (143)** of the plight of millions of inter-State workers looking for transport home and relief from the unrelenting misery unleashed on them by the lockdown. This could have taken place seven or eight weeks earlier, when petitions were filed before the top court on behalf of those left in the **frantic (144)** across India after the Centre announced a lockdown, with just four hours' notice. With a kind of self-effacement and **paramount (145)** not in keeping with its institutional history, the Court had then accepted the government's sweeping claim that there were no migrants on the roads any more, and that the initial exodus of workers from cities to their home States had been set off by "fake news" to the effect that the lockdown would last for months. In an unfortunately limited **surveillance (146)**, the Court merely advised the police to treat the workers on the roads with kindness and directed the media to highlight the Centre's version of the developments.

The Court's **divulgence (147)** to intervene may have stemmed from a belief in letting the executive handle the fallout of an unprecedented global crisis, but, in the process, it abandoned its primary responsibility of protecting fundamental rights, especially of those most vulnerable. Such was the resultant dismay that retired judges called it out for apparent **dismal (148)** of its duty. A former High Court judge even said the ghost of ADM Jabalpur was

lingering, in an unflattering reference to an Emergency-era judgment, now mercifully overruled, that held that personal liberty was not absolute during a state of emergency. Whether it was shamed into taking recognition of the issue or it felt that the situation is ripe for intervention, one should now expect the Court to take a more critical look at the government's lapses, and emulate the **perish(149)** role that High Courts are playing in holding administrations accountable. The top court must now find out if the Centre, which imposed a stringent lockdown to buy time for preparing the health infrastructure, had discharged its responsibilities. The government should also do more than asking its law officers to **stipulate (150)** against activists, denounce the media and question the patriotism of those critical of its actions. A national tragedy requires a more statesmanlike response.

- (a) Uncorroborated
- (b) Reluctance
- (c) Snarl
- (d) Entangle
- (e) none of these

Q148. It is a matter of relief that the Supreme Court has at last taken **cognizant (143)** of the plight of millions of inter-State workers looking for transport home and relief from the unrelenting misery unleashed on them by the lockdown. This could have taken place seven or eight weeks earlier, when petitions were filed before the top court on behalf of those left in the **frantic (144)** across India after the Centre announced a lockdown, with just four hours' notice. With a kind of self-effacement and **paramount (145)** not in keeping with its institutional history, the Court had then accepted the government's sweeping claim that there were no migrants on the roads any more, and that the initial exodus of workers from cities to their home States had been set off by "fake news" to the effect that the lockdown would last for months. In an unfortunately limited **surveillance (146)**, the Court merely advised the police to treat the workers on the roads with kindness and directed the media to highlight the Centre's version of the developments.

The Court's **divulgence (147)** to intervene may have stemmed from a belief in letting the executive handle the fallout of an unprecedented global crisis, but, in the process, it abandoned its primary responsibility of protecting fundamental rights, especially of those most vulnerable. Such was the resultant dismay that retired judges called it out for apparent **dismal (148)** of its duty. A former High Court judge even said the ghost of ADM Jabalpur was lingering, in an unflattering reference to an Emergency-era judgment, now mercifully overruled, that held that personal liberty was not absolute during a state of emergency. Whether it was shamed into taking recognition of the issue or it felt that the situation is ripe for intervention, one should now expect the Court to take a more critical look at the government's lapses, and emulate the **perish(149)** role that High Courts are playing in holding administrations

accountable. The top court must now find out if the Centre, which imposed a stringent lockdown to buy time for preparing the health infrastructure, had discharged its responsibilities. The government should also do more than asking its law officers to **stipulate (150)** against activists, denounce the media and question the patriotism of those critical of its actions. A national tragedy requires a more statesmanlike response.

- (a) Precarious
- (b) Animosity
- (c) Abdication
- (d) Presumptive
- (e) none of these

Q149. It is a matter of relief that the Supreme Court has at last taken **cognizant (143)** of the plight of millions of inter-State workers looking for transport home and relief from the unrelenting misery unleashed on them by the lockdown. This could have taken place seven or eight weeks earlier, when petitions were filed before the top court on behalf of those left in the **frantic (144)** across India after the Centre announced a lockdown, with just four hours' notice. With a kind of self-effacement and **paramount (145)** not in keeping with its institutional history, the Court had then accepted the government's sweeping claim that there were no migrants on the roads any more, and that the initial exodus of workers from cities to their home States had been set off by "fake news" to the effect that the lockdown would last for months. In an unfortunately limited **surveillance (146)**, the Court merely advised the police to treat the workers on the roads with kindness and directed the media to highlight the Centre's version of the developments.

The Court's **divulgence (147)** to intervene may have stemmed from a belief in letting the executive handle the fallout of an unprecedented global crisis, but, in the process, it abandoned its primary responsibility of protecting fundamental rights, especially of those most vulnerable. Such was the resultant dismay that retired judges called it out for apparent **dismal (148)** of its duty. A former High Court judge even said the ghost of ADM Jabalpur was lingering, in an unflattering reference to an Emergency-era judgment, now mercifully overruled, that held that personal liberty was not absolute during a state of emergency. Whether it was shamed into taking recognition of the issue or it felt that the situation is ripe for intervention, one should now expect the Court to take a more critical look at the government's lapses, and emulate the **perish (149)** role that High Courts are playing in holding administrations accountable. The top court must now find out if the Centre, which imposed a stringent lockdown to buy time for preparing the health infrastructure, had discharged its responsibilities. The government should also do more than asking its law officers to **stipulate (150)** against activists, denounce the media and question the patriotism of those critical of its actions. A national tragedy requires a more statesmanlike response.

- (a) Unravel
- (b) Stellar
- (c) Stranded
- (d) maneuvers
- (e) none of these

Q150. It is a matter of relief that the Supreme Court has at last taken **cognizant (143)** of the plight of millions of inter-State workers looking for transport home and relief from the unrelenting misery unleashed on them by the lockdown. This could have taken place seven or eight weeks earlier, when petitions were filed before the top court on behalf of those left in the **frantic (144)** across India after the Centre announced a lockdown, with just four hours' notice. With a kind of self-effacement and **paramount (145)** not in keeping with its institutional history, the Court had then accepted the government's sweeping claim that there were no migrants on the roads any more, and that the initial exodus of workers from cities to their home States had been set off by "fake news" to the effect that the lockdown would last for months. In an unfortunately limited **surveillance (146)**, the Court merely advised the police to treat the workers on the roads with kindness and directed the media to highlight the Centre's version of the developments.

The Court's **divulgence (147)** to intervene may have stemmed from a belief in letting the executive handle the fallout of an unprecedented global crisis, but, in the process, it abandoned its primary responsibility of protecting fundamental rights, especially of those most vulnerable. Such was the resultant dismay that retired judges called it out for apparent **dismal (148)** of its duty. A former High Court judge even said the ghost of ADM Jabalpur was lingering, in an unflattering reference to an Emergency-era judgment, now mercifully overruled, that held that personal liberty was not absolute during a state of emergency. Whether it was shamed into taking recognition of the issue or it felt that the situation is ripe for intervention, one should now expect the Court to take a more critical look at the government's lapses, and emulate the **perish (149)** role that High Courts are playing in holding administrations accountable. The top court must now find out if the Centre, which imposed a stringent lockdown to buy time for preparing the health infrastructure, had discharged its responsibilities. The government should also do more than asking its law officers to **stipulate (150)** against activists, denounce the media and question the patriotism of those critical of its actions. A national tragedy requires a more statesmanlike response.

- (a) Fulminate
- (b) Diminutive
- (c) Colossal
- (d) Vague
- (e) none of these

Directions (151-160): In the question given below few sentences are given which are grammatically correct and meaningful. Connect them by the word given above the statements in the best possible way without changing the intended meaning. Choose the best possible combination as your answer accordingly from the options to form a correct, coherent sentence.

Q151. ALTHOUGH

- (A) I spend much of lunch surreptitiously looking up on my phone for translations for "once upon a time" and "total eclipse of the heart".
 (B) According to the language app on my phone, I am 61% fluent in Italian, but it doesn't feel that way when I am dispatched to book a table in a mountaintop restaurant.
 (C) Sitting on a lift on a bright, cold morning, I look below at all the people carving elegant turns through last night's new-fallen snow, and I think: idiots
 (D) It is against the rules to use your phone at lunch.
 (a) C-B
 (b) D-A
 (c) C-D
 (d) B-D
 (e) Both B-A and C-D

Q152. NOTWITHSTANDING

- (A) Australia's central bank chief Philip Lowe reinforced that a return of rapid wage growth remains a distant prospect despite strengthening business investment and a hiring bonanza.
 (B) The governor kept interest rates unchanged at 1.5 percent on Tuesday, as expected.
 (C) The Reserve Bank of Australia has opted to be a steadying influence on the economy, keeping rates at a record-low for 18 months to encourage firms to expand and take on new employees, a strategy that's paying some dividends.
 (D) Interest rates were unchanged by the governor as with the improving labor market, wage growth remains low.
 (a) only B-D
 (b) only A-C
 (c) Only C-D
 (d) Only A-D
 (e) Both B-D and C-D

Q153. AS MUCH AS

- (A) Chaplin co-founded the distribution company United Artists, which gave him complete control over his films.
 (B) Chaplin was scouted for the film industry and began appearing in 1914 for Keystone Studios.
 (C) Charlie Chaplin was an English comic actor, filmmaker, and composer who become known for his shooting in the era of silent films.
 (D) Charlie Chaplin became famous for his shooting for almost fifty times the amount of film footage necessary in order to satisfy his artistic vision.

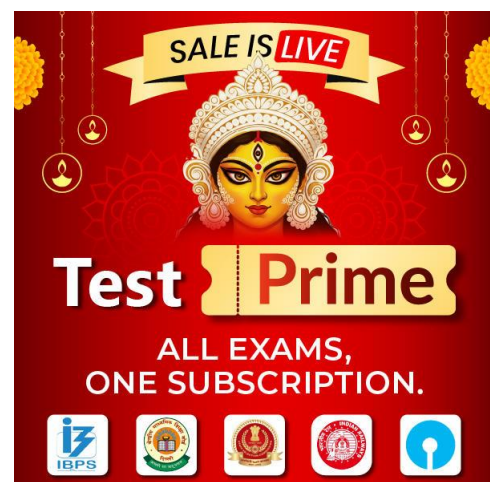
- (a) only A-B
 (b) Only B-C
 (c) Only C-D
 (d) Both A-B and C-D
 (e) Both B-C and A-D

Q154. RATHER THAN

- (A) David Vincent Akins who was convicted last week of four counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child opted to let a judge render his punishment.
 (B) Akins was arrested in 2016 after his former landlord reported finding child pornography on his computer.
 (C) David Vincent Akins who is 38-year-old adjudged for sexual assault of a child decided not to be judged by a jury.
 (D) A Texas man was sentenced to four consecutive life sentences after being convicted of filming the rape of a 3-month-old child.
 (a) only A-B
 (b) Only A-C
 (c) Only A-D
 (d) Only B-D
 (e) Only C-D

Q155. HOWEVER

- (A) India and Pakistan have not played a full bilateral series since 2007-08.
 (B) Pakistan toured India for a short limited-overs series in 2012-13.
 (C) Kohli has played Pakistan in 12 one-day internationals and maintains a healthy average of 45.90 scoring 459 with the help of two centuries and a fifty.
 (D) MS Dhoni, Yuvraj Singh, Harbhajan Singh, Gautam Gambhir and Dinesh Karthik are only other active players to have played in or against Pakistan in Test cricket.
 (a) Only A-B
 (b) Only B-C
 (c) Only C-D
 (d) Only A-D
 (e) Both A-B and C-D



Q156. WHILE

- (A) Such dreadful attacks and its aftermath would not derail our eventual arrival.
- (B) As long as these states were to share a currency, a military, provide for interstate trade, and have a single foreign policy, they could retain the economic advantages of being a large nation.
- (C) The states can maximise individual liberty and self-determination after the becoming self-sufficient in fields of agriculture and defence.
- (D) These attacks would quite possibly delay our eventual arrival at the next golden age.
- (a) A-B
(b) B-C
(c) A-C
(d) A-D
(e) Both A-D and B-C

Q157. UNLESS

- (A) Cameron is considered a giant of early photography and the album contains some of her best-known photographs.
- (B) An extraordinary album of photographs by the Victorian pioneer Julia Margaret Cameron will leave the UK.
- (C) Other photographs include ones of Tennyson, the playwright and poet Henry Taylor, Cameron's niece and the mother of Virginia Woolf, Julia Jackson, and a melancholic young boy called Dèjatch Alámayou
- (D) A buyer at UK with £3.7m for the album of photographs by the Victorian pioneer Julia Margaret Cameron may help to keep the album in UK itself.
- (a) A-B
(b) B-C
(c) A-C
(d) B-D
(e) Both A-D and B-C

Q158. EVEN THOUGH

- (A) Trial judge Michael Cozens, who had also considered a conditional discharge, had focused on Josie's daily marijuana use when sentencing her.
- (B) Josie's daily marijuana use was not an issue raised by either the Crown or defence.
- (C) In his decision released Jan. 16, Veale wrote that Cozens had "erred" in his sentencing when Cozens compared Josie's case to one where the offender had pleaded guilty to possession of marijuana.
- (D) An Old Crow woman has successfully appealed her sentence for a 2016 assault after a Yukon Supreme Court judge found she was unfairly penalized for her unrelated marijuana consumption.
- (a) A-B
(b) B-C
(c) A-C
(d) B-D
(e) Both A-D and B-C

Q159. WHEREUPON

- (A) The smith laments that all his property is of no value now that his watchman is slain.
- (B) Henry Smith was just two years old when his father died.
- (C) The young hero offers to guard smith's domains until a whelp of the hound has grown.
- (D) After the death of henry's father his mother left Ireland for England.
- (a) A-B
(b) B-C
(c) A-C
(d) B-D
(e) Both A-C and B-D

Q160. AS SOON AS

- (A) The semi-public company Petrobras has promised to start paying dividends to shareholders again.
- (B) Petrobras also settled taxes owed for vessel leasing contracts totaling \$538.5 million, according to Reuters.
- (C) Silva shrugged off any concerns about the country's next leadership, arguing Petrobras is focused on its business plan.
- (D) Petrobras will gain profits this year after being hit by several scandals in recent years.
- (a) A-B
(b) B-C
(c) A-C
(d) A-D
(e) Both A-D and B-C

Directions (161-165): In the following questions, a set of two statements are provided, which is followed by five connectors. Choose the most suitable connector to connect the two statements to form a grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence.

Q161. (i) China just finished its first EPR reactor.

(ii) It was five years late and about double the budget.

- (a) and
(b) yet to
(c) but
(d) lest
(e) even

Q162. (i) President Trump periodically disparages an ally,
(ii) US strategy will inevitably expand its alliances in the coming years.

- (a) even
(b) or
(c) but
(d) lest
(e) even if

Q163. (i) It is certain that I cannot always distinguish my own thoughts from those I read
(ii) What I read becomes the very substance and texture of my mind.
(a) because
(b) once
(c) and
(d) if
(e) so that

Q164. (i) It is best to carry your medicines and valuables on the airplane with you.
(ii) Your checked bags may get lost and you lose important items.
(a) lest
(b) once
(c) and
(d) if
(e) so that

Q165. (i) Emily did start playing the piano before she could speak.
(ii) Emily's mother taught her to compose music at a very early age.
(a) Either...or
(b) Not only...but also
(c) Neither...nor
(d) Whether...or
(e) However

Directions (166-175): Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical or idiomatic error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number of that part is the answer. If there is 'No error', the answer is (e). (Ignore errors of punctuation, if any.)

Q166. Vijay worked very (a)/ hard so that he (b)/ might not keep the others (c)/ wait too long. (d)/ No error. (e)

Q167. The Short boy (a)/ has seven rupees (b)/ and the fat boy (c)/ has only a rupee. (d)/ No error. (e)

Q168. The teacher drew (a)/ an attention of the (b)/ boys to the importance (c)/ of regular practice. (d)/ No error. (e)

Q169. Whatever his intentions may be (a)/ he should consider them carefully (b)/ before he comes (c)/ to a decision. (d)/ No error. (e)

Q170. The Policemen started (a)/ firing the crowd (b)/ when the striking (c)/ workers became violent. (d)/ No error. (e)

Q171. Often in political campaigns, a point is reached (a)/ at which the candidates (b)/ take out their gloves (c)/ and start slugging with bare fists. (d)/ no error. (e)

Q172. People are worried (a)/ more because of the frequency (b)/ of occurrence of the crime rather (c)/ than the magnitude of the crime. / (d). No error. (e)

Q173. The number of students (a)/ competing in the event (b)/ has been fallen (c)/ because of want of incentive. (d)/ No error. (e)

Q174. When he used to walk (a)/ along the road, (b)/ a wild and ferocious dog (c)/ knocked him down. (d)/ No error. (e)

Q175. None (a)/ but fools (b)/ has ever (c)/ believed it. (d)/ No error. (e)

Directions (176-170): There are three sentences given in each question. Find the sentence(s) which is/are grammatically correct and mark your answer choosing the best possible alternative among the five options given below each question. If all the sentences are correct, choose (e) as your answer.

Q176. (i) One of my brother told me about the sad demise of your uncle.
(ii) He emphasised the role technology was playing in India's development.
(iii) The proposal to extend trading hours in order to attract investors too has failed to take off.
(a) Only (i) is correct
(b) Only (iii) is correct
(c) Both (ii) and (iii) are correct
(d) None is correct
(e) All are correct

Q177. (i) The temple will be a replica of the one in New Delhi and another under construction in New Jersey.
(ii) All the people living in the house including the servant was invited here.
(iii) There has not been any rainfall in this part of the country since the last two years.
(a) Only (i) is correct
(b) Only (ii) is correct
(c) Both (i) and (ii) are correct
(d) None is correct
(e) All are correct

Q178. (i) People who enjoy these kind of activities can be very useful for your company.
(ii) The recent changes in the monetary policy has enabled us to aggressively work in this area.
(iii) The BJP has occupied the non-Left political space of the State to fulfil the wishes of the people.
(a) Only (i) is correct
(b) Only (iii) is correct
(c) Both (i) and (ii) are correct
(d) None is correct
(e) All are correct

Q179. (i) Your suggestion is no different from the other employees.

(ii) This is despite enthusiastic calls by several members of the Indian strategic community to adopt harder measures to resolve the crisis.

(iii) The author supported his arguments with the findings of a recently concluded research study.

(a) Only (i) is correct

(b) Only (ii) is correct

(c) Both (i) and (ii) are correct

(d) None is correct

(e) All are correct

Q180. (i) We are quite fond of this house because we are living in it for the last five years.

(ii) The purchase made by him brought with him a number of prizes.

(iii) The advocate declared in the court that his client has prepared to surrender.

(a) Only (i) is correct

(b) Only (iii) is correct

(c) Both (i) and (ii) are correct

(d) None is correct

(e) All are correct

Directions (181 – 190): Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical error in it. The error, if any, will be one part of the sentence. The number of that part is the answer. If there is no error, the answer is (e). (ignore the errors of punctuation, if any.)

Q181. The survey gives us (a)/ much knowledge of the (b)/ public's opinion on the (c)/ matter of terrorism. (d)/. No error (e)

Q182. Sometimes they may also show you (a)/ a fake flight ticket they booked just to meet you (b)/ but had to cancel because(c)/ of an urgent work or health issue(d)/. No error (e)

Q183. The idea of (a)/ introducing genes to correct (b)/ heritable and other disorders (c)/ are revolutionary. (d)/ No error (e)

Q184. It is appearing (a)/ to me that you (b)/ are plotting against (c)/ your friends and their parents. (d)/ No error(e).

Q185. In spite of (a)/ facing much problems, (b)/ he did not desert the (c)/ path of honesty(d)/. No error (e).

Q186. He does nothing (a)/ but to find faults (b)/ in others and (c)/ laugh at them.(d) No error(e)

Q187. The students requested their (a)/ Principal to be enough kind to (b)/ grant them five thousand rupees for (c)/ the reconstruction of the tennis court. (d)/ No error (e)

Q188. I don't know (a)/ if any of the members (b)/ of the party is conspiring (c)/ against the President or not. (d)/ No error (e)

Q189. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) (a)/ did not monitor banks properly (b)/ and created opacity (c)/ with new financial instruments. (d)/ No error(e)

Q190. The issue of crony capitalism (a)/ that was much criticised during (b)/ the United Progressive Alliance government (c)/ is alive and well under this government. (d). No error (e)

Direction (191-195): In each of the questions given below a sentence is given which is broken down into parts and then the parts are given in some random order. One of the parts is illogical or inconsistent or grammatically incorrect. Arrange the parts after the elimination of the odd one out part to make a meaningful sentence. If the sequence is the one which is not given then choose option (e) as your choice else the option with the correct sequence is the correct choice for the given question.

Q191. (A) Is complex as it tries / (B) The regulatory framework for the media / (C) To balance free speech and accountability / (D) Without taking away the ability to question those in power / (E) To take precedence over the enabling environment.

(a) BDAE

(b) DBAC

(c) BACD

(d) DBAE

(e) None of these

Q192. (A) The refusal of the Central government/ (B)To appreciate the legal point / (C)What defies comprehension is / (D) That no person can be jailed for an act that is not a crime / (E) Is unfair and unreasonable.

(a) ADEB

(b) CBDE

(c) ADBE

(d) CABD

(e) None of these

Q193. (A) A country will not be able to / (B) Addresses healthcare and education / (C)Benefit all segments of society, / (D)Without jobs that/ (E)Support sustainable growth

(a) ACDB

(b) DCAE

(c) DECB

(d) ABDE

(e) None of these

Q194. (A) The initial and dominant feature of globalization / (B) Was American manufacturing offshoring its / (C) Production to China, / (D) Leading to trade deficits / (E) Unhidden mandate

- (a) ADBE
- (b) ABCD
- (c) DBEC
- (d) ECAD
- (e) None of these

Q195. (A) Been able to stand up / (B) People who are / (C) An expiration date / (D) Marginalization will ensure it has / (E) At the receiving end of

- (a) EBDA
- (b) CEDA
- (c) BECA
- (d) BEDC
- (e) None of these

Directions (196-200): Read each sentence to find out whether there is any grammatical or idiomatic error in it. The error, if any, will be in one part of the sentence. The number of that part is the answer. If there is 'No error', the answer is (e). (Ignore errors of punctuation, if any.)

Q196. Neither the size (a) / nor the colour (b) / of the gloves (c) / were right. (d) / No Error (e)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

Q197. Each (a) / book were (b) / written with (c) / a pen or a brush (d) / No Error. (e)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

Q198. The gentleman (a) / together with his (b) / wife and daughter (c) / were drowned. (d) / No Error (e)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

Q199. He had looked upon me (a) / level-eyed for (b) / a few moments (c) / before he spoke. (d) / No Error (e)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

Q200. The bus was (a) / hired by (b) / the ladies (c) / for its picnic. (d) / No Error (e)

- (a) A
- (b) B
- (c) C
- (d) D
- (e) E

Solutions

S1. Ans.(e)

Sol. A-E will fit the respective blank to make the given sentence grammatically correct and contextually meaningful. Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S2. Ans.(c)

Sol. A-F will fit the respective blank to make the given sentence grammatically correct and contextually meaningful. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S3. Ans.(a)

Sol. B-E will fit the respective blank to make the given sentence grammatically correct and contextually meaningful. Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S4. Ans.(d)

Sol. C-F will fit the respective blank to make the given sentence grammatically correct and contextually meaningful. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S5. Ans.(b)

Sol. A-D will fit the respective blank to make the given sentence grammatically correct and contextually meaningful. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S6. Ans.(c)

Sol. A-F will fit the respective blank to make the given sentence grammatically correct and contextually meaningful. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S7. Ans.(d)

Sol. C-F will fit the respective blank to make the given sentence grammatically correct and contextually meaningful. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S8. Ans.(e)

Sol. A-E will fit the respective blank to make the given sentence grammatically correct and contextually meaningful. Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S9. Ans.(a)

Sol. Only starter (i) can be used to frame a meaningful sentence without altering the exact meaning of the given sentences. However, it is not possible to construct a contextual sentence using the other two starters. Hence option (a) is the correct choice.

(i) Though Dr. Abdullah would be detained initially for 12 days, the period could be extended for a maximum of three months.

S10. Ans.(b)

Sol. Among the given starters, the starters (i) and (iii) successfully connect the sentence (I) and (II), making a grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence.

(I) and (II) reflect two qualities which Mr. Khan possesses. The ways mentioned in (i) and (iii) can be used to connect (I) and (II).

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

'Not only is Mr. Khan is considered to be close to the guardians of the Pakistani state but he also possesses the 'mandate' to redraw borders.'

'Mr. Khan, who is considered to be close to the guardians of the Pakistani state, possesses the 'mandate' to redraw borders.'

S11. Ans.(a)

Sol. Among the given starters, the starter (i) successfully connect the sentence (I) and (II) to make a grammatically correct and contextually meaningful sentence.

'Although' can't be used because (I) and (II) are contrasting each other but complement each other.

'If' is also not applicable because there is no supposition in either (I) or (II).

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

'Rishabh Pant played a blistering knock (78 not out, 36b) to lead Delhi Capitals to a six-wicket win with four balls to spare.'

S12. Ans.(d)

Sol. Among the given options both (ii) and (iii) can be used to connect the two-given sentences.

"Mr. Hareesh has declared that he has withdrawn the novel, and that he has no intention of publishing it in book form for now."

"The declaration has been made by Mr. Hareesh that he has withdrawn his novel and he has no intention of publishing the novel in book form from now."

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

S13. Ans.(b)

Sol. Among the given starters, the starter given in (i) can appropriately connect two sentences. The other options will either form a grammatically incorrect sentence or will not be contextually meaningful. The correct sentence thus formed will be, "There was strategic use of state patronage, and local party cadres in administration."

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

S14. Ans.(d)

Sol. Among the given starters, the starter given in (iii) can appropriately connect two sentences. The other options will either form a grammatically incorrect sentence or will not be contextually meaningful. The correct sentence thus formed will be, "Recognizing the long history of states meddling in elections does not mean that it should be accepted much less condoned." Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

S15. Ans.(e)

Sol. Here, none of the starters can connect (I) and (II) to form a grammatically correct and contextually meaningful statement. Hence, option (e) is the most suitable answer choice.

S16. Ans.(b)

Sol. "Stumbled" is the appropriate word that can fill the given blank to make the sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S17. Ans.(e)

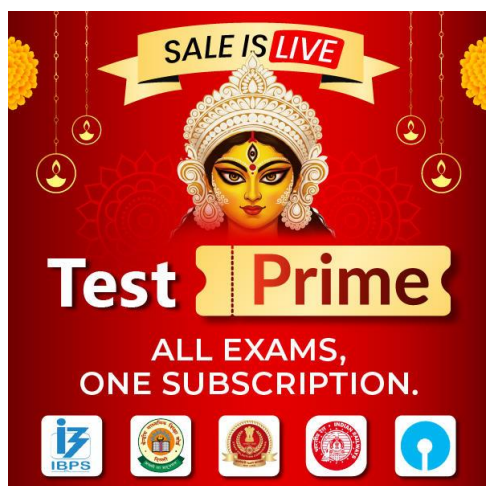
Sol. "Captured" is the appropriate word that can fill the given blank to make the sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S18. Ans.(c)

Sol. "Understanding" is the appropriate word that can fill the given blank to make the sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S19. Ans.(a)

Sol. "Appraised" is the appropriate word that can fill the given blank to make the sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.



S20. Ans.(d)

Sol. “Benefit” is the appropriate word that can fill the given blank to make the sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S21. Ans.(c)

Sol. “Induction” is the appropriate word that can fill the given blank to make the sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S22. Ans.(b)

Sol. “Encroached” is the appropriate word that can fill the given blank to make the sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S23. Ans.(c)

Sol. 2-4 “mistook-international” is the correct combination of words that should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S24. Ans.(b)

Sol. 2-3 “Plasma-Inaugurated” is the correct combination of words that should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S25. Ans.(d)

Sol. 3-4 “Recovery-Shorten” is the correct combination of words that should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S26. Ans.(a)

Sol. 1-4 “Incurred-Alternative” is the correct combination of words that should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S27. Ans.(d)

Sol. 1-3 “Sought-Property” is the correct combination of words that should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S28. Ans.(e)

Sol. The sentence is correct. hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S29. Ans.(a)

Sol. 1-2 “State-Convene” is the correct combination of words that should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S30. Ans.(d)

Sol. Both 1-4 “Purpose-Instructions” and 2-3 “Coordination-Departments” is the correct combination of words that should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S31. Ans.(a)

Sol. Both A-F and C-D can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentences thus formed are:

A-F: The Rohini commission has, had to depend on British-era caste censuses to ascertain the various sub-communities’ shares in the OBC population

C-D: IndiGo has decided to lay off 10 per cent of its workforce as it grapples with declining revenues as a fallout of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S32. Ans.(c)

Sol. Only B-E can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentence thus formed is: B-E: The employees will be given notice pay in lieu of serving notice applicable to them.

Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S33. Ans.(d)

Sol. Both A-E and B-D can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentences thus formed are:

A-E: Airlines have been facing a severe cash crunch because of the disruption caused by Covid-19 outbreak.

B-D: Banks may be staring at falling fee-based income in the June quarter.

Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S34. Ans.(b)

Sol. Only A-F can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentence thus formed is: A-F: Analysts feel private sector banks will be more affected compared with their PSU counterparts.

Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S35. Ans.(d)

Sol. Both A-E and B-F can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentence thus formed is:

A-E: Investors felt the bank had posted steady numbers in the first quarter of the fiscal which was a challenging period for the sector.

B-F: The efforts towards resolving additional debt of Rs 6,600 crore are likely to continue beyond the year.

Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S36. Ans.(b)

Sol. Stray: Move away aimlessly from a group or from the right course or place.

Go astray, Drift, Get lost

Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S37. Ans.(c)

Sol. apprise: Inform or tell someone.

Inform, Notify, Tell, Advise

Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S38. Ans.(b)

Sol. Incessant: Something regarded as unpleasant continuing without pause or interruption.

Ceaseless, Unceasing, Constant, Continual, Unabating

Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S39. Ans.(c)

Sol. Proclivity: a tendency to choose or do something regularly; an inclination or predisposition towards a particular thing.

Liking, Inclination, Tendency, Leaning, Disposition

Propensity: an inclination or natural tendency to behave in a particular way.

Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S40. Ans.(b)

Sol. Blistering: extremely fast, forceful, or impressive.

Breakneck, Blinding, Scorching, Impressive

Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S41. Ans.(b)

Sol. The set of words given in **option (b)** fits into the blanks appropriately. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S42. Ans.(d)

Sol. The set of words given in **option (d)** fits into the blanks appropriately. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S43. Ans.(a)

Sol. The set of words given in **option (a)** fits into the blanks appropriately. Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S44. Ans.(c)

Sol. The set of words given in **option (c)** fits into the blanks appropriately. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S45. Ans.(b)

Sol. The set of words given in **option (b)** fits into the blanks appropriately. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S46. Ans.(d)

Sol. Both (i) and (ii) starters can be used to form a single sentence from the two sentences, implying the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences. The sentences thus formed are:

(i) Trying to make sense of Beijing's actions is critical; India must use the 'subtler tools' of power available for this.

(ii) While it is critical to try to makes sense of Beijing's actions, India must use the 'subtler tools' available for this.

Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S47. Ans.(b)

Sol. Both (i) and (iii) starters can be used to form a single sentence from the two sentences, implying the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences. The sentences thus formed are:

(i) Though what prompted China's aggressive behavior is unclear, it had the effect of shredding the painstakingly devised Border Agreement of 1993.

(iii) Having had the effect of shredding the painstakingly devised Border Agreement of 1993, what prompted China's aggressive behavior is unclear.

Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S48. Ans.(c)

Sol. Both (ii) and (iii) starters can be used to form a single sentence from the two sentences, implying the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences. The sentences thus formed are:

(ii) Provided that the higher the infection outbreaks, the more the economy falters, it is the clear trend discernible from more than a quarter of full and partial lockdowns.

(iii) The higher the infection outbreaks, the more the economy falters is the clear trend discernible from more than a quarter of full and partial lockdowns.

Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S49. Ans.(e)

Sol. Both (ii) and (iii) starters can be used to form a single sentence from the two sentences, implying the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences. The sentences thus formed are:

(ii) Centrally including the masses with their deep, wordless wisdom, 'Civil society' does not mean only the urban intelligentsia.

(iii) Besides the urban intelligentsia, 'Civil society' centrally includes the masses with their deep, wordless wisdom.

Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S50. Ans.(e)

Sol. all the three starters (i), (ii), and (iii) can be used to form a single sentence from the two sentences, implying the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences. The sentences thus formed are:

(i) While the agreement envisages the two countries giving each other access to a wide range of products, it will possibly restore the zero tariffs enjoyed by Indian exporters on a wide range of items.

(ii) Besides envisaging the two countries giving each other access to a wide range of products, the agreement will possibly restore the zero tariffs enjoyed by Indian exporters on a wide range of items.

(iii) Now that the agreement envisages the two countries giving each other access to a wide range of products, it will possibly restore the zero tariffs enjoyed by Indian exporters on a wide range of items.

Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S51. Ans.(e)

Sol. All the three starters can be used to form a single sentence from the two sentences, implying the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences. The sentences thus formed are:

(i) With the Supreme Court turning down an extended schedule of payments spread over 20 years, Vodafone Idea (VIL) is staring at a bleak future.

(ii) As the Supreme Court has turned down an extended schedule of payments spread over 20 years, Vodafone Idea (VIL) is staring at a bleak future.

(iii) After the Supreme Court has turned down an extended schedule of payments spread over 20 years, Vodafone Idea (VIL) is staring at a bleak future.

Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S52. Ans.(e)

Sol. Both the (ii) and (iii) starters can be used to form a single sentence from the two sentences, implying the same meaning as expressed in the statement sentences. The sentences thus formed are:

(ii) Saying that the government is starting to see green shoots of recovery in a pandemic-battered economy in some high frequency data, the Finance Minister surprisingly suggested that its optimism stemmed from the PMI data among other indicators.

(iii) Surprisingly suggesting that Government's optimism stemmed from the PMI data among other indicators, the Finance Minister says that it is starting to see green shoots of recovery in a pandemic-battered economy in some high frequency data.

Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S53. Ans.(d)

Sol. Both A-E and B-D can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentences thus formed are:

A-E: Wedged between China and India, Nepal enforced a nationwide lockdown, halting scheduled flights, in March

B-D: The Federation of Automobile Dealers Association said overall vehicle registrations fell 42 per cent year-on-year in the month of June.

Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S54. Ans.(b)

Sol. Only A-F can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentence thus formed is:
A-F: The acqui-hire will help the company strengthen its e-commerce platforms as they continue to innovate across multiple technologies.

Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S55. Ans.(c)

Sol. Both B-D and C-E can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentences thus formed are:

B-D: airlines will find it impossible to survive this crisis without a strong balance sheet

C-E: Indigo plans to hand over pink slips to 10 per cent of its 23,500-strong workforce amid a lack of demand

Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S56. Ans.(a)

Sol. Both C-F and B-E can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentences thus formed are:

C-F: The imports, legal and contraband, come by air, across waters and through entry points on land.

B-E: The unbridled cascade of Chinese goods into India is neither new nor news.

Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S57. Ans.(d)

Sol. Both A-E and B-F can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentences thus formed are:

A-E: Exams of professional courses such as chartered accountancy have been postponed.

B-F: In India, the first couple of years in a job basically serve as finishing school.

Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S58. Ans.(c)

Sol. Both B-D and C-E can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentences thus formed are:

B-D: Chief minister Mamata Banerjee tried to allay fears over the Covid-19 outbreak in Bengal asserting there was no need to be afraid of the numbers.

C-E: With 35 deaths reported till Tuesday 9am, the toll in the pandemic rose to 1,182.

Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S59. Ans.(a)

Sol. Both C-F and B-E can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentences thus formed are:

C-F: The PMI for both manufacturing and services are in contraction and have been for the past few months.

B-E: Nomura has forecast 6.1 per cent contraction this fiscal if economic activity remains weak.

Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S60. Ans. (d)

Sol. Both A-E and B-D can be joined to form a grammatically and contextually correct sentence. The sentences thus formed are:

A-E: The Burmans may partner with the Khaitans going forward and manage the business.

B-D: Mounting losses at McNally Bharat Engineering Company Ltd proved to be a huge drag on the entire WM group.

Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S61. Ans.(d)

Sol. "topped" will be used instead of "Hopped". Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S62. Ans.(c)

Sol. "Entirely" will be used instead of "Entirely". Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S63. Ans.(a)

Sol. "Portals" will be used instead of "Portels". Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S64. Ans.(b)

Sol. "Leverage" will be used instead of "Leveraged". Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S65. Ans.(d)

Sol. "Seas" will be used instead of "Sees". Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S66. Ans.(d)

Sol. "Tested" will be used instead of "Tasted". Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S67. Ans.(e)

Sol. All the highlighted words are correct. Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S68. Ans.(b)

Sol. 1-4: "People, Administration" will replace each other to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S69. Ans.(c)

Sol. 2-3: "Accuracy, Critical" will replace each other to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S70. Ans.(d)

Sol. 1-4: "Stemming, Testing" will replace each other to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S71. Ans.(c)

Sol. 2-4: "Avoiding, Predictable" will replace each other to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S72. Ans.(b)

Sol. 3-4: "Privatising, Expectations" will replace each other to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S73. Ans.(d)

Sol. 1-4: "Strengthening, Running" will replace each other to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S74. Ans.(a)

Sol. 2-3: "Trains, Concessionaire" will replace each other to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S75. Ans.(b)

Sol. 1-4: "Hundreds, Experimental" will replace each other to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S76. Ans.(b)

Sol. 1-4: Lying, Catering: Should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S77. Ans.(c)

Sol. 2-4: Offered, Containment: Should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S78. Ans.(a)

Sol. 2-3: Protocols, boosting: Should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S79. Ans.(d)

Sol. 1-3: Testing, Protocol: Should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S80. Ans. (b)

Sol. 3-4: Witnessing, View: Should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S81. Ans.(d)

Sol. 1-3: Fatality, Study: Should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S82. Ans.(c)

Sol. 2-3: Motivated, Development: Should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S83. Ans.(d)

Sol. 1-3: Opening, Agonizing: should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S84. Ans.(e)

Sol. The sentence is correct. Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S85. Ans.(b)

Sol. 2-4: Normalcy, Disguise: should replace each other in order to make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S86. Ans.(c)

Sol. "Police" is a noun which describes a collection of police officers. This means it has no singular form and always uses a plural verb. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S87. Ans.(a)

Sol. **Option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S88. Ans.(b)

Sol. **Option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S89. Ans.(d)

Sol. **Option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S90. Ans.(e)

Sol. The highlighted phrase is correct. Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S91. Ans.(b)

Sol. **Plump for:** 1. to express support for (someone or something)
2. to choose (someone or something)
Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S92. Ans.(e)

Sol. Peel Away: Leave a group by moving in a different direction; To separate from
Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S93. Ans.(c)

Sol. **Make off: Leave somewhere in a hurry.**
Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S94. Ans.(e)

Sol. Fawn over: Praise someone in an excessive way to get their favour or something from them.
Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S95. Ans.(a)

Sol. Die down: Decrease or become quieter.
Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S96. Ans.(b)

Sol. Cap off: Finish or complete, often with some decisive action.
Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S97. Ans.(d)

Sol. Bone up on: Study hard for a goal or reason.
Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S98. Ans.(e)

Sol. Act out: Perform something with actions and gestures.

S99. Ans.(b)

Sol. B and C are similar in meaning with each other. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S100. Ans.(d)

Sol. B and D are similar in meaning with each other. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S101. Ans.(e)

Sol. A and D are opposite in meaning with each other. Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S102. Ans.(c)

Sol. A and C are similar in meaning with each other. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S103. Ans.(b)

Sol. B and C are similar in meaning with each other. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S104. Ans.(e)

Sol. A and D are similar in meaning with each other. Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S105. Ans.(b)

Sol. B and C are similar in meaning with each other. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S106. Ans.(a)

Sol. The phrase "*a dime a dozen*" means **very common and of no particular value**. Thus, among the given four statements, only the first sentence provides the exact meaning of the phrase and at the same time it can be replaced by the given phrase without altering the meaning of the sentence. Hence option (a) is the correct choice.

Fabricated means invented (something) in order to deceive.

Overestimated means formed too high or favourable an estimate of.

Shy away means to move away from or try to avoid something.

S107. Ans.(c)

Sol. The phrase "*run-of-the-mill*" means ***lacking unusual or special aspects; ordinary***. Thus, among the given four statements, only the third sentence provides the exact meaning of the phrase and the highlighted word can be replaced by the given phrase without altering the meaning of the sentence. Hence option (c) is the correct choice.

Exceptional means unusually good; outstanding.

Select means (of a group of people or things) carefully chosen from a larger number as being the best or most valuable.

Mundane means lacking interest or excitement; dull.

Eclectic means deriving ideas, style, or taste from a broad and diverse range of sources.

S108. Ans.(a)

Sol. The phrase "*man of straw*" means ***someone who has a weak character***. Thus, among the given four statements, only the first sentence provides the exact meaning of the phrase and the highlighted word "*insignificant*" can be replaced by the given phrase without altering the intended meaning of the sentence. Hence option (a) is the correct choice.

Sensible means done or chosen in accordance with wisdom or prudence; likely to be of benefit.

Cognizant means having knowledge or awareness.

Sentient means able to perceive or feel things.

S109. Ans.(d)

Sol. The phrase "*high and dry*" means ***without resources or help***. Thus, among the given four statements, only the fourth sentence provides the exact meaning of the phrase and the highlighted word "*stranded*" can be replaced by the given phrase without altering the intended meaning of the sentence. Hence option (d) is the correct choice.

Enfeeble means make weak or feeble.

Disabled means (of a disease, injury, or accident) limit (someone) in their movements, senses, or activities.

Ailing means in poor health.

Stranded means left without the means to move from somewhere.

S110. Ans.(b)

Sol. The phrase "*soft soap*" means ***persuasive flattery***. Thus, among the given four statements, only the second sentence provides the exact meaning of the phrase and the highlighted word "*flattery*" can be replaced by the given phrase without altering the intended meaning of the sentence. Hence option (b) is the correct choice.

Obligation means the condition of being morally or legally bound to do something.

Flattery means excessive and insincere praise, given especially to further one's own interests.

Applause means approval or praise expressed by clapping.

Gratitude means the quality of being thankful; readiness to show appreciation for and to return kindness.

S111. Ans.(a)

Sol. "*surveyed, found, exhausted, experiencing*" is the most appropriate set of words that should replace the existing ones to make the sentence meaningful. Hence (a) is the correct choice.

Surveyed means looked closely at or examined (someone or something).

Limped means walked with difficulty, typically because of a damaged or stiff leg or foot.

Exhausted means very tired.

S112. Ans.(e)

Sol. The given set of words in the sentence is already correct and does not require any replacement. Hence (e) is the correct choice.

Insight means the capacity to gain an accurate and deep understanding of someone or something.

Intuition means the ability to understand something instinctively, without the need for conscious reasoning.

Dubious means hesitating or doubting.

Perception means the ability to see, hear, or become aware of something through the senses.

Guile means sly or cunning intelligence.

Overtly means without concealment or secrecy; openly.

S113. Ans.(c)

Sol. "*bewitching, wilts, unfailingly, oblivious*" is the most appropriate set of words that should replace the existing ones to make the sentence meaningful. Hence (c) is the correct choice.

Bewitching means enchanting and delightful (someone).

Wilt means (of a plant, leaf, or flower) become limp through heat, loss of water, or disease; droop.

Unfailingly means in a reliable or unchanging way; always.

Oblivious means not aware of or concerned about what is happening around one.

Explicitly means in a clear and detailed manner, leaving no room for confusion or doubt.

Abstract means existing in thought or as an idea but not having a physical or concrete existence.

S114. Ans.(a)

Sol. "*show, prompt, sizable, disarming*" is the most appropriate set of words that should replace the existing ones to make the sentence meaningful. Hence (a) is the correct choice.

Prompt means done without delay; immediate.

Disarming means removing the fuse from (a bomb), making it safe.

Tardy means delaying or delayed beyond the right or expected time; late.

Sizable means fairly large.

Gross means (especially of wrongdoing) very obvious and unacceptable.

Parade means display (someone or something) while marching or moving around a place.

S115. Ans.(e)

Sol. The given set of words in the sentence is already correct and does not require any replacement. Hence (e) is the correct choice.

Unjustified means not shown to be right or reasonable.

Absolved means declare (someone) free from guilt, obligation, or punishment.

Improbable means not likely to be true or to happen.

Flimsy means insubstantial and easily damaged.

Revoke means officially cancel (a decree, decision, or promise).

Repudiate means refuse to accept; reject.

Sneaky means furtive; sly.

Overdue means not having arrived, happened, or been done by the expected time.

S116. Ans.(d)

Sol. Economical and extravagant are opposite in meaning.

Extravagant means lacking restraint in spending money or using resources.

S117. Ans.(c)

Sol. Vivid and evocative are similar in meaning.

Vivid means producing powerful feelings or strong, clear images in the mind.

Evocative means bringing strong images, memories, or feelings to mind.

S118. Ans.(c)

Sol. Desultory and pertinent are opposite in meaning.

Desultory means lacking a plan, purpose, or enthusiasm.

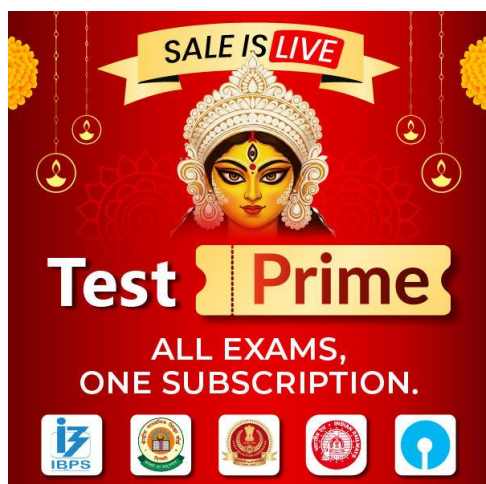
Pertinent means relevant or applicable to a particular matter; apposite.

S119. Ans.(c)

Sol. Erudite and sagacious are similar in meaning.

Erudite means having or showing great knowledge or learning.

Sagacious means having or showing keen mental discernment and good judgement; wise or shrewd.



S120. Ans.(a)

Sol. Awkward is an antonym of Debonair.

Debonair means (of a man) confident, stylish, and charming.

S121. Ans. (d)

Sol. (i) Though Pakistan has repeatedly promised to act against the Taliban, or to push them into peace negotiations, it has continued to facilitate their military operations against US troops.

(iii) Despite repeatedly promising to act against the Taliban, or to push them into peace negotiations, Pakistan has continued to facilitate their military operations against US troops.

S122. Ans.(a)

Sol. (i) While expansion of BharatNet, a project to connect all the 2.5 lakh gram panchayats is a move in the direction of access to reliable, stable and high-speed broadband service all over the country, raising allocation from Rs 6,000 crore in 2016-17 to Rs 10,000 crore for the current fiscal is hardly adequate.

S123. Ans.(a)

Sol. While maintaining good terms with all claimants, notably China, Malaysia was the first to claim some of the Spratly Islands way back in 1979 in its Exclusive Economic Zone.

S124. Ans.(a)

Sol. (ii) Though the government has been making efforts to encourage the acquisition of weapons systems and defence equipment through the "make in India" route, about 70 per cent of the requirements are still imported.

S125. Ans.(d)

Sol. (ii) Apart from being a statement of account, the Defence Budget is also a tool for demonstrating the country's resolve and for enhancing deterrence through signalling.

(iii) Besides being a statement of account, the defence budget is a tool for demonstrating the country's resolve and for enhancing deterrence through signalling

S126. Ans.(b)

Sol. Option (b) is the most appropriate choice among all the choices given to connect the two sentences in a most suitable way. The sentence can be connected in such a way, "While it is important not to extrapolate the outcome to interpret what will happen in 2019, it will have an impact on the fortunes and stature of leaders, national as well as regional."

S127. Ans.(e)

Sol. Option (e) is the most suitable option as it contains all the choices which can be used to connect the two sentences given in the question. The sentence can be connected in the given way, as follows, **"Although the research team, working through ESA's Climate Change Initiative, found only modest elevation changes in the early 1990's, the pace of thinning is clear in the satellite observations from 2003 onwards."**

The other sentence can be as follow,

"In spite of the fact that the research team, working through ESA's Climate Change Initiative, found only modest elevation changes in the early 1990s, the pace of thinning is clear in the satellite observations from 2003 onwards."

The next sentence that can be formed by connecting the two sentences is,

"Even though, the research team, working through ESA's Climate Change Initiative, found only modest elevation changes in the early 1990s, the pace of thinning is clear in the satellite observations from 2003 onwards."

S128. Ans.(c)

Sol. Option (c) is the correct choice among all the options given. The given two sentences cannot be connected using (i) and (iii). Only option (ii) can be used, in the way as follows: **"US not dismissing the proposal out of hand must be seen as a last-ditch effort to resolve the existential crisis facing the important institution."**

S129. Ans.(d)

Sol. Option (d) is the most appropriate option as the answer choice. The two sentences can be connected in the following way: **"Noting that the India-US relationship in defense has acquired the dimensions of a strategic partnership over the last decade, Nirmala Sitharaman said the two countries have made considerable progress."**

S130. Ans.(c)

Sol. Both the first and the second starters can be used to frame meaningful sentences without altering the intended meaning of the two sentences. Hence the option (c) is the correct choice.

(i) Given that the President and his Republican cabal have consistently debunked the inquiry, it is open to question whether the White House will pursue a tougher stance towards Russia.

(ii) Seeing that the President and his Republican cabal have consistently debunked the inquiry, it is open to question whether the White House will pursue a tougher stance towards Russia.

S131. Ans.(e)

Sol. All the three starters are feasible enough to form meaningful and contextual sentences without altering the intended meaning of the given two sentences. Hence the option (e) is the correct choice.

(I) Although medical science, neuroscience and psychology can reveal the benefits of forgiveness to our mental, physical, emotional and even spiritual wellbeing, they fail to explain the deep connections that we have with one another and our desire to live in peace and harmony in our communities.

(II) While medical science, neuroscience and psychology can reveal the benefits of forgiveness to our mental, physical, emotional and even spiritual wellbeing, they fail to explain the deep connections that we have with one another and our desire to live in peace and harmony in our communities.

(III) Notwithstanding that medical science, neuroscience and psychology can reveal the benefits of forgiveness to our mental, physical, emotional and even spiritual wellbeing, they fail to explain the deep connections that we have with one another and our desire to live in peace and harmony in our communities.

S132. Ans.(d)

Sol. Statement (I) is not possible with the given starter/connector as it would alter the meaning of the actual sentence. However, the other two statements are possible with the given starters.

(ii) As Mahatma Gandhi inspires the spirit of goodness, one can negotiate all conflicts and constraints with joy and togetherness, freedom of thought and expression and tolerance.

(iii) With the spirit of goodness as Mahatma Gandhi inspires, one can negotiate all conflicts and constraints with joy and togetherness, freedom of thought and expression and tolerance.

S133. 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.

S134. 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.*

S135. Ans.(c)

Sol. Both the starters (i) and (iii) can be used to construct a meaningful sentence. Hence (c) is the correct choice.

(i) *With more and more countries pledging to combat global warming and protecting the environment, the United States has not only pulled out of the 2015 Paris Agreement but has also taken climate change out of its National Security Strategy.*

(iii) *While more and more countries are pledging to combat global warming and protecting the environment, the United States has not only pulled out of the 2015 Paris Agreement but has also taken climate change out of its National Security Strategy.*

S136. Ans.(b)

Sol. "Estrangement" fits the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

Awful- Very bad or unpleasant.

Disgusting, Nasty, Terrible, Dreadful

Estrangement- the fact of no longer being on friendly terms or part of a social group.

Skirmish- An episode of irregular or unpremeditated fighting, especially between small or outlying parts of armies or fleets.

Fight, Battle, Clash, Conflict

Armistice- an agreement made by opposing sides in a war to stop fighting for a certain time; a truce.

S137. Ans.(d)

Sol. "Veneer" fits the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

Veneer- a thin decorative covering of fine wood applied to a coarser wood or other material/ an attractive appearance that covers or disguises someone or something's true nature or feelings.

Standoff- A situation in which agreement in an argument does not seem possible.

Deadlock, Gridlock, Impasse, Logjam

Sociable- willing to talk and engage in activities with other people; friendly.

S138. Ans.(a)

Sol. "Mired" fits the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

Mired- involve someone or something in (a difficult situation).

Truced- A temporary cessation or suspension of hostilities by agreement of the opposing sides; an armistice.

Concurred- be of the same opinion; agree.

S139. Ans.(e)

Sol. "Unforgiving" fits the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

Demarcation- the action of fixing the boundary or limits of something.

Conflagration- an extensive fire which destroys a great deal of land or property.

Contemplate- look thoughtfully for a long time at.

S140. Ans.(c)

Sol. "Instrumentality" fits the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

Instrumentality- the fact or quality of serving as an instrument or means to an end; agency OR a thing which serves as a means to an end.

Inferno- a large fire that is dangerously out of control.

Abandon- cease to support or look after (someone); desert.

Inadvertence- a result of inattention : oversight.

S141. Ans.(d)

Sol. "Endangered" fits the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

Endangered- someone or something at risk or in danger.

Resilient- (of a person or animal) able to withstand or recover quickly from difficult conditions.

Despoiling- stealing or violently removing valuable possessions from; plunder.

S142. Ans.(c)

Sol. "Grappled" fits the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

Grappled- engaged in a close fight or struggle without weapons; wrestle.

Amplified- increase the volume of (sound), especially using an amplifier.

Shirked- avoided or neglected (a duty or responsibility).

Plundered- stealing goods from (a place or person), typically using force and in a time of war or civil disorder.

S143. Ans.(b)

Sol. "cognizance" can replace the highlighted word to make the given sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

Cognizant- having knowledge or awareness.

Cognizance- knowledge or awareness.

Slapdash- done too hurriedly and carelessly.

Punctilious- showing great attention to detail or correct behaviour.

S144. Ans.(c)

Sol. "Lurch" can replace the highlighted word to make the given sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

Lurch- make an abrupt, unsteady, uncontrolled movement or series of movements; stagger.

Frantic- distraught with fear, anxiety, or other emotion.

Inevitable- certain to happen; unavoidable.

Rigorous- extremely thorough and careful.

S145. Ans.(d)

Sol. “**self-abnegation**” can replace the highlighted word to make the given sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

Self-abnegation- the denial or abasement of oneself.

Rudderless- lacking a clear sense of one's aims or principles.

Perpetual- never ending or changing.

Unwary- not cautious of possible dangers or problems.

S146. Ans.(a)

Sol. “**Intervention**” can replace the highlighted word to make the given sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

Intervention- the action or process of intervening OR interference by a state in another's affairs.

Perennial- lasting or existing for a long or apparently infinite time; enduring or continually recurring.

S147. Ans.(b)

Sol. “**Reluctance**” can replace the highlighted word to make the given sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

Reluctance- unwillingness or disinclination to do something.

Divulgence- the action of revealing private or sensitive information.

Uncorroborated- not confirmed or supported by other evidence or information.

Snarl- (of a person) say something in an angry, bad-tempered voice.

OR (of an animal such as a dog) make an aggressive growl with bared teeth.

Entangle- cause to become twisted together with or caught in.

OR involve (someone) in difficulties or complicated circumstances from which it is difficult to escape.

S148. Ans.(c)

Sol. “**Abdication**” can replace the highlighted word to make the given sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

Dismal- causing a mood of gloom or depression.

Abdication- an act of abdicating or renouncing the throne.

Animosity- strong hostility.

Presumptive- of the nature of a presumption; presumed in the absence of further information.

Precarious- not securely held or in position; dangerously likely to fall or collapse.

S149. Ans.(b)

Sol. “**Stellar**” can replace the highlighted word to make the given sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

Perish- die, especially in a violent or sudden way.

Stellar- featuring or having the quality of a star performer or performers.

Unravel- investigate and solve or explain (something complicated or puzzling).

Stranded- left without the means to move from somewhere.

Manoeuvres - a movement or series of moves requiring skill and care.

S150. Ans.(a)

Sol. “**Fulminate**” can replace the highlighted word to make the given sentence both grammatically and contextually correct. Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

Stipulate- demand or specify (a requirement), typically as part of an agreement.

Fulminate- express vehement protest.

Diminutive- extremely or unusually small.

Colossal- extremely large or great.

Vague- of uncertain, indefinite, or unclear character or meaning.

S151. Ans.(b)

Sol. **Option (b)** is the correct choice. **Statements (D) and (A)** can be joined together using the conjunction “**although**” which means *in spite of the fact that; even though*. Sometimes it can also be used interchangeably with *however; but*. Statements (D) and (A) can be put together using although “**Although it is against the rules to use your phone, I spend much of lunch surreptitiously looking up on my phone for translations for “once upon a time” and “total eclipse of the heart”**”. All the other combinations of the statements fail to be connected using “although”.

S152. Ans.(a)

Sol. **Option (a)** is the correct choice. **Statements (B) and (D)** can be joined together using the conjunction “**notwithstanding**” which means *nevertheless; or in spite of this*. The sentence formed using the given conjunction is “**The governor kept interest rates unchanged at 1.5 percent on Tuesday, notwithstanding the improving labor market, wage growth remains low.**” However, Statements (A) and (C) are separate statements which can't be connected with any of the given statements.

S153. Ans.(c)

Sol. **Option (c)** is the correct choice. **Statements (C) and (D)** can be linked together using the phrasal conjunction “**as much as**”. “**As much as**” is a phrasal conjunction used for comparison of uncountable objects; it can also be used in place of “**even though**”. The sentence thus formed is “**Charlie Chaplin was an English comic actor, filmmaker, and composer who became known for his shooting as much as fifty times the amount of film footage necessary in order to satisfy his artistic vision.**” Other given statements couldn't be joined together using “**as much as**” as there are no two similar objects for comparison.

S154. Ans.(b)

Sol. Option (b) is the correct choice. **Statements (A) and (C)** can be joined to form a coherent sentence using the conjunction “rather than”. **“Rather than”** is a *phrasal conjunction used with the infinitive form of a verb to indicate negation as a contrary choice or wish*. The sentence thus formed combining statements (A) and (C) is “David Vincent Akins the 38-year old who was convicted last week of four counts of aggravated sexual assault of a child opted to let a judge rather than a jury render his punishment.” Other statements are additional information on the David Vincent’s case but they can’t be connected with each other using the given conjunction.

S155. Ans.(a)

Sol. Option (a) is the correct choice. **Statements (A) and (B)** can be joined together using the conjunction “however”. **‘However’** is an *adverb, which is a word that modifies a verb, adjective, or group of words*. The adverb however has several different useful purposes in a sentence, as it can join ideas together, to include an aside, or to mean ‘in whatever manner’. Thus, the sentence then formed using statements (A) and (B) is “**Since 2007-08 India and Pakistan have not played a full bilateral series however Pakistan toured India for a short limited-overs series in 2012-13.**” The other statements fail to form a sentence together using “however”.

S156. Ans.(d)

Sol. Statements (A) and (D) can be joined together to form a coherent sentence. Conjunction “**while**” is used to *denote a same period of time; it is also sometimes used to show a contrast between the two clauses or phrases of a sentences*. Here, “**while**” is used to show an ongoing activity at the same period of time. The sentence thus formed using the conjunction “while” is “**while such an attack and its aftermath would not derail our eventual arrival at the next golden age, it quite possibly would delay it.**” However, the other two statements i.e., **statements (B) and (C)** describe about the similar topic but they cannot be adjoined together using the given conjunction. Hence, option (d) is the correct choice.

S157. Ans.(d)

Sol. Option (d) is the correct choice. Only **statements (B) and (D)** can be adjoined together using the conjunction “unless”. “**Unless**” is used to express *except if (used to introduce the case in which a statement being made is not true or valid)*. Statement (B) is giving a situation which can be supported by a condition which is provided in statement (D). Thus, the sentence formed using the conjunction is “**An extraordinary album of photographs by the Victorian pioneer Julia Margaret Cameron will leave the UK unless a buyer with £3.7m can be found.**” Hence, as the sentence formed using statements (B) and (D) is coherent and apprehensible, thus making option (d) the most suitable choice of answer.

S158. Ans.(a)

Sol. Option (a) is the correct choice. **Statements (A) and (B)** can be joined together using the conjunction “even though”. “**even though**” is used to express *despite the fact that*. Therefore, the sentence thus formed is “**Trial judge Michael Cozens, who had also considered a conditional discharge, had focused on Josie’s daily marijuana use when sentencing her, even though it was not an issue raised by either the Crown or defence.**”

S159. Ans.(e)

Sol. Option (e) is the correct choice. Statements (A) and (C) and Statements (B) and (D) can be joined together to form coherent sentences using the conjunction “whereupon”. “**whereupon**” is a *phrasal conjunction which means immediately after which*. Thus, the sentence formed using **statements (A) and (C)** is “**The smith laments that all his property is of no value now that his watchman is slain, whereupon the young hero offers to guard his domains until a whelp of the hound has grown.**” While using **statements (B) and (D)** the sentence thus formed is “**Henry Smith was just two years old when his father died, whereupon the death of henry’s father his mother left Ireland for England.**” Hence option (e) becomes the most suitable choice of answer.

S160. Ans.(d)

Sol. Option (d) is the correct choice. **Statements (A) and (D)** can form a single sentence using the conjunction “**As soon as**”. **As soon as** is *almost always followed immediately by a noun or adjective. It is used to express a situation when something occurs immediately after the other thing*. Thus, the sentence formed with the **statements (A) and (D)** is “**The semi-public company Petrobras has promised to start paying dividends to shareholders again, as soon as it returns to profit after being hit by several scandals in recent years.**” Hence, with the above rationale, option (d) becomes the most suitable choice.

S161. Ans.(c)

Sol. “But” is used to introduce a phrase or clause contrasting with what has already been mentioned. Thus among the given connectors, only ‘but’ logically connects the two statements forming a comprehensive sentence. The sentence formed is “**China just finished its first EPR reactor but it was five years late and about double the budget.**” All the other connectors fail to join the statements coherently. Hence, option (c) is the most suitable answer choice.

S162. Ans.(e)

Sol. “Even if” means despite the possibility that; no matter whether. Thus among the given connectors, only ‘even if’ logically connects the two statements forming a comprehensive sentence. The sentence formed is “**Even if President Trump periodically disparages an ally, US strategy will inevitably expand its alliances in the coming years.**” All the other connectors fail to join the statements coherently. Hence, option (e) is the most suitable answer choice.

S163. Ans.(a)

Sol. "Because" means for the reason that; since. Thus among the given connectors, only 'because' logically connects the two statements forming a comprehensive sentence. The sentence formed is **"It is certain that I cannot always distinguish my own thoughts from those I read, because what I read becomes the very substance and texture of my mind."** All the other connectors fail to join the statements coherently. Hence, option (a) is the most suitable answer choice.

S164. Ans.(a)

Sol. "Lest" means in order to prevent any possibility that something will happen. Thus among the given connectors, only 'lest' logically connects the two statements forming a comprehensive sentence. The sentence formed is **"It is best to carry your medicines and valuables on the airplane with you, lest your checked bags get lost and you lose important items."** All the other connectors fail to join the statements coherently. Hence, option (a) is the most suitable answer choice.

S165. Ans.(b)

Sol. When using not only . . . but also in a sentence, parallelism should be the goal. It means that the words following both parts of this correlative conjunction. However, to add emphasis, we can use not only at the beginning of a clause. When we do this, we invert the subject and the verb. The sentence formed is **"Not only did Emily start playing the piano before she could speak, but her mother taught her to compose music at a very early age."** All the other connectors fail to join the statements coherently. Hence, option (b) is the most suitable answer choice.

S166. Ans.(d)

Sol. Replace 'wait' by 'waiting' as Gerund (Verb+ ing) is used after 'keep, mind, can't help'.

Example. Will you mind my **coming** late?

They can't help **laughing** at him when they see him.

(Note: A Gerund is a verb form which functions as a noun and it ends in 'ing')

S167. Ans.(d)

Sol. Use 'one' in place of 'a'. 'Seven rupees' has been used in the sentence in which 'seven' is a numerical adjective therefore 'one' will be used with 'rupee', not 'a'.

(Note: Adjective are the words use to describe the noun)

S168. Ans.(b)

Sol. 'the attention' will be used in place of 'an attention' as here 'attention' is certain. Remember that in the construction 'Noun+ of+ Noun', 'the' is used before 'Noun' which is before 'of'.

Example. **The** attention of the boys. (attention and boys are noun)

The life of this man. (Life and man are noun)

(Note: Article 'The' is used to refer to specific or particular nouns whereas 'a/ an' is used to modify non- specific or non- particular noun.)

S169. Ans.(e)

Sol. The sentence is grammatically correct.

S170. Ans.(b)

Sol. 'at' or 'on' will be used after 'firing' because 'fire+ at/on + somebody/ something' is the correct use.

Example. Raghu **fired at/ on** the tiger.

The Police started **firing at/ on** the crowd.

S171. Ans.(b)

Sol. Replace 'at which' by 'where'. Preposition 'to' or 'at' is not used after verb 'reach' but 'adverb of Place' is used.

Example. I **reached Delhi** around 9.

She has **reached where** she wanted.

S172. Ans.(c)

Sol. The use of 'rather' is superfluous as only 'than' is used after comparative degree (more).

Example. He speaks **more** clearly **than** you.

S173. Ans.(c)

Sol. 'Has fallen' will be used in place of 'has been fallen' as there is no passive form of intransitive verb (fall).

(Note: Verbs are of two types namely transitive verbs and intransitive verbs. Transitive verbs need an object while Intransitive verbs cannot have an object. Ex. "I bought a car" in which 'bought' is transitive. "The Baby smiled", 'smiled' is an intransitive verb)

S174. Ans.(a)

Sol. Replace 'When he used to walk' with 'while he was walking'. For the two incidents of past, if one continues and the other one has happened, then past continuous tense is used for the former and simple past for latter.

Example. While I **was walking** along the road, a mad dog attacked me.

S175. Ans.(e)

Sol. The sentence is grammatically correct.

S176. Ans.(c)

Sol. Option (i) is grammatically incorrect. Use 'brother' in place of 'brothers' as after 'One of' we use a plural noun.



S177. Ans.(a)

Sol. (ii) Use 'were' in place of 'was' as the subject is 'all the people' which is plural.

(iii) Use 'since' in place of 'for' as 'since' is used for 'point of time' and 'for' is used for 'period of time'.

S178. Ans.(b)

Sol. (i) Use 'these kinds' in place of 'these kind' as 'these' is plural after which plural noun must be used.

(ii) Use 'have' in place of 'has' as the subject "the recent changes" is plural.

S179. Ans.(b)

Sol. (i) 'not different from that of' will be used as the comparison is not between two people but with their suggestion.

(iii) The use of 'study' is superfluous.

S180. Ans.(d)

Sol. (iii) 'was prepared to' will be used in place of 'has prepared to' as the given sentence is an indirect narration whose reporting verb 'declared' is in past tense and therefore the reported speech will also be in past tense.

(ii) Use 'brought him' in place of 'brought with him'.

Bring, buy, give + Indirect Object + Direct Object.

(i) Use 'have been living' in place of 'are living' as the sentence must be in present perfect continuous due to the use of "for the last five years."

S181. Ans.(c)

Sol. Use public opinion in place of 'public's opinion' as public/hostel/city are used both as noun and as adjective and the use of 's' with it is incorrect.

S182. Ans.(d)

Sol. Here 'work' is used as an uncountable noun. The use of 'an' before 'urgent' is incorrect. Use 'some' in place of 'an' or we can use it like this "a piece of urgent work"

S183. Ans.(d)

Sol. The error is in part (d) of the sentence. Use 'is' in place of 'are' as the subject of the sentence is 'the idea' which is singular.

S184. Ans.(a)

Sol. The error is in part (a) of the sentence. Use 'it appears' in place of 'It is appearing' as when 'appear' is used to mean 'seem' then it is used in simple tense and not in continuous tense.

S185. Ans.(b)

Sol. The error is in part (b) of the sentence. Use 'many' in place of 'much' because 'much' is a quantitative adjective after which uncountable noun is used.

S186. Ans.(b)

Sol. Remove 'to' after but as after any form of 'do' if but is used to mean 'except' and if a verb is used after it then the verb is used without 'to'.

S187. Ans.(b)

Sol. 'Enough' will be used after 'kind' as when enough is used as adverb of quantity then enough is always used after the adjective or adverb.

S188. Ans.(b)

Sol. 'Whether' will be used after 'if' which can be figured out by the use of 'or' that construction is based on 'whether.....or'.

S189. Ans.(e)

Sol. There is no error in the given statement.

S190. Ans.(e)

Sol. There is no error in the given statement

S191. Ans.(c)

Sol. Option (c) is the correct choice for the given question as the correct sequence is BACD. Statement (E) is incorrect and inconsistent if we are considering the theme of the statements. BACD is correct and is meaningful.

S192. Ans.(d)

Sol. Option (d) CABD is a correct choice as it is making a meaningful sentence. Comprehension means understanding so the statement is discussing that the refusal of the central government (which is what) to appreciate the legal point is difficult to understand. CABD forms a coherent meaningful sentence.

S193. Ans.(b)

Sol. Option (b) is the correct choice for the given question. The use of statement (E) makes it necessary to use a statement which implies that we require a system which considers every aspect of the society.

S194. Ans.(b)

Sol. Option (b) is the correct choice for the given question. Part (E) is incorrect as mandate means an official order or commission to do something while the sentence as the whole is discussing the feature of globalization which led to the trade deficit.

S195. Ans.(d)

Sol. Option (d) is the correct choice for the question. BEDC is the correct sequence. Part (A) is not in harmony with the theme of the sentence. Marginalization means treatment of a person, group, or concept as insignificant or peripheral.

S196. Ans.(d)

Sol. 'was' will be used in place of 'were' as the subject of the sentence 'the colour' is singular.

S197. Ans.(b)

Sol. Use 'was' instead of 'were'

S198. Ans.(d)

Sol. Use 'was' in place of 'were' because if two subjects get connected 'with, along with, together with', then verb is used according to the subject close to it.

Ex. Mohini together with her parents is...

S199. Ans.(a)

Sol. 'at' is the correct use in place of 'upon' as 'look at' means to glance or gaze in a manner specified.

S200. Ans.(d)

Sol. 'a' will be used in place of 'its'.

