

Paragraph Completion

As the name suggests, our job is to complete the paragraph: one sentence will be omitted from a paragraph, and from the options given to us, we have to pick which one completes the given paragraph most appropriately and coherently. This sounds easy, but the passages are picked precisely and options are given specifically to make sure that the comprehension skills of the students are checked properly. So, you just need to be able to comprehend well what you read. If you are a good reader, these questions should be easy for you.

A paragraph completion question will be made from a paragraph, which would have been randomly picked from an article or story. One of the sentences would have been deleted and the wrong options will complete the set of four choices given to pick from.

In these questions, it is important to keep in mind that the deleted sentence would have been written by the same author who has written the rest of the paragraph, so it is essential to understand the subject and purpose of the passage. Knowing how the information is flowing in the passage, and the kind of tone the author has, is also very important. You can say it is all about maintaining the continuity of the paragraph with your choice of the option, and making sure that the sentence you pick is in a way, in-line or parallel to the sentences before/after it.

TERMINOLOGY

(1) Scope

The sentence you pick to complete the paragraph, has to maintain and be within the scope of the given passage. Scope loosely refers to the subject of the passage, and what is discussed or talked about there. It basically refers to the limits or the areas in which something operates, and remains in the context. For example – If the passage is discussing or is based on anthropology, then a sentence which is on solar energy would be deemed far-fetched or out of context. That is always a great and efficient way to eliminate options, but make sure that there is no chance of a relation, even an indirect one.

(2) Scale

Scale directly refers to the limits of the passage, or the subject talked about. For example, if the passage mentions only pollution in the city, then a sentence referring to the pollution in country, is unlikely to be the right option. But there is still a chance that it could be, if the author means to refer to a larger context.

(3) Continuity

Maintaining continuity means making sure that the flow of information is maintained. The correct sentence would do just that, i.e. the sentence which will correctly complete the paragraph would never look or sound 'out of place', and it will not lead to any abruptness while reading the passage. The sentence which will appropriately complete the sentence will always either maintain the thought or take it forward. It would not sway from what has already been mentioned.

(4) Tone

Tone refers to the way in which something is written or said. There could be several different tones, and it is essential to grasp the tone in which the writer wrote this paragraph. For example, is the author being critical or supportive about the subject? If the passage is just a plain descriptive one, then you may rule out the sentence which has the critical tone.

TYPES OF QUESTIONS

Basically, there are two types of these questions:

- (i) *Parentetical Question*: This type has a paragraph with a missing sentence. The sentence is from the middle of the paragraph or anywhere near that. This normally divides the paragraph in two and leaves the students with two sub-paragraphs that have to be joined with a fitting sentence.

- (ii) *Logical Completion of the Paragraph*: This is a variation of the parenthetical question type. The only thing here is that the missing sentence is from the bottom of the paragraph. Simply speaking, it is the last sentence of the paragraph, thereby the name.

HOW TO SOLVE

If you are a good or avid reader, then you can just go with the flow: read the paragraph and pick the option which best suits the given passage. But, there still exists a way, or approach you can follow in tackling the paragraph completion questions:

- (i) Try to get the central meaning, subject or the theme of the given passage after a quick read of it.
- (ii) From where the sentence is missing, see how the flow of passage can be maintained. That would go a long way in deciding the right option.
- (iii) If the missing sentence is the last one of the passage, focus on finding how the given passage can be summed up, or summarised.
- (iv) After you have selected the option, then a nice way to verify your choice is by giving the passage another quick read, only this time with the sentence you have chosen. If the continuity and theme of the passage is correctly maintained, then you have probably chosen the right option.

TIPS

As we have mentioned already, these questions would test your reading and comprehending skills. So, being a good reader will help you a lot. There are a few tips and tricks which can aid you in finding the right choice.

- (i) Underline the keyword, as they would remind you of the subject and gist of the passage while picking the answer.
- (ii) You can rule out the option which does not seem to have any relation to the given passage. It might just be there to see if you have interpreted the given passage correctly or not.
- (iii) The pronoun-antecedent rule can also work very well here.
- (iv) The last sentence of the passage (if not omitted) can be very important in selecting the right option, as it often summarises or concludes the given paragraph. Hence, you can get to know the gist of the paragraph from there.
- (v) You can rule out the option which is just repeating what has already been mentioned in the passage. Again, it would be there just to see if you have understood the passage.

COMMON MISTAKES

- (i) *Not reading the sentence which follows the blank or missing sentence*: knowing the flow of information, or the direction in which the paragraph is heading after the missing sentence, is in fact crucial in picking the right answer.
- (ii) *Picking the answer without reading the entire paragraph*: options are always formed to trick you into picking the answer just after reading the sentence before and after the missing one. But to pick the right answer, you need to know the central idea and the context of the passage. Hence, a full reading of the paragraph is required.
- (iii) *Not following consistency*: the option you will pick must ensure that the consistency of the passage is maintained and that the chosen sentence does not lead to any abruptness while reading.

SKILLS REQUIRED

- (i) *Logical thinking*: Being able to link up the thoughts quickly and with precision is very important here.
- (ii) *Well read*: Being well read gives you a familiarity with the writing skills of different authors and helps in finding out a proper missing sentence.

THEME BASED PASSAGES

“Theme Passages” form an important part of most management entrance tests. They cannot be taken lightly by anyone interested in ensuring a high score in the entrance tests.

Essentials for solving passages

- (i) Acute and focused reading habits.
- (ii) Focus on varied and multidimensional themes for reading.
- (iii) Focus on qualitative reading.
- (iv) A well developed vocabulary.
- (v) An overall attitude of a ‘GO-GETTER’.

How to go about it? The Process...

- (i) Read the passage with intense concentration.
- (ii) While reading, by using ellipses (leaving out words) you can get rid of unwanted words, making the passage more concise.
- (iii) By compression of words, the ideas also get compressed.
- (iv) This exercise brings out just a few emphatic words, may be in a phrase or a sentence, which form the theme.
- (v) Now with the theme analysed, you can very easily select the nearest correct option out of the choices given.

BEGINNER TO MASTERY

Example 1.

How does the **underlined** part of a sentence in the given passage relate to what has been mentioned just before and after it?

“With those words, the passenger opened the coach-door and got in; not at all assisted by his fellow-passengers, **who had expeditiously secreted their watches and purses in their boots, and were now making a general pretence of being asleep.** With no more definite purpose than to escape the hazard of originating any other kind of action.”

Explanation A probable answer could be: Information conveyed before the **underlined** sentence: the given passage starts by mentioning that a passenger entered and he/she was not aided by the other passengers. Antecedent for pronouns who and their is ‘fellow passengers’. The underlined section now explains the state of those fellow passengers, or what they did or what their state was. The information after this **underlined** section says what their purpose was behind doing what they did.

Example 2.

Find the relationship the underlined part of the given passage has with the information conveyed before and after it.

The young collector should remember that what is worth doing at all is worth doing well, and that the care bestowed upon his cabinet is not labour in vain; habits of exactness and precision of arrangement are absolutely necessary if he would make the best use of the materials **which come in his way; and, above all, never let him** degenerate into the mere collector: his collection should be for use, and not merely ornamental.

Explanation A probable answer could be: The section which come in his way means that he need to make best use of the material that he gets or get to make use of, i.e. the author is describing or mentioning how a young collector should be, and it does sound like a suggestion, hence make sure that the verb would be come and not came. The semi colon after in his way indicated that two related clauses of a sentence have been separated. It is not compulsory to use it but it sure helps in forming a clear and cohesive sentence. The antecedent of the pronoun which is materials; whereas the singular pronouns his and him refer to the young collector. 'Above all' is an idiom which means most importantly. So this idiom is introducing something which is most important.

Example 3.

How does the **underlined** sentence of the given passage act as a concluding sentence?

It must be remembered that the people of Central America are no longer an uneducated and unduly excitable race, except, perhaps, where their personal honour and independence are concerned; they possess an exceedingly clear and precise knowledge of their prospective or immediate requirements; they have as enlightened leaders among them as ever their powerful Northern neighbour possessed or possesses: all that they ask, and all that they should be granted, is the freedom to manage their own affairs in their own way and in their own time. A well-known writer upon Central America, who visited these countries some five-and-fifty years ago, declared: "Even as it was no one, whatever his prejudices, could fail to perceive the advance in the manners and customs, and the change in the spirit, of the people of Central America during the ten years of freedom which the Constitution secured." If that was true then, it is doubly, trebly true to-day, when education and foreign travel have served to open the minds and broaden the tolerance of these people, who may reasonably be permitted, and even earnestly encouraged, to work out their own salvation. By free and unrestricted intercourse with the nations of the world this can best be effected, and **day by day is proving the truth of the saying of Dr. Johnson: "The use of travelling is to regulate imagination by reality, and, instead of thinking how things may be, see them as they are."**

Explanation A probable answer could be: Author in the given passage is saying that Central American nations have evolved, and improved. The beliefs or how people thought these nations were, is no longer true. Author states that the way in which these nations are looked at and perceived has changed due to education and tourism. Foreign people have visited these countries and actually seen how these countries are in reality, and this point has been strengthened or referred to by a thought of Dr. Johnson.

Example 4.

It has been great to see Sachin play for so many years. The contribution he has made to the Indian cricket is truly unparalleled, you only need to look at his records to say that. Indians

Give the most appropriate completion of this paragraph/sentence.

Explanation As we can see, the author is praising Sachin and it seems as if he is a fan of his too. So, the way to complete this sentence would be to either say what Indians should do for him (which would refer to praising and showing how good he is or has been) or how Indians think he is (author would probably give a positive opinion, to strengthen his point of view that Indians also think that). For example – Indians consider him as their role model.

Example 5.

Modern art is one of those things which would bring different opinions: some like it, and some think, well to be polite, they reckon it is a waste of time and money. I think that it is a mystical art – one that can only be appreciated by the ones who can understand it. It is special also in the way that you will only be able to realise how good it is once you can see what the painter had in mind and what he painted – not many can do that. So, we can say..

Complete the concluding sentence of the given paragraph:

Explanation It seems as though the author does like Modern art, but he also recognises the fact that not many like it. And our concluding sentence would reflect that. For example – it is a unique form of art, also in terms of how divided the opinions are on it.

DIRECTIONS (Example 6 to 12): Each of the following questions has some part missing. Choose the one that completes it in the most appropriate way.

Example 6.

Many people suggest and still others would like to convince people not to buy pirated cassettes.

- (a) to bring down audiocassette prices to reduce the incidence of music piracy, others advocate strong legal action against the offenders.
- (b) bringing down audiocassette prices to reduce the incidents of music piracy, others are advocating strong legal action against offenders.
- (c) bringing down audiocassette prices to reduce the incidence of music piracy, others advocate strong legal action against offenders.
- (d) audiocassette prices to be brought down to reduce incidence of music piracy, others advocate that strong legal action must be taken against offenders.

Explanation Option (c). According to the parallelism rule, the two actions that we have in the sentence should be in the same form, either the gerund form or the 'to ... infinitive' form. Thus, with 'many people suggest...', the correct form of the phrase would be 'others advocate that...'

Example 7.

The audiences for crosswords and Sudoku, understandably, overlap greatly, but there are differences, too. A crossword attracts a more literary person, while Sudoku appeals to a keenly logical mind. Some crossword enthusiasts turn up their noses at Sudoku because they feel it lacks depth. A good crossword requires vocabulary, knowledge, mental flexibility and sometimes even a sense of humour to complete. It touches numerous areas of life and provides an "Aha!" or two along the way

- (a) Sudoku, on the other hand, is just a logical exercise, each one similar to the last.
- (b) Sudoku, incidentally, is growing faster in popularity than crosswords, even among the literati.
- (c) Sudoku, on the other hand, can be attempted and enjoyed even by children.
- (d) Sudoku, however, is not exciting in any sense of the term.

Explanation (a); The given paragraph is about two games: Sudoku and Crossword, and what kinds of people like playing these games. The author seems to be the one who reckons Crossword is a superior or better game.

Looking at the options, we have to pick how would the author conclude what the game of Sudoku is and considering that he seems biased towards crosswords, the paragraph's conclusion will reflect that crosswords are a superior game. Hence, we can rule out options (b) and (c).

Now, option (a) begins with 'On the other hand' which is used to introduce a contrastive clause or phrase, and it says that Sudoku is just a logical game, and that is it, there are not many facets or aspects of it. It can be inferred that it is a logical game, because the author already stated in the paragraph that Sudoku is preferred by logical minds. It clearly undervalues Sudoku and puts Crossword in a better light.

Example 8.

I am sometimes attacked for imposing 'rules'. Nothing could be further from the truth. I hate rules. All I do is report on how consumers react to different stimuli. I may say to a copywriter, "Research shows that commercials with celebrities are below average in persuading people to buy products. Are you sure you want to use a celebrity?" Call that a rule? Or I may say to an art director, "Research suggests that if you set the copy in black type on a white background, more people will read it than if you set it in white type on a black background."

- (a) Guidance based on applied research can hardly qualify as 'rules'.
- (b) Thus, all my so called 'rules' are rooted in applied research.
- (c) A suggestion perhaps, but scarcely a rule.
- (d) Such principles are unavoidable if one wants to be systematic about consumer behaviour.
- (e) Fundamentally it is about consumer behaviour - not about celebrities or type settings.

Explanation (c); The author in the paragraph is saying that he is wrongly accused of being someone who imposes rules. According to him, he just reports the truth and facts. Now, we have to pick a statement which best concludes what the author has to say. With the examples the author gives, it can be inferred that he just gives suggestions or guidance after doing some analysis. We have to pick what he would have to say after giving that second example. In the second example, he uses a research to back up his opinion that and offers some suggestion to the art director. So, the most appropriate option would be (c) because with this the author clearly mentions that this example can be considered a suggestion, but never a rule. While picking the option, it is important to note that the

author never admitted that he gives suggestions either, he states that 'all I do is report' and this is why option (a) would not be deemed appropriate.

Example 9.

Relations between the factory and the dealer are distant and usually strained as the factory tries to force cars on the dealers to smooth out production. Relations between the dealer and the customer are equally strained because dealers continuously adjust prices - make deals - to adjust demand with supply while maximizing profits. This becomes a system marked by a lack of long-term commitment on either side, which maximizes feelings of mistrust. In order to maximize their bargaining positions, everyone holds back information - the dealer about the product and the consumer about his true desires

- (a) As a result, 'deal making' becomes rampant, without concern for customer satisfaction.
- (b) As a result, inefficiencies creep into the supply chain.
- (c) As a result, everyone treats the other as an adversary, rather than as an ally.
- (d) As a result, fundamental innovations are becoming scarce in the automobile industry.
- (e) As a result, everyone loses in the long run.

Explanation (e); The given paragraph basically describes how relations are between the factory and the dealer, and between the dealer and the customer. It says that the relations between factory and dealers are not cordial, because factories try to impose cars on the dealers or force them to accept cars as the factory tries to clear out the cars they have produced to make sure there is a smooth manufacturing process. The relationship between dealers and consumers is strained too because the main concern of the dealers is to maximize the profits, and to ensure that, they vary prices according to demands. So dealers hold back information about the cars to make sure they earn good money, and the consumers hold back and the consumers also contribute to this cordial relationship by not revealing their true wishes. Consumers also try to haggle in order to make sure they get the car at a good price. So, the author gives three reasons as to why these relations are not friendly: they do not want or strive for long-term commitment, they just want to make the best out of the present condition for themselves and this leads to mistrust amongst them as they are never keen on building friendly relations and are just concerned about their selfish purpose. The third reason is that they hide the information which should be shared. Now, the options suggest that we have to decide what happens as a result of all these things, or what all this leads to. Option (e) is the most appropriate as it states that this would lead to a loss in the long term, because logically, such relations would not last long and would always be determined by selfishness. Option (a) is wrong, because it does not conclude the paragraph. It only refers to the relationship between the consumer and the dealer. Option (b) can be ruled out in the same way because it only refers to what happens due to a strained relationship between the factory and the dealers. Option (d) is wrong, because it would not be appropriate that everyone considers each other as their enemies. In fact, others are looked at means to satisfy selfish interests.

Example 10.

The ancient Egyptians believed so that when these objects were magically reanimated through the correct rituals, they would be able to function effectively.

- (a) that it was essential that things they portrayed must have every relevant feature shown as clearly as possible.
- (b) it was essential for things they portray to have had every relevant feature shown as clearly as possible.
- (c) it was essential the things they portrayed had every relevant feature shown as clearly as possible.
- (d) that when they portrayed things, it should have every relevant feature shown as clearly as possible.

Explanation Option (a) is most appropriate one. Option (b) uses the wrong verb tense. Option (c) is awkwardly worded. Option (d) uses the wrong pronoun (it) for the subject (things).

Example 11.

Archaeologists believe that the pieces of red-ware pottery excavated recently near Bhavnagar and shed light on a hitherto dark 600-year period in the Harappan history of Gujarat.

- (a) estimated with a reasonable certainty as being about 3400 years old,
- (b) are estimated reasonably certain to be about 3400 years old,
- (c) estimated at about 3400 years old with reasonable certainty,
- (d) estimated with reasonable certainty to be about 3400 years old.

Explanation (a); The correct option would use the modifier 'with reasonable certainty' correctly. This is done in two options: (a) and (d). Option (d) has a mistake that it uses a 'period' at the end, whence the correct option cannot do so (the missing part is not a complete sentence in itself and the later part of the sentence depends on this missing one). Thus, option (a) is the correct one.

Example 12.

Thus the end of knowledge and the closing of the frontier that it symbolises is not a looming crisis at all, but merely one of many embarrassing fits of hubris in civilization's long industry. In the end, it will pass away and be forgotten. Ours is not the first generation to struggle to understand the organizational laws of the frontier, deceive itself that it has succeeded, and go to its grave

having failed.

- (a) One would be wise to be humble.
- (b) But we might be the first generation to actually reach the frontier.
- (c) But we might be the first generation to deal with the crisis.
- (d) However, this time the success is not illusory.

Explanation (a); This is a simple one if you read carefully. It can be seen that the paragraph talks about the end of knowledge and the closing of the frontier that it symbolises. It says that this is an event that keeps repeating over the course of years. Thus, any sentence that starts with a 'but' or 'however' would be contrary to what we need. Thus, all options except option (a) can be negated.

Example 13.

The waterholes of Africa serve as the great meeting point of the prey and the predator. The prey, exhausted after the day's hectic grazing seeks the cool water and the predator seeks the prey's blood. Extremely tense situations develop at these sites and herds of nervous herbivores can be seen fidgeting and thinking twice before venturing close to the waterholes. Those who dare, though, reap a rich reward in the form of the thirst quencher. However, it must not be forgotten that death always lurks nearby in ominous forms.

Select the option which represents the theme of above paragraph.

- (a) Africa is a dangerous place to be in.
- (b) The waterholes are meant specially for the predators.
- (c) Life and death reside simultaneously at the African waterholes.
- (d) Herbivores and carnivores are nature's way of maintaining balance.

Explanation (c). The passage reveals the fact that in the waterholes of Africa, the prey and the predator meet each other. Here, the prey is in search of cold water and the predator seeks the prey's blood. This creates an atmosphere of death for the herds of herbivorous animals who are thirsty enough to go close to the waterhole. Option (c) is correct as it best suits the theme of the passage. Option (a) is incorrect as one cannot derive that conclusion from the passage. Option (b) is incorrect as the waterholes are meant for the prey and the predator both. Option (d) is incorrect as it is not mentioned anywhere in the passage.

Example 14.

Intelligence probably depends on the efficiency of the electrical circuits in the brain, on being able to try out many connections quickly and select the best. Like memory, intelligence will probably be susceptible to improvement by drugs – the idea of an "intelligence pill" has been suggested so often that it is becoming more than a joke. We are unlikely ever to produce a drug for transforming a moron into a genius, but a pill to improve intelligence may well be feasible. Rats clever at threading mazes apparently have more cholinesterase in their brains than duller rats; so intelligent and dull humans may have significant differences in the chemical compositions of their brain fluids. If so, the dull ones might be made much brighter with the right mixture.

Select the option which represents the theme of above paragraph.

- (a) Drugs to partially cure poor intelligence in humans are feasible.
- (b) Intelligence can be tremendously boosted by improving the electrical circuits in the human brain by using the proper drugs.
- (c) The experiment on rats shows for sure that human intelligence follows an analogous path.
- (d) Drugs to cure poor intelligence are impossible to make but ridiculous attempts have been made.

Explanation (a). The passage depicts the fact that intelligence of a person depends on the level of efficiency of the electrical circuits of the brain. It is reasonable enough to improve intelligence by the use of drugs. The difference in the chemical composition of a dull and intelligent human being is quite obvious. Option (a) is correct as it best suits the theme of the passage. Option (b) is incorrect as it is not mentioned anywhere in the passage. Option (c) is incorrect as it can't be inferred directly from the passage. Option (d) is incorrect as the passage does not mention anywhere that the drug to cure poor intelligence is impossible to make.

Example 15.

Despite the multiple risks venture capitalists take, they have to kowtow to a punishing tax-regime. What irks the VC community is that while mutual funds are totally exempted, VCFs are required to pay maximum marginal tax. Following an outcry, it has been decided that VCs would be allowed to set off losses in one invested company against profit in another, as an income tax sop. Faced with difficulties in raising funds, VCFs are also demanding that pension funds, insurance companies and mutual funds be allowed to invest about five percent of their corpus in VCFs with a proven track record, on the lines of the US and other developed countries.

Select the option which represents the theme of above paragraph.

- (a) VCFs are roughing it out with mutual funds and insurance companies to survive.
- (b) VCFs are having a hard time with adverse government policies.
- (c) VCFs are dying in the harsh industrial climate in the country.
- (d) VCFs with their professional attitude can sustain it.

Explanation (b). The passage discusses the issue that VCFs are having a hard time with adverse government policies. Option (b) is correct as it best suits the theme of the passage. Options (a) and (c) are incorrect as they have not been mentioned anywhere in the passage. Option (d) is incorrect as it is inappropriate in the given context.

Practice Exercise

LEVEL-I

DIRECTIONS (Qs. 1-30): In each of the following questions a short passage is given with one of the lines in the passage missing and represented by a blank. Select the best from the given options to make the passage complete and coherent.

1. There are many industries where India has an advantage because of relatively lower costs of all forms of manpower—whether it is professional or factory labour. However, while this can give initial advantage, it should not be taken for an enduring advantage due to the following reasons. One, as products become more sophisticated, labour as cost factor becomes less and less important. Two, the differences in costs are narrowed down through higher level of automation. There, in processes that require large number of cheap labour, the industry is bound to shift its operation along. The line of the ever-declining scale of poorer countries. So a poorer country than India can eventually overtake us with yet cheaper labour. Therefore, when one has established an export market on the basis of cheaper manpower.....
 - (a) One has to be vigilant to make sure that one builds up other advantages to compensate for the inevitable loss of this temporary advantage.
 - (b) One has to be vigilant to make sure that this advantage should not be given away
 - (c) One needs not be vigilant as there is no competition in near future
 - (d) There is need of caution to see the variations in labour charges of other countries
2. Standards and standardization, quality systems, certification and inspections, measurement systems, testing laboratories, their accreditation and calibration service, production and supply of standard reference materials etc, are all important building blocks. Quality control through the agency of the Export Inspection Agency leaves much to be desired. It is often alleged that EIA is actually playing a retrograde role, although inadvertently.
 - (I) The list of items subject to compulsory export inspection needs be reviewed and shortened. A trimmer EIA list essential for a modicum of efficiency.
 - (II) EIA should use international agencies to train people and update the equipment available for those limited items.(III)The quality development process need be professionalised by making use of quality development skills and managerial methods available around the world. Overall, per-export inspection needs to be greatly simplified, both in the interests of speedier clearance and less harassment for the exporters as well as better administration.
 - (a) EIA is to be scrapped and new council should be made with following improvements.
 - (b) This is happening in absence from a guiding international agency which can suggest a number of measures.
 - (c) This needs to be corrected.
 - (d) EIA is short of experience and therefore such a negative effect.
3. The International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank and the International Trade Organisation were conceived at the Breton Woods Conference in July, 1944 as institutions to strengthen international economic cooperation and to help create a more stable and prosperous global economy. While the IMF and the World Bank come into existence and started functioning from 1946, the International Trade Organization could not be set up. Instead, the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT) was set up in 1947. Through successive round of negotiations, the GATT got transformed into what has come to be known as the World Trade Organization (WTO) that started functioning from January 1, 1995. The various institutions have set up to govern international economic relations. While all the institutions work in close coordination with each other.....
 - (a) Each of the institutions is independent
 - (b) Each of these institutions works with different focus in different direction
 - (c) Each of these institutions has its own specific area of responsibilities
 - (d) Each of these institutions has major role to play in each other's work
4. ADB finances principally specific projects in the region. It may make loans to or invest in the projects concerned. It may also guarantee loans granted to the projects. Most of the loans granted are hard loans or tied loans. However, loans form special funds set aside by the ADB up to 10 per cent of its paid-up capital are granted under soft loan term for which purpose is has set up a separate window known as the Asian Development Fund (ADF).Soft loans are normally granted to projects of high development priority requiring longer periods of repayment with lower rates of interest. ADB normally finances foreign exchange cost of the project and the loan is repayable in the currency in which it is made. India has been eligible for assistance both under the ADB and its soft loan window, ADF..... However, it has been getting large assistance under the ADB.
 - (a) But India does not need any assistance from ADB.
 - (b) But India is not a member of ADB
 - (c) But India is not interested in ADB aids.
 - (d) But India has stayed away from the ADB
5. In the planned economy of India, foreign capital has been assigned a significant role, although it has been changing over time. In the earlier phase of planning, foreign capital was looked upon as a means to supplement domestic investment. Many concession and incentives were given to foreign investors. Later on, however, the emphasis shifted to encouraging technological collaboration between

India entrepreneurs and foreign entrepreneurs. In more recent times, efforts are on to invite free flow of foreign capital.....

- (a) It would be instructive in this background to examine the Government's policy towards foreign capital.
 - (b) It would be instructive in this background to examine the World Bank's policy towards foreign capital in India
 - (c) Let us keep our fingers crossed and look for the next parliamentary session for debate on the issue
 - (d) Issue of Foreign capital is fragile and can be discussed only with relevant statistical figures in hand
6. FDI may actually be harmful to the recipient country if the economy is highly protected and foreign investment takes place behind high tariff walls. This type of investment is generally referred to as the tariff-jumping' variety of foreign investment, whose primary objective is to take advantage of the protected markets in the host country. The longer the Government shields its home market with tariffs..... and more acute will be the conflict between him and the domestic entrepreneur. In view of this, an appropriate policy framework must respond to two conflicting objective: the need to liberalises rules governing such investment in view of the growing integration of the world economy, and the need to ensure that such investment has positive effects on the country's economy and does not lead to negative welfare effects.
- (a) The more the foreign countries to apply pressure on India
 - (b) The more the foreign money to come in India
 - (c) The more the foreigner will come to exploit that protected market
 - (d) The more the foreigner to protest against that government
7. The Indian constitution provides for demarcation of functional responsibilities and finances between the Centre and the States. The provision of public services has been largely entrusted to the States. These mainly relate to law and order, public health, sanitation, water supply and agriculture. The States have to concurrently take certain functions in areas such as education, infrastructure. Their share in combined expenditure (Centre and States) on social services is about 85 per cent, while in the case of economic services; it is about 60 per cent. Thus, the States have the primary responsibility to undertake tasks pertaining to developing social and economic infrastructure. However, their ability to undertake such development functions is critically determined by their financial position. The growing importance of state finances in the macro-economy is evident from the fact..... The size of overall development expenditures of the states has always been higher than that of the Centre and the difference has got widened rather significantly in the 1990s.
- (a) That the States has overrun their planned expenditures and lacking freedom of further development
 - (b) That the States has reached at the peak of their finances and overtaken Centres in revenues
 - (c) That Centre borrow money from the states for its expenditures on educational and social welfare programmes
 - (d) That the total expenditures of State governments have even undertaken those of the Centre
8. A budget is a statement containing a forecast of revenues and expenditures for a period of time, usually a year. It is a comprehensive plan of action designed to achieve the policy objectives set by the Government for the coming year. A budget is plan and a budget document is reflection or what Government expects to do in future. While any plan need not be a budget, a budget has to be necessarily a pan. It shows detailed allocation to resources and proposed taxation or other measures for their realization. A budget is, however, not a balanced sheet (exhibiting total assets and liabilities) of the Government on a particular date. Is a financial blueprint for action and is, therefore, of great advantage to Government departments, legislatures and citizens. The budget of government expresses its total activity in figures.....
- (a) A budget reflects what the Government is doing or intends to do.
 - (b) A budget is a legal document
 - (c) A budget is a promise of Government to its people
 - (d) A budget is a guideline for State Governments
9. For a federal country like India, the budget of the Government of India is the most important instrument for implementing various economic and social objectives. The budgets of state government affect local activities. The Government of India budget influences the whole economy. The latter tries to bring about growth with social justice through its budget; it influences regional, functional and overall distribution of income and wealth through its expenditure (transfer) payments, investments and tax policies. The provisions of grants and loans to State governments and Union Territories and to the private sector and various subsidies (such as for export promotion, food grains distribution, etc.) are some of the elements of Central government budget policy for promoting growth and income distribution. Its significance lies in its ability to promote the various objectives of a modern state which has assumed the role of a welfare state and of a catalytic agent for promoting growth with social justice.
- (a) A budget in modern times should, therefore not be judged sound or otherwise merely on the basis of its 'deficit' or 'surplus' or 'balanced' position
 - (b) A budget is therefore not only instrument of implementing the economic and social objectives but it is also about growth with social justice
 - (c) A budget is a reflection of success or failure of a government
 - (d) A budget in modern times should ,therefore not judged on its face value
10. After the East Asia crisis, the World Bank conducted a study on the underlying reasons for the crisis. It was found that at least a major part of the fundamental responsibility was on banks, which had understated their non performing accounts by as much as 47%. Since this was a study and not an investigation..... Nevertheless, the Basel Committee on supervision did take cognizance, and issued

circulars and directives not only on supervision, but also on Internal Functional Management. It will be remembered by those interested that Basel committee had also acted expeditiously after the Barring Bank's failure, to separate treasury and lending operations from the decision making processes. Bank failures are nothing new in the world, although we in India have been insulated from such traumas for more than two decades.

- (a) The findings were not taken note of
 - (b) The findings were not taken seriously
 - (c) The findings were not legally binding on any one
 - (d) The fallout from this revelation was only taken note of
11. Whether the Government is right in bailing out a private sector bank is an issue that is decided more than by the long term social security policy of the Government, than by economic reasons alone..... Nevertheless, in a situation of scarcity of resources, bailing out somebody means the denial of resources to others. The irony of it is that in performing its duties of proper governance to the larger society through the process of bailing out, Government excuses the lack of corporate governance in banks.
- (a) Economists world over learnt it hard way during the Great depression
 - (b) This is elementary principle of economics taught in schools
 - (c) Reasons are not limited to these two but extend to debts, liquidity and credit ratings issues
 - (d) It was unexpected and came like a bolt from the blue
12. But no depreciation is allowed on Live Stock i.e., Horses. Although the horses are in the nature of fixed assets in the hands of the owner, no depreciation is allowed under Income Tax Act. Instead when the animal dies or becomes permanently useless the entire value of the horse can be written off as revenue loss in the year in which it dies or becomes permanently useless. When the gross income exceeds the total expenditure, it results in net profit which will be taxable at usual rates of tax applicable to the person. Although the live stock is in the nature of fixed assets of the owners buy them, maintain them, train them, and participate in races and Sell them or send them away to studs when they are useless.
- (a) But when the gross income is less than the expenditure, then results in loss
 - (b) But when the gross income is higher than the expenditure, then results in loss
 - (c) But when the gross income is equal to expenditure then result is loss
 - (d) But when the gross income is there loss is the result
13. Aggregation of risks is somewhat quite new to banks in India. While some banks have started thinking in that line by trying to put integrated limits framework and integrated risk policies as well as using CBS solutions for technological integration, the effort required is beyond such requirement. Risk aggregation would mean aggregating the individual risk measures to decide most appropriate assets class that would contain the risk to the desired level dictated by the risk appetite .Capital allocation (about how much) would be based on such strategies.....
- (a) Most banks are yet to conceptualize the same in their processes
 - (b) Most banks have already integrated it in their functioning; it is working over the years satisfactorily.
 - (c) Which would in long run prove to be the growth impeding
 - (d) Of risk aggregation which is really a new concept to Indian banks
14. However, it is possible that the non-resident entity may have a business connection with the resident Indian entity. In such a case, the resident Indian entity could be treated as Permanent Establishment of the nonresident entity.During the last decade or so, India has seen a steady growth of outsourcing of business processes by non residents or foreign companies to IT-enabled entities in India. Such entities are either branches or associated enterprises of the foreign enterprise or an independent India enterprise. The nonresident entity or foreign company will be liable to tax in India only if the IT-enabled BPO unit in India constitutes its Permanent Establishment.
- (a) The tax treatment of the Permanent Establishment in such a case is under consideration
 - (b) How would the profit would be shared is not decided yet?
 - (c) A lengthy and cumbersome process requiring a lot of application of mind and revenue principles is ahead for the tax department of India
 - (d) A new trend is seen in last decade.
15. The Finance Commission is entrusted with periodic review and resolution of Central- State fiscal problems. It was the clear intention of the father of the India Constitution that all matters pertaining to normal Central-State financial adjustment should be scrutinized by the Finance commission..... An incidental and by no means insignificant advantage of the appointment of a Finance Commission has generally been to rekindle interest in issues pertaining to financial relations between the Centre and the States and to promote an enlightened national debate on the several facets of India's federal fiscal set-up. The role of the Indian Finance Commission is unique in many ways. It is one of few commission provided in the constitution.
- (a) which was given a pre-eminent role in the resolution of problems in fiscal federalism
 - (b) Which was constituted with the vision of a modern India with modern facilities
 - (c) Which was a dream of Father of Nation also
 - (d) Which was to be unique in its ways and a constitutional body
16. The art of medicine is the art of healing, not just treating, and not even just curing. Yet it is only when the art and science join hands that healing is best accomplished. The author then adds, remember that the practice of medicine is an art, not a trade, a calling, not a business, a calling in which your heart will be exercised equally with

your head. This book is rare work of the art of medicine, from a very rare practitioner of the science of medicine.

- (a) "mankind depends on science as equally on the art"
 - (b) "for the mercy's sake let us have little less science and a little more art"
 - (c) "let us consider science at par with art"
 - (d) "let us forget what is art and what is science"
17. The thirteen Finance commissions cover a span of more than 60 years during which many conditions have changed. Correspondingly, the approach of the later commissions may be expected to be different in several respects from the earlier ones. Nevertheless, it is possible to discern certain common elements in the thinking of the successive Finance Commissions.
- Which have come to evolve gradually what may be called 'the Indian Finance Commission's approach to federal finance..... According to this approach, States' share of Central taxes is not allocated strictly on the basis of need. These problems and shortcomings come later in light but have caused what was not accounted at that time.
- (a) And it happened to be in that way
 - (b) There are several inadequacies in the approach of the Finance Commissions
 - (c) Evolution is a long process and it is a same story for commissions
 - (d) But they differ completely from them and each time new approach was looked for
18. The Parihar is, for all practical purposes, a functional, fully fitted out submarine. After this brief ceremony, the submarine is to be towed out for the first time across the naval dockyard and moored in an enclosed pier called Site BravoOver the next few months, it will commence a series of harbor trials .the primary system, a nuclear reactor, generates the heat which drives the secondary system, a steam turbine which spins the submarine's propeller, are to be tested separately. First, the steam turbine is to be jump started with shore based supply. The next significant step will be starting up the submarine's nuclear reactor where Zirconium rods in the core of the submarine's pressurized water reactor will be slowly raised.
- (a) It is the advent of new technology in India
 - (b) It has entered in chain reaction chamber
 - (c) It is like coming out from maternity ward to nursery
 - (d) It is unprecedented step to start such a sequence of processes
19. For all those women who perpetually complained about how all cars are designed for men, company is out with a car especially suited for them. The Your Concept Car..... is a dream come true. It has a keyless entry, additional storage space, a lower hood and the back seat screen going all the way till the rear end so that you know exactly where the car ends. Add to this a parking aid for parallel parking and their most advanced technology, Ergo vision that scans the body at the dealership, stores the data and every time you hop into the car, automatically adjusts the height of the seat, the steering wheel, the distance between them and everything else to your specifications. Even though it is a concept car

that will not hit the roads, its women friendly features have been incorporated in some of the other cars.

- (a) The first to be designed by experts
 - (b) The first to be launched by company
 - (c) The first to be the concept car
 - (d) The first to be designed by all women team
20. The growing importance of Union excise amongst the shared taxes and the ascendancy of population as the principal basis of distribution are the two salient features of tax-sharing determined by the Finance Commissions. The finance Commission is called upon to determine the State that would be in need of grant-assistance of the quinquennium under reference and the amount of such assistance in each case. The first Finance Commission laid down some important principles governing the determination of grants-in-aid for States.
- (a) These principles have been generally, endorsed by all the subsequent Commissions.
 - (b) These principles have been discarded by subsequent commissions
 - (c) These principles were taken from the Finance commissions of the other countries
 - (d) These principles were derivations from the elementary formulas of text books
21. The biggest attraction of the public sector is that, for women with the same qualifications and skills it almost always pays better than does private industry. For men the differences are much less pronounced..... Figures are hard to come by, but in rich countries women typically hold 30-40% of senior managerial posts in central government. Hours and conditions too are usually more congenial and maternity arrangements more generous .So with better pay, conditions and promotion prospects, it is no wonder that the public sector is the employer of the choice for so many women.
- (a) The public sector is also more likely to promote women to senior jobs
 - (b) The public sector provide safe working environment for the women.
 - (c) Women are paid more than men in public sector
 - (d) Public sector is better pay master than private banks for women
22. The fiscal position of the Indian Governments - both Centre and States -has been under stress since the mid -1980s. The stress stems from the inadequacy of receipts in meeting the growing expenditure requirements. Reflecting the fiscal stress, the expenditure for development activities, which are directly related to growth, has suffered. On other hand expenditure on non developmental purposes, largely committed, has witnessed a steady rise. in favor of developmental expenditure in order to enable higher growth. That the state of finances of States is in disarray is beyond dispute. The state finances have not been properly managed not only by the states but also by the planning commission and the central Government, which include economists who do not see states as autonomous responsible organizations.

- (a) The crucial issue, therefore, is to bring about improvement in the finances with a view to restructuring expenditure
- (b) The crucial issue, therefore, is to analyse the finances with a view to see what can be done to expenditure
- (c) Hence, it can be said that management of finances is important vis-à-vis management of expenditures
- (d) Therefore, Governments have to mend their way and balance the finances and the expenditures
23. Under taxation is at the roots of the Indian fiscal problems. The available evidence shows that the tax -GDP ratio in India is lower than the level it should have for its per capita GDP by at least 2.5 per-cent. It is, therefore important to focus reform efforts to increase the tax ratio. Of course, this does not mean that strategy to increase the tax ratio lies in increasing the tax rates. The strategy is to reiterate that tax administration is tax policy. All exemptions will not go. Politically, it is not possible. The world over, there was a time when we thought that equity in tax policy meant reducing the incomes of the rich. But today's tax philosophy is that equity in tax policy is increasing the incomes of the poor. The incomes of the poor can not be increased by reducing those of the rich.....
- (a) As they are the central point of any economy their importance is preemptory
- (b) As they have the real remote control in their hands and poor can not see that.
- (c) As they have the capital for investment and give employment to the poor.
- (d) As they have lobbying power to decide the fate of the poor.
24.Enterprises world wide are therefore, now putting in place an integrated framework for risk management, which is proactive, systematic and covers the entire organization. Banks in India are also moving from the individual silo system to an enterprise -wide risk management system. This is placing greater demands on the risk management skills in banks and has brought to the fore the need for capacity building. While the first mile-stone would be risk integration across the entity, banks would do well to aggregate risk across the group both in the specific risk areas as also across the risks.
- (a) Banks are most risk prone of all the financial institutions.
- (b) Banks were managing each risk independently, in isolation, which is no longer inadequate
- (c) It is about risk level at which an enterprise is operating to have or not have risk management system
- (d) Risk management in India is lagging for banks in comparison with other parts of world
25. One of the most stubborn fallacies about inflation is the assumption that it is caused, not by an increase in the quantity of money, but by a "shortage of goods." It is true that a rise in prices (which, as we have seen, should not be identified with inflation) can be caused either by an increase in the quantity of money or by a shortage of goods-or partly by both. Wheat, for example, may rise in price either because there is an increase in the supply of money or a failure of the wheat crop. But we seldom find, even in conditions of total war, a general rise of prices caused by a general shortage of goods." that even in the Germany of 1923, after prices had soared hundreds of billions of times, high officials and millions of Germans were blaming the whole thing on a general "shortage of goods"-at the very moment when foreigners were coming in and buying German goods with gold or their own currencies at prices lower than those of equivalent goods at home.
- (a) Yet so stubborn is the fallacy that inflation is caused by a "shortage of goods
- (b) Yet people believe on such fallacy to an imagined level
- (c) Yet so wide is acceptance
- (d) Yet so timely and abrupt is response to fallacy
26. The cure for inflation, like most cures, consists chiefly in removal of the cause. The cause of inflation is the increase of money and credit. The cure is to stop increasing money and credit..... It is as simple as that. Although simple in principle; this cure often involves complex and disagreeable decisions on detail. Let us begin with the Federal budget. It is next to impossible to avoid inflation with a continuing heavy deficit. That deficit is almost certain to be financed by inflationary means-i.e., by directly or indirectly printing more money. Huge government expenditures are not in themselves inflationary-provided they are made wholly out of tax receipts, or out of borrowing paid for wholly out of real savings. But the difficulties in either of these methods of payment, once expenditures have passed a certain point, are so great that there is almost inevitably a resort to the printing press.
- (a) The cure for inflation, in brief, is to stop inflating
- (b) The cure for inflation, in brief, is to think positively
- (c) The cure for inflation is planning small things with little thoughts
- (d) The cure of inflation lies in inflation itself
27. The India Union has had more than 55 years of experience with fiscal federalism operating within the framework of the parliamentary democracy and planned economic development. A comprehensive review of fiscal federalism in independent India is, therefore, overdue. There have been feeble protests in form to time about the sprawling powers of the Central government eroding the foundations of fiscal federalism..... Now that single party has been dislodged from power in some of the States and parties of different hues and colors are holding office, a candid and comprehensive review of all the aspects of Centre-State relations and the working of fiscal federalism in particular is important and necessary.
- (a) But these voices were curbed by all parties.
- (b) But democracy does not allow a mechanism to redress this problem
- (c) But fiscal federalism is all about ignoring and moving on with protests
- (d) But these voices were drowned by the overwhelming influence of the same party at the centre and the States
28. Do firms need banks, or can they make do with stock markets? Do firms need stock markets, or can they make do with banks? Alexander Gerschenkron long ago argued that economically "backward" countries could not trust decentralised capital markets to provide their largest firms

sufficient funds..... More recently, finance theorists have reasoned from agency theory and the economics of information to much the same result. And the transition in Eastern Europe has given the issue a programmatic touch: what should scholars tell the new finance ministers to do about banks and stock markets?

- (a) Instead, they needed banks
 - (b) Instead, they needed centralization mechanisms only
 - (c) Hence banks and Stock markets are not needed
 - (d) Therefore Banks score over Stock Markets for them
29. The Japanese economy is one of the third largest in the world The Japanese currency is the Yen. Japan's main export goods are cars, electronic devices and computers. Most important trade partners are China and the USA, followed by South Korea, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore, Thailand and Germany. Imports: Japan has a surplus in its export/import balance. The most important import goods are raw materials such as oil, foodstuffs and wood. Major supplier is China, followed by the USA, Australia, Saudi Arabia, South Korea, Indonesia and the United Arab Emirates. Industries: Manufacturing, construction, distribution, real estate, services, and communication are Japan's major industries today. Agriculture makes up only about two percent of the GNP. Most important agricultural product is rice. Resources of raw materials are very limited and the mining industry rather small.

- (a) And it is going to achieve number one status sooner
- (b) It is eying for number one spot in world economy riding on its recent technological developments
- (c) Japanese Economy is going through recession and is bound to slip to lower stands in world economy
- (d) Only USA and China have a higher GNP.

30. The prospect of renewed war between India and China is, for now, something that disturbs the sleep only of virulent nationalists in the Chinese press and retired colonels in Indian think-tanks. Optimists prefer to hail the \$60 billion in trade the two are expected to do with each other this year. But the 20th century taught the world that blatantly foreseeable conflicts of interest can become increasingly foreseeable wars with unforeseeably dreadful consequences. Relying on prosperity and more democracy in China to sort things out thus seems unwise. Two things need to be done. First, the slow progress towards a border settlement needs to resume. The main onus here is on China. It has the territory it really wants and has maintained its claim to Arunachal Pradesh only as a bargaining chip. It has, after all, solved intractable boundary quarrels with Russia, Mongolia, Myanmar and Vietnam
 (a) Surely it cannot be so difficult to treat with India?
 (b) Surely it will be more difficult with India?
 (c) Can it solve dispute with India with its non democratic values?
 (d) With India intentions are not clear.

LEVEL-II

DIRECTIONS (Qs. 1-18): Each question is a logical sequence of statements with a missing link, the location of which is shown parenthetically [...]. From the four options available choose the one that best fits into the sequence.

1. Making a mistake is always a miserable experience, and this one surely was more sickening than most. As I rethought the case I wondered why I had cut the antibiotic course short because, in retrospect, it seemed quite foolhardy. (...) And because of this, I didn't want to inflict more pain. The potentially distorted judgment of a physician caring for a loved one is well-worked territory. The traditional argument is that doctors may underestimate the severity of illnesses because they are unable to accept grim information about loved ones. Hippocrates, in fact, cautions against treating one's own family.
 (a) I tried to zero down the reason, maybe I thought that the patient has already had enough pain.
 (b) And then I realised the source of the problem: I had made the mistake because I liked the patient.
 (c) I could figure out that I wanted to be a friendly doctor, taking up the persona of Santa Clause.
 (d) The trauma was scaring the patient, and that was causing him psychological problem in getting well soon.

2. The size and age of our cosmos are beyond ordinary human understanding. Lost somewhere between immensity and eternity is our tiny planetary home. (...) And yet our species are young, curious and brave and shows much promise. In the last few millennia we have made the most astonishing and unexpected discoveries about the cosmos and our place within it, explorations that are exhilarating to consider.
 (a) Humans have always been ignorant about the intricacies of the cosmos.
 (b) There has not been much need to delve into the details of universe so far.
 (c) In a cosmic perspective most human concerns seem insignificant, even petty.
 (d) The mankind has been analogously tiny.
3. Investors, managers and workers are alike thrown into conflict and confusion. Strange alliances spring up. New forms of judo are invented. (...) Today in addition, they hire investment bankers, lawyers and tax experts – purveyors of specialised knowledge – hoping to become part of a restructuring deal rather than its victim. Managers seeking to head off a takeover, or to buy their own firm, along with investors seeking to profit from such upheavals, are

increasingly dependant on timely, pinpointed information. Knowledge is a key weapon in the power struggles that accompany the emergence of the super-symbolic economy.

- (a) In the past, labour unions exerted power by striking or threatening to do so.
 - (b) Previously, labour unions were smug and complacent.
 - (c) The employees in past companies just filed petitions and made silent complaints.
 - (d) In old times fighting duels was the popular way of sorting out problems between two individuals.
4. Slavery existed in America and the vested interests of Southern colonies defended this social evil with all its might. America witnessed the horrors of a civil war. On the side of the slaves was the American President—Abraham Lincoln—the man with a vision and with a courage to give his vision a practical shape. (...) Lincoln died but with his death, he proved for all times to come, that slavery is an evil and equality of man is the only means for ensuring peace and prosperity in the world.
- (a) Slaves in America were oppressed. They were wanting to get freed but did not have suitable leadership to guide them.
 - (b) Lincoln emancipated the slaves and eventually fell a victim to the bullet of an assassin. Indeed a glorious sacrifice, truly a ‘messiah’ of the American slaves.
 - (c) The American President displayed immense courage and rescued the slaves from the bondages of the Southern colonies.
 - (d) The Southern colonies tried desperately to staff off Lincoln’s resistance but to no vain. It made them all the more infuriated.
5. In this time of advanced electronic viewing, puppetry is still enthralling audiences. Puppetry is no longer a marginalised folk art that amuses children or tells royal Rajasthani tales through petite figures bobbing around in tune to the tugging strings of their manipulators. It is now an assimilated ingenuity combining real actors, modern dancers, digital lighting and a variety of gloved, hand-manipulated, string and mammoth puppets to present stories of the here and now. (...) Caricature puppets are now used to convey social messages or to get away with biting political satires. India now has more than 50 modern puppet groups, which work on the theorem of fusing diverse arts into one performance.
- (a) Puppetry, like the other art forms, has lost its charm and attraction as the latest electronic gadgets are diverting the attention of the viewer to more high tech past times.
 - (b) Poems, educational messages, wildlife themes even black comedies are choreographed with provocative music, resulting in spectacular acts which has served as a revival to the almost obsolete art .
 - (c) India’s rich cultural heritage has been the mainstay of Indian tourism. Not only the ancient monuments but also the various cultural practices have lured tourists, even braving the sheer heat.
 - (d) The government should be more keen to take necessary measures in order to maintain the historical images depicting our rich background and also take sufficient
- measures to revive the dying art practices.
6. Gone are the days when this vast country – Canada is the second largest country in the world after Russia – was written off as large tracts of ice, more known for its hockey and tourism than for its business potential. There was a time when this lowly populated country (Canada has just 10% of US’s population) attracted large numbers of blue-collar migrant workers. Somewhere along the way, however, things changed. (...) Besides an abundance of skilled labour, market place credentials and proximity to the U.S, the costs of doing business in Canada are very low and to top it all, it is a safe and clean place. Not surprisingly, the nation is emerging as a hot investment destination and a viable trade partner for many companies and countries.
- (a) Canada has over the years grown into a prospective nation capable of competing with the best in the world. The transparent and unbiased manner in which its government governs, has given it a credibility which prompts other nations to develop all round relations with it.
 - (b) Canada with beautiful landscapes and a rich flora and fauna can very easily claim itself to be the best place to invest in. Academically too, it has, over the years, offered the best courses and which have received due acceptance all over.
 - (c) Today, Canada is the only G7 country with a surplus and boasts of the fastest growing GDP. Its becoming a preferred destination for knowledge based entrepreneurs and has some exciting tech clusters.
 - (d) Over the years the image of Canada has changed from that of a country just big in size to now a country big in business ventures and entrepreneurship. This is just the beginning as the Canadians are ecstatic and vowed to more of every thing.
7. It would be not be an overstatement to say that the consumer products industry is on an eternal search for new ways to drive top-line growth. There are a plethora of challenges that companies need to grapple with. Maturing brands, choosy customers, the consolidation of retail space, continued pressure from retailers for control of product marketing, limited access to customers, and the push to discover the next best selling brand are just a few. (...) Also, many consumer products companies have deployed a pastiche of homegrown, best-of-breed and legacy systems. The result of such an amalgam of platforms is that fragmented customer and customer information reaches the wrong team members at the wrong time, leading to frustrated, unsatisfied customers and unresponsive consumers.
- (a) The consumer has come of age. His demands are to be taken seriously and not to be ignored. The awareness about the quality, quantity, and most critically, about cost has made him call the shots.
 - (b) The consumer forum has instilled a sense of security in the consumer which has made his approach tactful and challenging. He is more confident now as he knows that there is someone to back him up.
 - (c) The businessman, especially the retailer is in for a tough

time. Gone are the days when he was not worried about customer satisfaction, but now with the advent of severe competitiveness, he has to dish out his best.

- (d) Not to forget mature markets, globalisation, the management of key accounts, declining margins, reduced revenue, and the challenge of working together with retailers to deliver value.
8. The current economic boom seems distinctly unkind to workers. At a time when most segments of the Indian economy are shining bright, one large area of darkness is employment. The decade-long downsizing in the manufacturing sector and the much desired shedding of some public-sector jobs has created the impression that India has entered an era of jobless growth. If true, it could take the sheen off all other economic achievements. (...) According to one of India's largest recruitment firm, the National Employment bureau, with its 939 employment exchanges across the country, placed 1.61 lakh individuals in 2002. That was 10,000 less than the placements done by the bureau in 2002. In contrast, private recruitment companies collectively found jobs for 3.5 lakh individuals in 2003 and expect their placements to go up by 25% in 2004.
 - (a) Thankfully this is not the reality. Sure, industry and government have not been creating new jobs, but services and agriculture (which together account for 75% of the economy) are generating employment. It is just that there is not any credible and regular method of tracking jobs in these two sectors.
 - (b) The economic revolution has brought about a radical change in the service sector as claimed by the analysts as well as the rulers. However, the masses have a contrasting theory which very strongly denies all the great claims made by the opportunists. The common man continues to strive under the blazing sun and yet is not rewarded to the extent he deserves.
 - (c) Employment in India has been a curse for the citizens as the overpopulation has outclassed the proportion of available jobs. Also an issue undermining the pathetic condition is the literacy rate which is alarmingly disproportionate to the requisite qualification for suitable placement.
 - (d) The Indian Government has earnestly tried to generate jobs as per the qualifications in varied fields and skills. However, the system implementing these employment opportunities get contaminated by the evils of corruption and other malpractices hovering around like deadly parasites.
9. Rajasthan is building its present on its past. And this creativity goes far beyond the success stories of converting palaces and havelis into hotels. (...) Express highways, combined with improvement in state highways and link roads to religious places, are making people and the bureaucracy understand that the state can be modernised while maintaining its USP—heritage. That monuments can be beautified and that foreigners do not come here looking for decay and dirt. A senior bureaucrat who returned recently from Europe said tourists can be made to extend their stay by making night life interesting and suggested running cafeteria and bars in the backdrop of mountains. Rajasthan is changing for the better. After years of neglect, faulty town planning, inferior infrastructure, violation of the basic principles of architecture in not maintaining even plinth levels, and a stereotyped society with dull evenings, there is positive transformation that strikes someone visiting the state after a gap.
 - (a) Indian cultural heritage is internationally acclaimed and make foreigners flock in lure of a beautiful hierarchy. Paradoxical is the view that a lot many historical and cultural settlements are in a ruinous state. Of late, the administration has realised their ignorance and have put in their resources for renovating these great memoirs of the past era.
 - (b) It is not just the government's odd realisation that heritage has to be protected, there is also a growing feeling even among corporate houses and individuals that it pays to evolve modern comforts around heritage.
 - (c) It's indeed a pity that we Indians have grossly ignored the exquisite elegance of history which was intentionally done for leaving behind their impression of great skill and craftsmanship. The bulk of the monuments depict their richness of taste and the urge to leave behind depictions of their great civilisations.
 - (d) Revival of the lost and almost extinct periods of our glorious history has indeed been an encouraging effort by our government. The relics, almost on the verge of extinction into anonymity, are being restored by the Archaeological Survey of India. Also along with, they are being pepped up in order to attract tourists.
10. What on earth would Indian cricket have done with a player like Lala Amarnath today? (...) But be glad he played in wilder days. Amarnath was the enfant terrible of the earlier days of Indian cricket, an attacking batsman with a temper to match. Amarnath was no less entertaining off the field. He had women proposing to him after he scored the first Indian test century. He was an expansive observer of modern cricket, a player's player and a man who knew a good quote well before sound bytes were merely the scratching of statics.
 - (a) The yeomen of Indian cricket have gone into oblivion. They did the country proud at a time when things were crude. The cricketing gears were too amateurish and their wages too were meagre. Lala Amarnath survived all the difficulties but to what avail?
 - (b) Lala Amarnath is India's reflection of the greatness of these players of yester years. But, unfortunately they did not get the rewards that our present day cricketers are getting. The players of today are better equipped and financially very soundly placed. So, how do we show our gratitude to these great 'Gentlemen' of cricket.
 - (c) Either trampled on his spirit or, equally bad, lumped him with a 'brand image' and had him endorse fizzy drinks with a cheesy smile.
 - (d) Lala Amarnath, like many other veterans, have been meted out a very shabby and disgraceful farewell when compared to what our present day players get. They have got just a meagre against the laurels they had brought for their country.

11. The tea plantation industry provides direct employment to more than a million workers in the country. Next to the Indian Railways, the tea industry is the largest employer of organised labour force being drawn from tribal and socially weaker sections of the society. (...) As the tea plantation areas in India were in the initial stages, sparsely populated, the workers in the industry had to be recruited from considerable distances. In north India, a majority came from Bihar and Orissa and in the south from the plain districts. Most of them belong to the scheduled caste or the scheduled tribe.
- In a country like India, employment has always been a major problem. Tea is consumed heavily in our belt and as such its consumption is very high, which in turn induces a process by which the demands can be met easily. The industry calls for workers to join and help them increase their yield.
 - Thanks largely to the tea industry in India which has given a tremendous boost to our exports. Also equally grateful are we to the workers who have sweated it out endlessly. But have we generously rewarded them for their efforts?
 - The tea industry ranks second and pools in substantially in the country's economy. We take pride at this achievements. But have we ever thanked those countless heads who toiled endlessly to make this possible or we are still discriminating amongst the male and the female worker?
 - About half the labour force consists of women workers. Mostly women are engaged in plucking and they enjoy equal wages.
12. (...). Rather, in healthy economies, many successful and prosperous corporations coexist with intensely competitive markets in a state of vigorous and creative tension with one another, each contributing to economic progress but in different ways. Companies create new value for society by continuously creating innovative products and services and by finding better ways to make and offer existing ones; markets, on the other hand, relentlessly force the same companies to surrender, over time, most of this value to others. In this symbiotic coexistence, companies and markets interact jointly to drive the process of creative destruction that Joseph Schumpeter, the Austrian economist, showed to be the engine that powers economic progress in capitalist societies.
- Most companies utilise markets to appropriate value for themselves at the cost of social welfare.
 - Most companies intensify competition in markets to contribute to the economy through self-interest.
 - Most companies do not usurp markets to appropriate value for themselves at the cost of social welfare.
 - Most companies strive towards creation of unhealthy environments to intensify competition and usurp the market.
13. One last kind of difference, which you may capitalise on, is aversion to risk. Take, for example, the issue of deep-seabed mining in the Law of the Sea negotiations. How much should the mining companies pay the international community for the privilege of mining? The mining companies care more about avoiding big losses than they do about making big gains. For them, deep-seabed mining is a major investment. They want to reduce the risk. The international community, on the other hand, is concerned with revenue. If some company is going to make a lot of money out of "the common heritage of mankind," the rest of the world wants a generous share. In this difference lies the potential for a bargain advantageous to both sides. (...). Exploiting the difference in aversion to risk, the proposed treaty provides for charging the companies low rates until they recover their investment and much higher rates thereafter, when their risk is low.
- Risk can be traded for revenue.
 - Risk, obviously needs to be taken care of more than revenue.
 - Revenue, if earned in high figures, can override the magnitude of risk.
 - Obviously, no solution is feasible and the deal eventually falls through.
14. Reason and be open to reason. What makes the negotiation a joint search is that, however much you may have prepared various objective criteria, you come to the table with an open mind. (...). A police union might, for example, insist upon a raise of a certain amount and then justify their position with arguments about what police in other cities make. This use of standards usually only digs people even deeper into their position.
- In negotiating this way, people use time more efficiently, talking about possible standards and solutions.
 - In most negotiations, people use precedents and other objective standards simply as arguments in support of a position.
 - Independent standards are even more important to efficiency when more parties are involved.
 - People should make use of precedents and other objective standards in their arguments to support their position and establish their righteousness.
15. If pushing back does not work, what does? How can you prevent the cycle of action and reaction? Do not push back. When they assert their positions, do not reject them. When they attack your ideas, don't defend them. When they attack you, don't counterattack. (...). Instead of pushing back, sidestep their attack and deflect it against the problem. As in the Oriental martial arts of judo and jujitsu, avoid pitting your strength against theirs directly; instead, use your skill to step aside and turn their strength to your ends. Rather than resisting their force, channel it into exploring interests, inventing options for mutual gain, and searching for independent standards.
- React in your own way, by being proactive.
 - Break the vicious cycle by refusing to react.
 - Counter the incursion head on.
 - Do not deflect it against the problem.
16. Organisational changes and moving a cultural baseline is a difficult challenge. It takes respect, intensity, and

commitment to stay the course. Some days will be tougher than others, due to human errors and lapses. Great leaders will not be put off by others; they will have the courage to stand up and establish rules. Their goal will be to go to a higher ground, and they will constantly use their own actions as a model for others to follow, reflecting consistency and stability. (....). Establishing a sense of urgency, yet being able to spend time with those who want to move forward and share a vision for the future, is important. They will not check the daily emotional temperature of their environment, as they are in it for the longer haul.

- (a) When tough decisions are required, wise leaders are patient with themselves.
 - (b) You cannot succeed through intellectual arrogance.
 - (c) They will emulate through precedents and smother individual enthusiasm and the desire to contribute to an organisation.
 - (d) They will create a culture, which fosters enervated approaches.
17. Originally mutual funds were heralded as a way for the little guy to get a piece of the market. Instead of spending all your free time buried in the financial pages of the Wall Street Journal, all you have to do is buy a mutual fund and you'd be set on your way to financial freedom. (....). Mutual funds are an excellent idea in theory, but, in reality, they haven't always delivered. Not all mutual funds are created equal, and investing in mutual isn't as easy as throwing your money at the first salesperson who solicits your business.
- (a) As simple as that!
 - (b) Bingo! You've become an investor.
 - (c) This causes a positive feedback cycle to begin; the more you earn, the more you invest and so on.
 - (d) As you might have guessed, it's not that easy.
18. The first known civilisation developed in three river valley systems in Eurasia; the Tigris-Euphrates Valley (Mesopotamia), the Nile Valley (Egypt); and the Indus Valley. (....). Each society experienced a long transition during which techniques of maintaining large-scale societies were developed. Remains of temples and palaces reflect the emergency of priestly and political managerial classes. These societies utilised technologies of irrigation to manage water resources and skills in metallurgy made new materials like bronze available.
- (a) But due to limited technical know-how and increasing competition between peers, they remained nomadic for long.
 - (b) Changing environmental conditions, population pressures, and the evolution of available technologies are possible reasons for the emergency of civilised societies.
 - (c) Surprisingly, the social in each civilisation consisted for four classes; maybe it was the impact of interaction of other civilisation with the Indus valley civilisation.
 - (d) The so-called modern age tools like the battery and magnetic motors have been found, which indicate that these civilisation were far more developed that what we may think.

DIRECTIONS (Qs. 19 to 41) : A paragraph is given below from which one of the lines has been deleted. From the given options, choose the one that completes the paragraph in the most appropriate way.

What is bad writing? One definition of bad writing is that it only entertains but does not edify. It does not raise 'important questions' regarding political or social ills but, instead, runs away from them.

19. Put simply, bad writing reinforces popular attitudes even if it's at the cost of harming a cultural fabric.
Bad writing's goals are self-serving.
 - (a) It aims to make money for its publisher and author and win popularity for its writer without caring two hoots about the greater common good or making the reader think beyond the text.
 - (b) Good writing - especially fiction - on the other hand - is as man-made and culturally-constructed method of enquiry used to analyse and judge one's views.
 - (c) However, no text - and, by extension, an author - is universally or eternally good or bad.
 - (d) Thus, if good writing is to prevail, 'good writers' must slug it out in the open with 'bad writers'.
20. Policy failures come in many shapes and sizes. But they are almost invariably accentuated by the choices that have to be made in periods of financial shortage. Yesterday the coalition government found itself confronted by two of them, one in policing policy and the other in higher education. The failures are radically different in many details. But they have this in common: they are both serious failures, and they were both foreseeable. They could both have been mitigated by clearer policymaking at an earlier stage.....
- (a) On the policing cuts, it is the opinion that Britain has more police officers than it needs.
 - (b) Instead each has been allowed to fester and become more difficult to solve politically.
 - (c) Downing Street must be thanking Prince Andrew for providing some distraction.
 - (d) Police numbers have increased without proper regard to social need.
21. It seems Prime Minister Manmohan Singh's top scientific adviser CNR Rao and his band of merry men - three reputed scientists from top scientific institutions of the country - have been cherry picking some interesting material from the work of other scientists and passing them off as their own. This is not the first time, people - reputed (and talented) people that is - have been caught doing such things. Often people - the kind-hearted ones - say imitation is actually the sincerest form of flattery.
- (a) But the truth is, not many people find it amusing when they find that their work has been picked up by someone else without giving them any credit.
 - (b) To cut a long and not-a-plagiarised-story short, the Indian scientists have apologised to Advanced Materials, a prestigious journal, for "reproduction of text from an article" that appeared in another journal, Applied Physics Letters, in 2010.

- (c) In other words, the scientists forgot to issue a 'footnote' that the four contentious lines were picked up from another source.
- (d) But the thing about plagiarism is that it is considered so if the offenders are caught.
22.and the proponents of market reforms have no plans for those who do not have the resources and income to buy even two meals a day. The signals are clear that those who cannot pay for their food have no right to survive. These poorer sections of society are reduced to mere victims, beneficiaries, clients and recipients. In this dichotomous relationship, the state is seen as the 'dole giver' and the people the 'dole receiver'. It must be recognized that irrespective of market-governed politics, people remain bound to survival, livelihood and identity issues.
- (a) The governments have ceased to govern.
- (b) When the market is allowed to govern, the government becomes powerless to effect any radical social changes.
- (c) Elections have failed to make democracy distributive and justice oriented.
- (d) It is about market reforms and absence of plans for the poorest of the poor.
23. To succeed in today's crowded marketplace where most of the products and advertising look exactly the same, a small business owner must stand out, shouting above the din with a message so clear and compelling that prospects stop and take notice. It's a matter of business survival. Unfortunately, most entrepreneurs quickly retreat to the supposed security of sameness, soon to be lost in a sea of anonymity and a tidal wave of frustration. In effect, albeit at a subconscious level, they are saying, "I don't want to be different". In back room offices and store fronts everywhere, salespeople are telling business owners they should do this or that kind of ad because it worked so great for their competitor. The owners nod and sign on. It's already proven to be a winner, right? WRONG.....
- (a) To make your advertising work, follow the principle if your competition is doing it, don't.
- (b) Following your competitor is a sure recipe for disaster.
- (c) Win the battle without a fight.
- (d) It will fill people with a sense of déjà vu.
24. Google, the internet powerhouse, seeks to organise the entire world's information. The company has told publishers it will delay until November its work on copyrighted texts and will not scan any items that the copyright owner does not want included. The Assn. of American Publishers was outraged by this offer, saying Google is trying to turn copyright law inside out. Google should have to ask permission to copy a book for its database, they say, it shouldn't be up to publishers to object. Google argues that it is making a fair use of the books. The dispute could easily wind up in the courts. Building a guide to the contents of books is hardly the same as making bootlegged copies or plagiarizing. It's a monumental and costly task, and publishers have given no reason to believe they can do it for themselves. Unless their works are as well integrated with the Net as other forms of information and entertainment, they may be left waiting on the shelves for an audience that no longer bothers to walk through the stacks.....
- (a) This has put both the internet search engine and the publishers on an unwarranted collision course
- (b) Since the case might drag on for years to the detriment of both the parties, an out of court settlement is well advised
- (c) Isn't it rather difficult, or even in fructuous to protect copyright on published text in this internet age?
- (d) Perhaps both the parties ought to try and appreciate the other's viewpoint, as well as legitimate apprehensions, but with the overall goal of the public good in mind.
25. Relations between the factory and the dealer are distant and usually strained as the factory tries to force cars on the dealers to smooth out production. Relations between the dealer and the customer are equally strained because dealers continuously adjust prices - make deals - to adjust demand with supply while maximizing profits. This becomes a system marked by a lack of long-term commitment on either side, which maximize feelings of mistrust. In order to maximize their bargaining positions, everyone holds back information - the dealer about the product and the consumer about his true desires.....
- (a) As a result, 'deal making' becomes rampant, without concern for customer satisfaction.
- (b) As a result, inefficiencies creep into the supply chain.
- (c) As a result, everyone treats the other as an adversary, rather than as an ally
- (d) As a result, fundamental innovations are becoming scarce in the automobile industry.
26. The tax system of India encourages borrowing by granting its taxpayers tax relief for interest paid on loans. The system also discourages saving by taxing any interest earned on savings. Nevertheless, it is clear that India's tax system does not consistently favor borrowing over saving, for if it did, there would be no.....
- (a) tax relief in India for those portions of a taxpayer's income, if any, that are set aside to increase that taxpayer's total savings
- (b) tax relief in India for the processing fees that taxpayers pay to lending institutions when obtaining certain kinds of loans
- (c) tax relief in India for interest that taxpayers are charged on the unpaid balance in credit card accounts
- (d) taxes due in India on the cash value of gifts received by taxpayers from banks trying to encourage people to open savings accounts
27. Unemployment typically continues to rise even after GDP starts to increase, so pain for workers is far from over. Already 9.5% of the workforce is unemployed, and all of country's metropolitan areas reported unemployment rates of at least 10% in June. More jobless will probably mean less shopping and a slower recovery. The latest consumer-confidence numbers show that people are jittery. The quarterly GDP report also makes it clear that consumer spending, which rose slightly in the first quarter, dropped again in the second, by 1.2%. The good news, therefore, was

more a result of government stimulus than evidence of a real, sustainable recovery in private demand.

- (a) A greater worry is the bleeding in country's labor market.
 - (b) The Finance Department has revised its estimates of just how bad 2008 really was.
 - (c) Figures released by Commerce Department confirmed what most had been expected
 - (d) New GDP figures suggest some hope for country's economy. But the pain is far from over.
28. Everything in New Delhi is extreme. It is a city of the incredibly rich and the miserably poor. For the rich, there are expensive private schools and hospitals, concert halls and theatres - although fewer of those than formerly - and restaurants. The poor are on a hiding to nowhere: all public facilities, schools and hospitals and housing, are deteriorating. But then there are some world known social workers in it. There are thousands of heroin addicts, and an equal number of carriers of the Aids virus.This is Delhi for you.
- (a) But then there are thousands of people who are social workers
 - (b) But then some of rarest examples of humanity come from this city
 - (c) But then there is a faith in the City
 - (d) But then there are people addict to charity and altruism also.
29. Computers are used in banks for a variety of reasons. They help bank personnel operate more efficiently and effectively. Computers are used to track certain transactions and they help process other customer information as well. Without computers, it would be very hard for a bank to offer good customer service day in and day out. Computers help a bank save time and money, and can be used as an aid to generate profits. In nutshell they have become indispensable part of the banks. Bank personnel become so helpless in absence of their machine that nervousness is evident on their faces while technical glitch renders the computer systems dysfunctional for a small period of time. once again queues starts to move and crowd starts to thin with fingers starting to work on keyboards; nervousness has made way for confidence of knowing everything at just a click of mouse.
- (a) Crowd starts to swell and nervousness starts to turn in fear of failure.
 - (b) A sense of relief spreads as the problem gets rectified.
 - (c) There is a condition of traffic jam in bank and everything comes to a halt.
 - (d) It is not their fault and they are excused for it.
30. Some of the world's most expensive land can be found in central Mumbai. However, housing costs are distinctly lower in Mumbai's suburbs, surrounding prefectures and in other regions and cities of India. Additional commuting costs are often more than compensated by the savings on the rent, especially as many companies pay part or all of their employees' commuting expenses. If you prefer to live close to city centers, rented houses are an inexpensive option to consider. Utilities such as gas, water and especially electricity are expensive, and phone rates are high. For international calls, consider internet phones, callback services and other offers for the expat community.
- (a) Consequently; even tiny apartments in the city center are very expensive
 - (b) This land is unauthorized land usurped by Land Mafia in city
 - (c) A new bubble - Reality bubble similar to housing bubble of West is waiting to burst
 - (d) City is breathing on its seams
31. Now digest the main historical event of this week: China has officially become the world's second-biggest economy, overtaking Japan. In the West this has prompted concerns about China overtaking the United States sooner than previously thought. But stand back a little farther, apply a more Asian perspective. These two Asian giants, which until 1800 used to make up half the world economy, are not, like Japan and Germany, mere nation states. In terms of size and population, each is a continent-and for all the glittering growth rates, a poor one.
- (a) China's longer-term contest is with that other recovering economic behemoth: India
 - (b) China's longer term contest with USA is going to end in near future
 - (c) China is now focusing on Asian Market space more than other markets
 - (d) China is going in tandem with other Asian economy - India
32. North India lies in the Indo-Gangetic plain. Towards the North is the Himalayas, which separates the country from Central Asia. The Vindhya ranges separate the North from the South. South India is situated in the Peninsular Deccan Plateau. This region has the Arabian Sea in the west, Bay of Bengal in the east and Indian Ocean in the south. When talking about the racial differences, the North Indians are termed as Aryans, and the South Indians as Dravidians. In physique as well, there are many differences between the people of the South and North. The North Indians are taller, and more strongly built than the South Indians. The South Indians are a bit darker than the North Indians. Salwar Kamiz is the widely used dress by North Indian women. On the other hand, women in the South wear saris. While men in the North wear Salwar, the men in South prefer dhotis. Another difference that can be seen between North and South India is their food. When compared to the North Indian food, the South Indian food is spicier. The South Indians use more tamarind and coconut when compared to North Indians. The North Indians use more milk products when compared to the people of South India. When talking about the culture, there is vast difference between North and South India. One can come across differences in their music (Northern Hindustani and Southern Carnatic), dance forms and folks.
- (a) A big difference is in their style of living
 - (b) A big difference is in their fashion statements

- (c) A big difference can be seen in their dressing styles
 (d) A big difference arises in their taste for clothes based on their earnings
33. An open economy is an economy in which there are economic activities between domestic community and outside, e.g., people, including businesses, can trade in goods and services with other people and businesses in the international community, and flow of funds as investment across the border. Trade can be in the form of managerial exchange, technology transfers, all kinds of goods and services. Although, there are certain exceptions that cannot be exchanged, like, railway services of a country cannot be traded with another. To avail this service, a country has to produce its own. This contrasts with a closed economy in which international trade and finance cannot take place. The act of selling goods or services to a foreign country is called exporting. The act of buying goods or services from a foreign country is called importing..... There are a number of advantages for citizens of a country with an open economy. One primary advantage is that the citizen consumers have a much larger variety of goods and services from which to choose. Additionally, consumers have an opportunity to invest their savings outside of the country. In an open economy, a country's spending in any given year need not to equal its output of goods and services. A country can spend more money than it produces by borrowing from abroad, or it can spend less than it produces and lend the difference to foreigners. There is no closed economy in today's world.
- (a) Together exporting and importing are collectively called trade
 (b) Exporting and Importing are exclusive classes of trade
 (c) Both are independent of each other and do not constitute the term 'trade'.
 (d) Together they make GDP of a country
 (e) Together they are indicators of influence of a country on world map
34. A no budget film is a produced film made with very little, or no money. Young directors starting out in filmmaking commonly use this method because there are few other options available to them at that point. All the actors and technicians are employed without remuneration, and the films are largely non-profit,..... or uses a very minimum "crew" of volunteers to assist him/her on such projects where no money or financing is available, not including the cost of film. No-budget films are made every day with video tapes and consumer cameras.
- (a) Usually the director works alone on such films
 (b) These films are huge employers in entertainment industry
 (c) A team of experts two or three in number starts without any significant infrastructure
 (d) Director is the camera-man, light-man, script writer, screen player and sometimes even act himself in the film
35. In finance, the term 'yield' describes the amount in cash that returns to the owners of a security. Normally it does not include the price variations, at the difference of the total return. Yield applies to various stated rates of return on stocks (common and preferred, and convertible), fixed income instruments (bonds, notes, bills, strips, zero coupon), and some other investment type insurance products (e.g. annuities)..... It can be calculated as a ratio or as an internal rate of return (IRR). It may be used to state the owner's total return, or just a portion of income, or exceed the income. It may be used for production output in other industries, Because of these differences, the yields from different uses should never be compared as if they were equal.
- (a) The term is a misnomer
 (b) The term is understood differently by different people
 (c) The term has no definite meaning
 (d) The term is used in different situations to mean different things
36. Market trends are fluctuated on the demographics and technology. In a macro economical view, the current state of consumer trust in spending will vary the circulation of currency. In a micro economical view, demographics within a market will change the advancement of businesses and companies. With the introduction of the internet, consumers have access to different vendors as well as substitute products and services changing the direction of which a market will go. Despite that, it is believed that market trends follow one direction over a matter of time, there are many different factors that can change this idea. Technology s-curves as is explained in the book The Innovator's Dilemma. It states that technology will start slow then increase in users once better understood, eventually leveling off once another technology replaces it.....
- (a) This proves that change in the market is actually consistent
 (b) Change is inevitable
 (c) Fluctuations with these changes do not last long
 (d) Be prepared for the change
37. The financial year 2007-08 witnessed a slew of acquisitions across diverse sectors of the economy in India..... Of all sectors, steel was the most dominant in terms of stake sales as deals valuing \$ 3.862 billion took place in Q1 of 2007-08 by the Indian companies in the global arena. Energy ranked second, with automotive and auto components close on its heels. In the domestic segment, iron ore, aviation and steel were the most prolific in terms of mergers and acquisitions. With Indian corporate houses showing sustained growth over the last decade, many have shown an interest in growing globally by choosing to acquire or merge with other companies outside India. One such example would be the acquisition of Britain's Corus by Tata an Indian conglomerate by way of a leveraged buy-out. The Tata's also acquired Jaguar and Land Rover in a significant cross border transaction. Whereas both transactions involved the acquisition of assets in a foreign jurisdiction, both transactions were also governed by Indian domestic law.

- (a) These acquisitions are purely Indian but covering diverse sectors ranging from automobiles to Steel
- (b) Acquisitions are like a big shark swelling a small fish without noticeable fight put up by the latter
- (c) Unlike in the past, such activity was not limited to acquisitions within India or of Indian companies
- (d) Globalization has brought this trend to India and Indian companies are no longer isolated from its effects
38. But there is, in fact, a vast difference. Merger generally refers to a circumstance in which the assets and liabilities of a company (merging company) are vested in another company (the merged company). The merging entity loses its identity and its shareholders become shareholders of the merged company. On the other hand, an amalgamation is an arrangement, whereby the assets and liabilities of two or more companies (amalgamating companies) become vested in another company (the amalgamated company). The amalgamating companies all lose their identity and emerge as the amalgamated company; though in certain transaction structures the amalgamated company may or may not be one of the original companies.
- (a) Very often, the two expressions “merger” and “amalgamation” are used synonymously
- (b) ‘Merger’ and ‘amalgamation’ are terms that can be used interchangeably but up to a limit
- (c) ‘Merger’ and ‘amalgamation’ are synonymous to each other
- (d) ‘Merger’ and ‘amalgamation’ are not synonymous to each other
39. Being one of the central banks which was involved in the exercise of drawing up the Core Principles, the Reserve Bank of India had assessed its own position with respect to these Principles in 1998. The assessment had shown that most of the Core Principles were already enshrined in our existing legislation or current regulations. Gaps had been identified between existing practice and principle mainly in the areas of risk management in banks, inter-agency cooperation with other domestic/international regulators and consolidated supervision. Internal working groups were set up to suggest measures to bridge these gaps and their recommendations have been accepted by the Board for Financial Supervision and are now in the process of being implemented. Given the spread and reach of the Indian banking system, with over 60,000 branches of more than 100 banks..... However, the Reserve Bank of India is committed to the full implementation of the Core Principles. The Bank also serves on the Core Principles Liaison Group of the BCBS, which has been formed “to promote the timely and complete implementation of these principles worldwide”.
- (a) implementation is a challenge for the supervisors
- (b) implementation is impossible
- (c) implementation should be done on trial basis
- (d) Implementation is a problem for supervisors
40. Indian banks having overseas operations are required to lay down internal guidelines on country risk management and fix limits based on risk rating of the country. Limits should also be fixed for a group of countries in a particular risk category subject to a maximum ceiling fixed by RBI. In the normal course, prudential exposure norms apply to all loans and investments overseas including loans to sovereign entities..... Adequacy of the bank’s policy on identification, measurement and control of country risk is assessed during onsite inspection by host country representatives. It is also monitored through a quarterly return on country-wise counter party exposure.
- (a) The overseas branches are governed by the host country regulations also
- (b) Host country is speculative for the success of these branches
- (c) Banks and host countries conduct joint audits in branches in that country
- (d) Host country regulations do not bind on these overseas branches
41. The prospect of renewed war between India and China is, for now, something that disturbs the sleep only of virulent nationalists in the Chinese press and retired colonels in Indian think-tanks. Optimists prefer to hail the \$60 billion in trade the two are expected to do with each other this year. But the 20th century taught the world that blatantly foreseeable conflicts of interest can become increasingly foreseeable wars with unforeseeably dreadful consequences. Relying on prosperity and more democracy in China to sort things out thus seems unwise. Two things need to be done. First, the slow progress towards a border settlement needs to resume. The main onus here is on China. It has the territory it really wants and has maintained its claim to Arunachal Pradesh only as a bargaining chip. It has, after all, solved intractable boundary quarrels with Russia, Mongolia, Myanmar and Vietnam.....
- (a) Surely it cannot be so difficult to treat with India?
- (b) Surely it will be more difficult with India?
- (c) Can it solve dispute with India with its non democratic values?
- (d) With India intentions are not clear.
- DIRECTIONS (Qs. 42-45):** In each of the following questions, four options are provided following a paragraph. Select the option best representing the theme of the paragraph.
42. No one has ever conclusively proven or disproven the truth of spontaneous human combustion, but most scientists say that there are more likely explanations for the charred remains. Many of the so-called victims of spontaneous human combustion were smokers who were later discovered to have died by falling asleep with a lit cigarette, cigar or pipe. A number of them were believed to have been under the influence of alcohol or to have suffered from a movement-restricting disease that prevented them from moving quickly enough to escape the fire. Another possibility is that some of the fires and strange states of the victims’ bodies were the result of a criminal act and subsequent cover-up.
- (A) Nothing like spontaneous human combustion exists. This is a myth propagated by those who want to hide the real cause behind a burnt person. Mostly criminal activity is the real cause.
- (B) Although not explicitly rejected, the theory of spontaneous human combustion is weakened by disclosure of other

causes of burning of people, who were supposed to be spontaneously combusted.

- (C) Every novel theory is attacked initially and spontaneous human combustion is no exception. There may be some cases where the cause of burning has been discovered to be something else, but this does not rule out the theory.
- (D) Spontaneous human combustion is an enlarged and amplified form of the chemical oxidation that happens all the time inside the body. Scientists are evading this straightforward explanation.
- (a) A (b) B
(c) C (d) D
43. The first thing to note about mindfulness is that it is not particularly hard at all to be mindful. It does not take a really strenuous effort to make yourself become mindful and more present. The effort is very small. The problem is to remember to do it! We forget it all the time. It is not hard, but we just do not remember to do it. The ideal way to become more mindful is simply to make the slight effort to be more mindful at all times.
- (A) Being conscientious is strenuous and taxing; which makes people to stay elusive.
- (B) 'Easy things are difficult to complete.' The memory bank goes bankrupt and you may become dull.
- (C) To make oneself mindful is not as difficult as one thinks it to be. It is difficult unless and until one remembers to do it.
- (D) Sharpness of mind is a transient feature and so is the involved factor of memory.
- (a) A (b) B
(c) C (d) D
44. Hearing is our second most useful sense when it comes to learning. Many excellent pianists respond to questions about their artistry with "oh, I learned to play by ear". They 'hear' the melody in their mind as they play. This helps them to remember the thousands of notes that make up a lengthy piece. Similarly the shriek of a fire alarm immediately reminds the volunteer fireman that he is needed at the firehouse. Such auditory elaboration makes it easier to remember.
- Once you have cultivated the practice of trying to hear more as well as to see more, you will broaden your path towards an improved memory, which at times can prove to be a vital factor.
- (A) Hearing is a reflexive sense, becoming more inept if learned through auditory elaboration.
- (B) Hearing and seeing together sharpens the power of retention, which at times can be an important factor.
- (C) An ordinary individual is more sensitive towards music as he learns to play by ear only.
- (D) When hearing and seeing are focused together, the power of retention gets confused, which becomes a restricting factor.
- (a) A (b) B
(c) C (d) D
45. Researchers have identified a number of benefits that come from perceiving that we are in control of the events in our

lives. People who find they are unable to control important events may suffer from learned helplessness and depression. However, researchers also have found some important exceptions to this rule. People who find they cannot directly control important outcomes sometimes rely on secondary control, such as focussing their attention on what they can control or by placing their trust in others.

- (a) Dependability is not having faith in one's own self. It also makes the individual lethargic and sometimes, just not performing because deep in the back of his mind, he has conditioned himself to the idea that there are others who would do the job for him.
- (b) Sometimes people experience increased anxiety when given control over a situation or choose to relinquish control to another person. This may reflect their incapability at handling tough situations but then may also reflect their views of getting the thing done by more competent persons.
- (c) It is indeed appreciable if a person handles difficult situations with calm and grace. Without getting bogged down, he should rather accept it as a challenge and work out the suitable means of tackling such trying situations.
- (d) Life is a struggle and those who bravely withstand the stormy conditions with gusto are the ones who are definitely going to emerge victorious.]

DIRECTIONS (Qs. 46-50): In each of the following questions a short passage is given with one of the lines in the passage missing and represented by a blank. Select the best out of the five answer choices given, to make the passage complete and coherent.

[IBPS PO 2011]

46. Women's rights around the world are an important indicator to understand global well-being. A major global women's rights treaty was ratified by the majority of the world's nations a few decades ago. These ranges from the cultural, political to the economic. For example, women often work more than men, yet are paid less; gender discrimination affects girls and women throughout their lifetime; and women and girls are often the ones that suffer the most poverty. Many may think that women's rights are only an issue in countries where religion is law. Or even worse, some may think this is no longer an issue at all. But reading the report about the United Nation's Women's Treaty and how an increasing number of countries are lodging reservations will show otherwise. Gender equality furthers the cause of child survival and development for all of society, so the importance of women's rights and gender equality should not be underestimated.
- (a) This treaty tackled and solved a number of issues related to women.
- (b) Why is it then, that moment still face a number of problems on the domestic front?
- (c) Thus, the woman today is ten times more empowered as compared to a woman say about a decade ago.
- (d) Women's activists across nations have implored the respective governments to take this seriously.
- (e) Yet, despite many successes in empowering women, numerous issues still exist in all areas of life.

47. Research has shown that air pollutants from fossil fuel use make clouds reflect more of the sun's rays back into space. This leads to an effect known as global dimming whereby less heat and energy reaches the earth. However, it is believed that global dimming caused the droughts in certain parts of the world where millions died, because the northern hemisphere oceans were not warm enough to allow rain formation. Global dimming is also hiding the true power of global warming. By cleaning up global dimming-causing pollutants without talking greenhouse gas emissions, rapid warming has been observed, and various human health and ecological disasters have resulted, as witnessed during the European heat wave in 2003, which saw thousands of people die.
- This though, does not bring any relief in the problems associated with climate change.
 - This phenomenon thus is part of the climate change problem.
 - Scientists thus believe that this phenomenon goes hand in hand with global warming
 - At first, it sounds like an ironic savior to climate change problems
 - The answer to all our problems with respect to climate change is definitely here
48. Poverty is the state for the majority of the world's people and nations. Why is this? Have they been lazy, made poor decisions, and been solely responsible for their own plight? What about their governments? Have they pursued policies that actually harm successful development? Such causes of poverty and inequality are no doubt real. But deeper and more global causes of poverty are often less discussed. Behind the increasing interconnectedness promised by globalization are global decisions, policies, and practices. These are typically influenced, driven, or formulated by the rich and powerful. These can be leaders of rich countries or other global actors such as multinational corporations, institutions, and influential people. In the face of such enormous external influence, the governments of poor nations and their people are often powerless. As a result, in the global context, a few get wealthy while the majority struggles.
- Is it enough to blame poor people for their own predicament?
 - What is the government doing about it?
 - Are the wealthy ones in the nation even aware of this?
 - The government has already taken measures to eradicate the same.
 - The huge gap between the rich and the poor in the nation is now narrowing
49. Analysts and industry pundits forecast that notebook market, which has been growing faster than the desktop market for the past three years, is expected to overtake the desktop market by the year 2011-12. A fall in prices, large deals from governments and institutions, and demand from consumers and sectors such as education are expected to help the notebook numbers. According to research agencies, the year 2010-11 saw notebook volumes rise, and for the first time a million plus notebooks were sold in India in a single quarter. The market has grown nearly four times for notebooks. The demand is driven by all sectors and a very buoyant consumer market, which prefers mobile computers. Entry-level notebook prices have dropped below the Rs. 25,000 mark; this has helped break the ice with new customers. This drop in notebook prices has been helped by the drop in the prices of the building blocks that make a notebook. It's simple. With notebook volumes growing, the prices of the components are also bound to come down.
- All this has resulted in a noticeable change in a number of large government tenders for notebooks; which were traditionally for desktops.
 - Because of this the government still prefers desktops to notebooks and has passed tenders for the same.
 - Thereby making them more expensive.
 - Thus the forecast for the coming year states that desktops will be the preferred technology choice only for consumers who cannot afford the exorbitantly priced notebook.
 - Thus notebooks will become obsolete after a decade or so.
50. Next to China, India is the most populated country in the world. Particularly, rush to technical and higher education has increased as the scope for arts and science has become lesser and lesser due to lack of reforms and up gradation in the course structure and materials according to the developments of the world. Also, qualification in higher education gives added advantage to face successfully competition in the job market.
- Keeping this in mind, the government has provided concessions in the admission fees for the arts and science streams in the country.
 - Naturally there is too much rush and competition in every field.
 - Despite this the rush to higher education is lesser.
 - This population increase, though, has not kept pace with the knowledge expansion around the world.
 - In the next decade it will become the most populous.
- DIRECTIONS (Qs. 51-55):** Which of the phrases (a), (b), (c) and (d) given below each statement should be placed in the blank space provided so as to make a meaningful and grammatically correct sentence? If none of the sentences is appropriate, mark (e) i.e., 'None of the above' as the answer. **[IBPS PO 2013]**
51. Overlooking the fact that water scarcity intensifies during summer,
- the government issued guidelines to all builders to limit their consumption to acceptable limits
 - provision for rainwater harvesting has been made to aid irrigation in drought prone area
 - the water table did not improve even after receiving normal monsoon in the current year
 - many residential areas continue to use swimming pools, wasting large quantities water
 - None of the above

52. Refuting the rationale behind frequent agitations for formation of separate states, a recent report
- (a) proved that such agitations result in loss of governmental property
 - (b) indicated that the formation of small states does not necessarily improve the economy
 - (c) suggested that only large scale agitations have been effective in bringing out desired change in the past
 - (d) recommended dividing large states into smaller ones to improve governance
 - (e) None of the above
53. Achieving equality for women is not only a laudable goal,
- (a) political reforms are also neglected preventing women from entering legislatures and positions of power
 - (b) the problem is also deep rooted in the society and supported by it
 - (c) their empowerment is purposefully hampered by people with vested interests in all sections of the society
 - (d) it is also equally difficult to achieve and maintain for a long term
 - (e) None of the above
54. He has lost most of his life's earning in the stock market but
- (a) He still seems to be leading his life luxuriously and extravagantly
 - (b) he could not save enough to repay his enormous debts
 - (c) stock market is not a safe option to invest money unless done with caution
 - (d) experts have been suggesting to avoid investments in stock market because of its unpredictable nature
 - (e) None of the above
55.or else they would not keep electing him year after year.
- (a) The party leader gave a strong message to the mayor for improving his political style
 - (b) Owing to numerous scandals against the mayor, he was told to resign from the post immediately
 - (c) The mayor threatened the residents against filing a complaint against him
 - (d) The residents must really be impressed with the political style of their mayor
 - (e) None of the above

Hints & Solutions

LEVEL-I

1. (a) Passage is about the cheap labour and its advantage while competition from the other countries with even cheaper labour is there. Part before the blank space discusses the same thing like overtaking from these cheaper countries. Next part should have something (as sentence starts with 'therefore') that make India vigilant about the fact and option (a) is having that part additionally it contains the information how India should build on the advantage it had of cheap labor as discussed in major part of the passage hence this is best sentence to finish the passage.
From the other options, (b) is second best and can be an option in absence of (a). Option (c) and (d) are not logical.
2. (c) Option (a) is wrong as scrapping of the EIA is not discussed in any part of passage. Rather improvement is discussed in subsequent part after the blank space. Option (b) is totally out of place as it does not go in with theme of passage. Only option which is brief and accurate for the blank space and connects two parts of passage is (c). As this is a general statement and can be inserted in with out affecting the sense in which passage is flowing. Option (d) is also not right for its negative approach.
3. (c) It has been already given that all the institutes work in coordination so option (d) is redundant and repeating same thing in different manner. Sentence indicates that though these institutions work in coordination these are having different responsibilities to shoulder. But again there are two options which are nearly saying same thing -option (b) and option (c). But in option (b) 'different direction' is not right. If they are working in different direction then what is the need of coordinating. Option (a) is not correct for the context.
4. (d) Statement after the blank space contradicts what is said in the option (a). So it is not right. Membership is not being discussed here so option (b) is also not right. Reason of option (a) goes with option (d) also. Only option which comes appropriate with the passage content and position of blank space is option (d).
5. (a) Option (b) is not right as Issue is related to the India not the world, so role of World Bank looks irrelevant in this context. Discussion in parliament is too farfetched in option (c). Option (a) rightly indicates that Indian Government's policy for the matter discussed in passage would be instructive. Option (d) is out of context for its deviation from the topic.
6. (c) Market is being discussed here not the countries. Other options are inappropriately distant from the context.
7. (d) Passage is a comparison of Centre and State Government's plans, finances and expenditures. In this particular portion of passage which have the blank part, it is mentioned that State finances are increasing at rapid rate and now they have more liberty for spending on expenditures meanwhile a comparison is also done with centre's expenditures in part following the blank space so option (d) which encompasses this sense of part of passage is correct filler. Option (a) is opposite of what is being said in the passage. Option (b) and (c) discusses revenues and borrowing of centre's which is not mentioned or intended in the passage so these are incorrect.
8. (a) Only option (a) captures the theme of passage in single sentence. Hence it is the finishing sentence.
9. (a) Blank part should take some common perception of budget as the passage wants to indicate that the budget is not this.... but it is that..... and option (a) in best captures the essence of this logic.
10. (d) As a study report is not a legal document it is not binding on anyone. Sentence represents study in a lighter vein so it must not be taken seriously but as the study is done there must be some purpose of it and results at least is taken note of. This logic brings to the option (d) which is correct part to complete the incomplete sentence of passage.
11. (a) Only option (a) seems to be logical for the context. As subsequent part of passage shows how it was a problem to bail out one and to deny other the same resources. Option (d) is out of place.
12. (a) It is only logical option other options do not follow any logic. If income is less than expenditure is less than income then there is definitely a loss.
13. (a) As the passage says that risk aggregation is new at the beginning of passage it can be inferred that most banks are yet to conceptualise it in their processes.
Hence option (a) is correct. Option (c) is farfetched conclusion. Option (d) is repetition of what is being stated in passage earlier. So it can not be the answer.
14. (a) Passage is about non-resident Indian entity and its tax deduction. Other options are not in the context of passage as they talk about the things which are not given or can be inferred from the passage.
15. (a) Before the blank space, centre-state problems are discussed and after the blank advantage of finance commission is given in this regard. So option (a) in right approach has shown finance commission in connection with both the problems and it's own advantage. Option (c) is out of context. Option (d) is also mentioned in passage in later parts.
16. (b) Option (b) is right as it has connection with what is said in the passage after the blank space. Mercy in this option connects well with not a trade, not a business etc.
17. (b) Last part of passage is about shortcomings given in mentioned through the statement of option (b). New approach in option (d) can fit but leaves the passage stranded and two parts before the blank and after the blank can not be joined through this option.
18. (c) The submarine is newly developed and introduced in ceremony is now going for trials. It is like coming out from maternity ward to nursery.

19. (d) As this car is specially designed for the women it can be said that car is designed by all women team. This is best option which emphasizes the point of passage.
20. (c) First finance commission laid down some of the principles which were followed by subsequent commissions is a positive statement which is the tone of passage. Passage presents the finance commission in positive light. Option (d) is doubtful and can not be reached from the passage.
21. (a) In this part of passage a comparison of women with men in public or private sector is given with balance tilting to side of women. When preference is given to women in a particular sector then promotion to senior position is also imminent. Hence this option is best one to choose.
22. (a) Passage portion is not about the management of finances but the improvement in finances and restructuring of expenditures. Mending the ways of government is a too strong statement and does not apply here.
23. (c) Only option (c) is logical and sensible as rich can not be centre point of any economy. They do not have the remote control either.
24. (b) Certain words in other options make them doubtful - 'most' in option (a); 'Risk level' in option (c). Comparison with other parts of world is not intended here as given in option (d).
25. (a) All options can fit. But the best one is (a) because It emphasises the point said initially in the passage with word 'stubborn'.
It relates with German issue coherently.
It has detail definition of fallacy which is a requirement when one thing is being discussed again after a long gap in passage.
26. (a) Next sentence after the blank space suggests that blank should have something simple about the inflation. This simple thing should be logical and sensible. Option (a) is simple and goes well with the flow of passage. Option (d) is not right as cure can not lie in cause itself.
27. (d) Option (b) is doubtful as passage does not mention such a thing in any of its part. Option (a) talks about all parties but the next statement after the blank space is contradicting it. Option (c) is negative and for fiscal federalism passage discusses its plight not its shortcoming or of democracy as given in option (b). Only option that can fill the blank for going in with the content of passage is option (d). This sentence and next sentence both are a combination and coherent in flow.
28. (a) Other options cannot be inserted in the blank space as they are not logical and in sync with passage. Option (b) can be right if 'only' is removed from it. Use of 'only' makes it incorrect. Banks and Stock markets are decentralization agents and hence are needed as per passage in this way option(c) is against the passage. Then option (d) unnecessarily will introduce comparison between banks and stock markets while passage presents both in as a pair.
29. (d) This question is to be solved by reading whole passage as no immediate connections can be derived with sentence preceding the blank space and one following it. If Japan is third then which one are two other - it is answered in option (d). USA

and China are referred to in whole passage. So they can be the other two. Option (a) is hypothetical in nature and needs some explanation to follow after it. Option (b) also needs some base. This is the case with option(c) and option (e).

30. (a) Last sentence shows that China has solved border dispute with a number of countries, while the passage is mainly about the relationship of India and China. This indicates that finishing statement should also be about improvement in relationships of India and China. This is given in all options. But option (a) poses a valid question as passage shows that relationships between two countries are improving.
From the other options (d) is not correct as positive improvements are illustrated in passage. Markets of option (e) are not discussed here in passage. Option (b) is opposite to the spirit of the passage.

LEVEL-II

1. (b) Here the doctor is talking about a reason that is seemingly foolish and is intended to protect the patient from suffering further pain. Further sentences indicate that the doctor has an affectionate feeling towards the patient. Thus option (b) is the best fit. None of the other options covers these two points together. So they do not form the answer. Hence, option (b) is the correct option.
2. (c) The author talks about the triviality of planet 'earth' in perspective of universe. So following this thought and applying this idea on human beings, options (c) and (d) form candidate answers. But if one notices the sentence following the blank, option (c) is seen to be most appropriate. Options (a) and (b) are out of context. Hence, option (c) is the correct option.
3. (a) Option (a) best fits in as the missing link. Option (b) is incorrect as the sentence following the missing link is 'Today in addition, they hire investment bankers....' The words 'in addition' show that earlier also, some efforts have been made by labour unions. This sense of effort is not conveyed by option (b). Option (c) is incorrect as the words 'just filed' does not go with 'Today in addition' in the following sentence. Option (d) is irrelevant in the given context. Hence, option (a) is the correct option.
4. (b) Option (b) is the most logical and clear option as the missing link, fitting well from the language point of view and following the 'pre' and 'post' statements. Preceding statements mention about 'Slavery in America and the vested interests of Southern countries American President Abraham Lincoln handing the vision with courage'. Subsequent to the missing link, is the statement, 'Lincoln died but with his death ensuring peace and prosperity in the world'. Thus analysing the text, option (b) most fittingly expresses and parenthetically gives a logical sense to the passage as it states that 'Lincoln emancipated the slaves 'a messiah' of the American slaves'. Options (a), (c) and (d) cannot be included as the correct option as they are not establishing the link between 'Lincoln's assassination and slaves' freedom'.

5. (b) Option (b) is the most befitting statement logically as the missing link following the statement : 'In this time of advanced audiences', 'puppetry manipulators'. 'It is now an assimilated here and now' and preceding the statements 'caricature puppets political satires', 'India now into one performance'. The option expresses that things of importance like poems, educational messages, wildlife themes, etc. are choreographed with provocative music resulting in spectacular arts. None of the other options fit suitably as they are either incomplete in their representation or they are wayward. Option (b) is the most logical option as the missing link.
 6. (c) Option (c) is the most befitting statement logically as the missing link following the statement 'gone are the days business potential'. 'There was time migrant workers'. 'Somewhere things changed', 'not surprisingly for many companies and countries'. The option expresses things of importance like Canada being the only G7 country with a surplus, has fastest growing GDP and has some exciting tech clusters besides many more. Options (a), (b) and (d) are not perfect fits as they are either incomplete in their representation or wayward. Option (c) is the most logical fit for the missing link.
 7. (d) Option (d) is the most befitting statement logically as the missing link following the statements : 'an overstatement to say that the consumer products industry is on an eternal search for new ways to drive top-line growth', 'there are a plethora limited access to customers are just a few' and preceding the statements : 'many legacy systems', 'the result of such an amalgam unresponsive consumers'. The option expresses quite necessary things i.e. involvement of mature markets, globalisation, challenges of working together, etc. Each of option (a), (b) and (c) are taking up the issue some way or the other but none of them is as logical for the missing link as option (d) is.
 8. (a) Option (a) is the most logical statement as the missing link in the passage because it aptly links to the 'pre' and 'post' textual content. The statements : 'The current boom employment', 'The decade-long down sizing in the manufacturing an era of jobless growth', etc. reflect the pre-parenthesis reflects 'According to one in 2002-03', 'In contrast, private recruitment companies placements to go up by 25% in 2004'. Option (b) does not fit as the missing link because its logical representation is incorrect. Option (c) also cannot be considered as it gives a misrepresentation which misleads the passage. Option (d) is inadequately covered and hence not considered as the appropriate missing link.
 9. (b) Option (b) is the most logical statement as the missing link in the passage because it aptly fits in to the 'pre' and 'post' text of the passage. The statements : 'Rajasthan is building into hotels' followed as 'post-parenthesis' the statements which read as 'Express highways heritage', 'That monuments backdrop of mountains', etc. Option (b) as the missing link also reflects about 'governments odd realisation that heritage has to be protected around heritage' truly justifies the context to the missing link. Option (a) does not correspond to the contextual theme and hence not considered as the missing link.
- Option (c) also does not reflect effectively the context suitable for the missing link, hence not considered. Option (d) is also ruled being inadequate in representation.
10. (c) Option (c) is the most logical statement as the missing link in the passage as 'pre' and 'post' parenthetically it fits in snugly. The previous statement says 'What on earth Lala Amarnath today?' While the post parenthesis contents mention about 'But be glad he played in wilder temper to match', 'Amarnath was no less first Indian test century', 'He was an expansive merely the scratching of statics'. Analysis of the content of option (c) reflects 'either trampled on his spirit on equally bad, lumped him with a 'brand image' cheesy smile' which appears appropriate to fit in as the missing link. Option (a) is not considered as it portrays an incomplete representation and hence not considered.
 11. (d) Option (d) is the most logical statement as the missing link in the passage as 'pre' and 'post' parenthetically it fits in simply. The pretext statements state : 'The tea plantation country'. 'Next to sections of the society, while the post parenthesis statements mention about 'As the tea plantation distances', 'In north India plain districts', etc. An analysis of the contents of option (d) reflects 'About half the labour force they enjoy equal wages,' which contextually fits as the missing link. Option (a) and option (c) cannot be considered as the appropriate fit as they are inadequate in their representation while option (b) is not considered as its contents are wayward.
 12. (c) 13. (a) 14. (b) 15. (b) 16. (a)
 17. (d) 18. (b)
 19. (a) The theme of the paragraph revolves around 'bad writing'. The author aims to define 'bad writing'. Nothing in the text suggests that the author aims to compare good writing with bad writing. Options (b) and (d) talk about 'good writing' which is a shift from the theme and hence can be eliminated. Option (a) explains the 'self-serving' goals mentions in the last sentence of the paragraph and hence seems the best fit.
 20. (b) Option (b) is the answer as it refers to both the policing and higher education policies.
 21. (a) Option (a) is clearly correct as it continues with the contrast presented in the last line of the paragraph.
 22. (b) As per the passage in starting portion it has been given that market oriented people do not have plans for poor people or in other words no social agenda which is definitely the priority of any government. But if power of government is transferred to others (market forces in this case) then there would not be any radical social change.
From the other options, (c) discusses elections but there is nothing related to elections in the passage.
Option (d) is contradicting what is said in the statement following the blank space.
 23. Option (b) vehemently represents the sense of passage; additionally it contains in it a message that author wants to convey through the passage. One more point supports this option is that it fits well with the capitalized word (which is of course used to emphasize) WRONG. Hence strong message should follow it.

24. (d) This option is right as it does not judge or present an opinion rather it comes up with a possibility with right approach i.e. positive and covers legal aspect of matter as well. Other options are more or less judgments or opinions that do not qualify as finishing /closing statement.
25. (d) All other options are rephrasing of all ready discussed facts of passage. But option (d) shows it. It can be inferred that holding back information would lead to lack of innovations in auto industry, these innovations can be in supply chain for dealers, new car models with improved performance at cheap pricing for customers/end users and increased profit for company.
26. (a) Understand it in this way -
Although savings is discouraged but borrowings are also not encouraged for a longer (persistent) period.
This question is a difficult one. Best method to solve these type of questions is to use elimination method.
Option(c) is out of context talking about credit cards so can be rejected.
Option (d) involves banks and gifts for saving account which seems to be giving triviality to the matter of paragraph.
Option (a) is best answer for the blank space as it supports only what is given in passage.
27. (d) Passage shall start with a hope in the GDP figures as in next sentence that hope fades away. See the use of word 'even after' this indicates that incident detailed here should have happened before it. Another thing that goes in favor of option (d) is that it shows the pain of unemployment and its sustenance which is a major issue highlighted in paragraph.
28. (d) 'also' of this statement connects well with the preceding sentence. Passage presents Delhi in two different shades. And this statement complements the negative statement just before the blank space. Same example is given earlier in passage - on one hand, social amenities deteriorating while on other hand world known social workers are also working in Delhi. In same sense while there are people with addiction for wrong things, there are also people with addiction to right things.
29. (b) Passage can be divided in two parts. One before the blank space and another after the blank space. First part says that bank people are nervous as computer systems are not working. Second part says that queues get thinner. It means problem mentioned in first part gets rectified and effect of it is seen in second part.
30. (a) This option connects well with the opening statement. Second option can not be reached through passage. Third option also needs some mentioning in the passage. In absence of this linkage it does not qualify for the correct answer. Option (d) is irrelevant.
31. (a) 'these two Asian giants' hints reference of some Asian country in previous line. On this basis Option (b) is wrong. Option(c) is about only the China. Fight is between Option (d) and Option (a); latter scores over former as word 'behemoth' complements 'giants' of subsequent sentence.
32. (c) After the blank space two or three sentences are about the dressing styles of North and South Indians. It is not about the climate or earning based choice or fashion. Rather it is just the difference on general basis.
33. (a) This question is more a checking of logic and sense than an understanding of the passage. Only export and import do not make GDP of a country. They are not the only indicators of influence of a country on world map. Option(c) is not logical and no sense prevails through it.
34. (a) Option (b) is not correct as it goes against the passage. Option (e) is illogical and does not fit as there is no reason why skilled people are not available. Option (d) seems silly on basis of its impossibility. Experts are not discussed in passage. Only option which fits well in the context is director working alone on such films of low budget.
35. (b) See the part of passage after the blank space, this gives a number of meaning of term 'yield' taken in different fields. This is same thing which is stated in the passage. Option (d) links the term with situations which is not correct. Option (a) and (c) are false.
36. (a) This is best option which expresses the fact illustrated in passage that the market is ever changing. Other options are generalized statements with no special linkage to passage.
37. (a) Let us examine the validity of each and every option one by one.
Only Indian is not right overseas acquisitions are also discussed in passage.
Acquisitions are not hostile always.
This can be verified with the subsequent content of the passage. Globalization is not given in passage.
This option is totally out of context.
38. (a) In option (b) 'limit' is doubtful.
Option (c) and Option (d) are incorrect and cannot be defined from the passage.
Option (a) is only option which in combination with next statement is sensible.
39. (a) Implementation can be a challenge for such a wide banking system of India but it cannot be impossible or problem (supervisors are there to implement). It is foolish to implement on trial basis on a vast scale.
40. (a) A little reasoning is required to solve the question. If a foreign bank is operating in a country then it shall be governed by the regulations of that country along with its original country. Then only that country will allow it to operate. On this logic option (d) can be rejected. Little extension of this logic discards the possibility of audit in country of origin. Hence rule out (c). Option (b) is inappropriate as passage does not support it.
41. (a) Last sentence shows that China has solved border dispute with a number of countries, while the passage is mainly about the relationship of India and China. This indicates that finishing statement should also be about improvement in relationships of India and China. This is given in all options. But option (a) poses a valid question as passage shows that relationships between two countries are improving.
From the other options (d) is not correct as positive improvements are illustrated in passage. Markets of option (e) are not discussed here in passage. Option (b) is opposite to the spirit of the passage.

42. (b) The paragraph clearly says that although explicitly the spontaneous human combustion theory has neither been accepted nor rejected, but most of the time other causes for burning have been discovered, such as smoking, inability to flee or criminal activity. Option (b) exactly goes with this idea, hence forms the answer. Options (a) and (d) are totally irrelevant and have to be rejected. Option (c) is also to be ruled out as it gives points like, 'Every novel theory is attacked initially' that is not mentioned in the passage. Hence, option (b) is the correct option.
43. (c) Option (c) best encapsulates the essence of the text. Option (a) is incorrect as it contradicts the given passage. Option (b) is incorrect as it is irrelevant in the given context. Option (d) is incorrect as the passage does not mention about the sharpness of mind being a temporary feature. Hence option (c) is the correct option.
44. (b) Option (b) best encapsulates the essence of the text. Option (a) is incorrect as the passage nowhere mentions about the sense of hearing as a reflexive sense. Option (c) is incorrect as it is irrelevant in the given context. Option (d) is incorrect as it contradicts the passage, which states that the process of hearing and seeing together improve one's memory. Hence option (b) is the correct option.
45. (b) Option (b) is the best option representing the theme of the passage which enlists about 'Researchers having identified a number of benefits which we control the events on our own'. The passage further says that 'people unable to control important events may suffer and may hand over the control to others in whom they can place their trust'. Option (a) does not represent the theme of the passage as it is incomplete in its summing up. Option (c) handles the first aspect but then trails off, leaving the theme wanting. Option (d) also does not represent the entire theme, hence not considered.
46. (a) For attempting this type of questions it is important to correlate what is being stated before the blank space and what is stated after the blank.

While it is also important to see in which direction the passage will go if a particular choice is selected.

In this question, women's rights treaty being ratified by a number of countries is discussed so in the following sentence

effects of these should be discussed. Option (b) can be rejected as for solving the problems treaty was ratified. (C) is a judgmental statement and should be avoided when no certain information is available. (D) can fit well before the ratification of the treaty but not after it. There should be a continuation in passage. Option (E) is incorrect for the logic that first basic rights will be achieved and then only empowering can be mentioned. This option is one step further and not about the women's right.

47. (c) Option (B) & (D) can be rejected as climate change is mentioned nowhere in the passage. After the blank global warming is mentioned and before it global dimming. So blank can work as a connector for both of these. Option (C) includes both. Hence this is the best option. (E) is like deciding in haste without understanding the intent of passage.
48. (a) Before blank space a question is posed. And after the blank space reasons which can be associated with poor people themselves is discussed so the blank space should have a special mention of poor people whether in form of question or a simple statement (B) & (D) won't fit well here so they can be ruled out.
- Rich is not even introduced in passage till this point, therefore option (E) can also be rejected. Additionally Option (A) gives a logical and sensible flow to the passage.
49. (a) Only option which is positive for notebooks and is in accordance with their prices coming down is (A). Option (B) is against what is being said in the last line of the passage. (C) is completely illogical and hard to come by as it talks about the prices of components coming down but prices note books soaring high. (E) is also in different direction and is not related to spirit of passage. Option (D) is about desktops not note books.
50. (b) Sentence before the blank space is about the population and after it about the rush in for college education Option (B) is related to both the statements (before and after the blank) (E) is repetition of what is said in opening statement. (A) is like sudden intrusion of government's angle in passage with no relation to statements preceding and following the blank space.
52. (d) 53. (b) 54. (e) 55. (a)