

Time allowed: 45 minutes

Maximum Marks: 200

**General Instructions:** Same as Practice Paper-1.

**I. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow by choosing the correct option.**

- (1) We see farmers staging protests very frequently. But what is the conclusion? What is the solution? What, if anything at all, is being done to tackle this issue? In a country like India which boasts of having the second largest population in the world, there are innumerable mouths to feed. So ideally, the nation's food providers must be the richest! Ironically, they are the poorest and the most exploited.
  - (2) The farmers of today are just mere cultivators with almost no control over pricing and selling of their yields. Everything is in the hands of the middlemen who appropriate a huge portion of the profit while giving the farmers very little. This, coupled with a host of other problems like insufficient rain, lack of proper irrigation and infrastructure, lack of proper credit facilities, etc. are the major causes of the plight that the Indian farmers face today.
  - (3) Every year, the government allocates enough allowance in the Union Budget for agricultural infrastructure, such as proper irrigation facilities to be installed, proper transport and storage facilities to be provided, etc. Unfortunately, all these initiatives seem to be doing no good as we see a steady rise in the number of farmers'
  - (4) In the face of this, it is also imperative to evaluate the latest scheme the government has come up with to help this segment of the Indian population. Let us put this into perspective. A sum of ₹ 6,000 annually means just about ₹ 500 a month. Given the current state of affairs, this sum is too meagre an amount to substitute the farmers' income. This sum will neither help the farmer to take care of his family efficiently, nor improve his farming techniques, nor enable him to pay off his debts. This seems to just be a way to absolve the state of taking a more comprehensive and effective action in tackling the issue.
  - (5) Steps are not being taken towards enabling the farmers to be able to repay their loans themselves but farm loan waivers are announced as a temporary respite and that too, just before the elections. The government is not looking into better ways of pricing the farm produce and instead came up with a direct income transfer scheme which yields so little benefit to the farmer and his family. So, an in-depth analysis of the exact nature and causes of the problems that are being faced by this sector should be made and start prioritising the lives of our feeders.
- 1. Choose the most appropriate title for the passage.**
    - (a) The Plight of Indian Politics
    - (b) The Plight of Indian Farmers
    - (c) The Truth of Government Schemes
    - (d) The Blessings of Rainfall
  - 2. Why is the narrator's belief ironical in the first paragraph?**
    - (a) Because farmers are staging protests
    - (b) Because India is a rich country
    - (c) Because we have innumerable mouths to feed and the food providers are poor
    - (d) Because farmers are dying
  - 3. Why are the farmers facing the misery?**
    - (a) Because farmers are illiterate
    - (b) Because farmers are mere cultivators and a huge portion of the profit goes to the middlemen
    - (c) Because the farmers don't know the real value of their yields
    - (d) Because the compensation amount is not being given to all the farmers

4. **What is the attraction of the Union Budget as discussed in the passage?**
  - (a) The government allocates sufficient allowance to provide proper irrigation facilities.
  - (b) The government provides storage facilities in the Union Budget.
  - (c) The government provides proper transport facilities in the Union Budget.
  - (d) The government is training the farmers about modern techniques.
5. **What is the reason of the steady rise in the number of farmers' suicides?**
  - (a) Because the compensation amount is very less
  - (b) Because very little of the allocated fund is put in the proper use for the welfare of farmers
  - (c) Because of the hefty loans farmers have taken from the banks
  - (d) Because of the farmers' illiteracy
6. **Which of the following statements are NOT TRUE with reference to the context of the given passage?**
  - (a) India boasts of being the second largest populated country in the world.
  - (b) Insufficient rains and improper irrigation facilities cause immense problems in the agricultural sector.
  - (c) A sum of ₹ 6,000/- is given to every farmer per month by the government.
  - (d) The farmers of today have no control over the pricing and selling of their yields.
7. **Why do the incumbents announce loan waiver?**
  - (a) Because they want to seek their votes
  - (b) Because they are concerned about the farmers
  - (c) Because farmers earn only ₹ 6,000 annually
  - (d) Because farmers are our food providers
8. **Find the synonym of the word 'meagre' from the following.**
  - (a) Abundant
  - (b) Huge
  - (c) Sufficient
  - (d) Scanty
9. \_\_\_\_\_ of the exact nature and causes of the problems should be made to prioritise the lives of our feeders.
  - (a) An in-depth analysis
  - (b) Accurate size
  - (c) Genuine reason
  - (d) A number of benefits
10. **Choose the antonym of the word 'absolve' from the following.**
  - (a) Acquit
  - (b) Discharge
  - (c) Exonerate
  - (d) Condemn

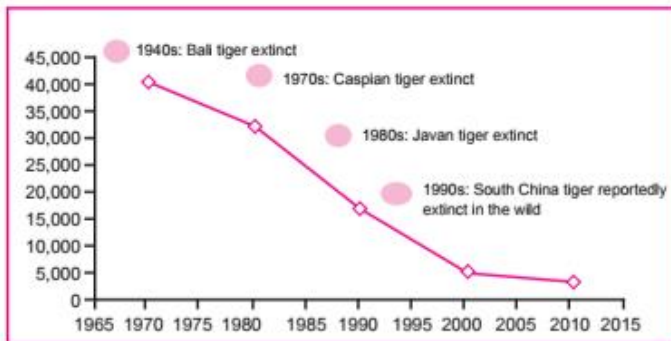
**II. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow by choosing the correct option.**

- (1) Power foods are foods that provide rich levels of nutrients like fibre, potassium and minerals. With people becoming increasingly health conscious today, a lot of fitness trainers encourage their clients to include these foods in their daily diet to increase muscle development. There are various ways of incorporating power foods in your daily diet. Of course, the key to enjoying power foods is proper preparation of these foods, the use of season-fresh foods, and identifying your choice of flavour among power foods.
  - (2) Some of the recommended power food combinations are those that are prepared in our kitchens on a regular basis. Take for instance, the combination of chickpeas and onions. This combination is a powerful source of iron which is required by the body to transport oxygen to its various parts. Iron deficiency can lead to anaemia, fatigue, brain fog and tiredness. A study by the Journal of Agricultural and Food Chemistry says that sulphur compounds in onion and garlic help in the absorption of iron and zinc from chickpeas. The combination is a hit with teenagers who need to be diligent about getting iron in their diet. A quick way to prepare this power food is to make a chickpea salad with chopped onions, chaat masala and cilantro.
  - (3) Another favourite combination with power food takers is yoghurt and bananas. This makes for a perfect snack after a rough game of football. Exercising burns glucose and thus, lowers blood sugar. Yoghurt is packed with proteins that help preserve muscle mass, and bananas are packed with carbohydrates that help in refuelling energy and preventing muscle soreness. A quick and easy recipe with bananas is a banana smoothie topped with cool yoghurt.
  - (4) Among beverages, green tea is the best source of catechins that are effective in halting oxidative damage to cells. According to researchers at the Purdue University, adding a dash of lemon juice to green tea makes the catechins even more absorbable by the body. So, the next time when you are with your friends, serve them rounds of iced green tea along with mint and lemon juice.
11. **How do we get rich levels of nutrients?**
    - (a) By following the advice of fitness trainers
    - (b) By identifying the requirement of the body
    - (c) By consuming power food
    - (d) By consuming only season-fresh foods
  12. **The combination of chickpeas and onions is a powerful source of \_\_\_\_\_.**
    - (a) vitamins
    - (b) minerals
    - (c) energy
    - (d) iron

13. What is the advantage of including onions and garlic in our diet?
  - (a) It helps in the absorption of iron and zinc.
  - (b) We feel relieved from brain fog and fatigue.
  - (c) It keeps our body balanced.
  - (d) It helps us lower our blood sugar.
14. What is the advantage of combining green tea with lemon juice?
  - (a) It helps in halting oxidative damage to cells.
  - (b) It's a quick source of getting iron.
  - (c) It makes the catechins more absorbable by the body.
  - (d) It prevents muscle soreness.
15. The consumption of yoghurt and bananas is best suggested after \_\_\_\_\_.
  - (a) a morning walk
  - (b) a rough game of football
  - (c) going to bed
  - (d) a rigorous exercise
16. What is the function of yoghurt in our body?
  - (a) It provides proteins.
  - (b) It provides iron.
  - (c) It maintains cholesterol.
  - (d) It provides carbohydrates.
17. How, according to the passage, is carbohydrate helpful to us?
  - (a) It keeps a check on iron deficiency.
  - (b) It reduces the sulphur compounds.
  - (c) It rejuvenates energy and prevents muscle soreness.
  - (d) It provides fibre, potassium, and minerals.
18. What does the deficiency of iron cause in our body?
  - (a) It leads to poor appetite and loss of sleep.
  - (b) It decreases the total amount of red blood cells and causes fatigue.
  - (c) It causes rheumatic pains.
  - (d) It gives swelling and pain in the ankles, knees, wrists or elbows.
19. Choose the most appropriate title for the given passage.
  - (a) The Gifts of Iron and Carbohydrates
  - (b) Power Foods
  - (c) Deficiency of Power Foods
  - (d) How Can You Stay Fit
20. Which statement from the following is FALSE?
  - (a) Chickpeas salad with chopped onions, chaat masala and cilantro are some of the ingredients to prepare power food.
  - (b) Exercising burns glucose and thus, lowers blood sugar.
  - (c) Teenagers need to be diligent about getting iron in their diet.
  - (d) Yoghurt is effective in halting oxidative damage to cells.

**III. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow by choosing the correct option.**

- (1) Tiger is one of the most recognisable animals around the world, capable of reaching an average of 3.38 m and 388 kg. Its reddish-orange fur with dark stripes is not only unique to tigers (some can have white fur), but also allows them to be camouflaged in the dense environment that they live in. This camouflage, however, has not helped the tiger escape from the eyes of humans, especially over the last century where tiger populations have declined by 96.1% - from 100,000 to a little over 3,900.
- (2) Over the last century, they have lost 93% of their historic range, and have been eradicated from Southwest and Central Asia, from the islands of Java and Bali, and from large areas of Southeast and Eastern Asia. Today, tigers range from the Siberian taiga in the north of Asia to the tropical mangrove swamps in the south, with the remaining six subspecies of tiger all classified by International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) as endangered. The exponential drop in tiger populations can be seen in the figure where the graph shows a considerable decrease in population, from around 40,000 in the 1940s to 3,000 in 2010. In fact, there are more tigers in captivity than there are in the wild today.





- (3) In total there have been 9 known species of tigers, 3 of which have become extinct. Bengal Tiger, Malayan Tiger, Sumatran Tiger, Siberian Tiger (Amur Tiger), Indochinese Tiger (Corbett's Tiger) and South China Tiger (Amoy or Xiamen Tiger) are the six present species of tiger. The three known extinct species of tigers are Bali Tiger, Caspian Tiger (Hyrcanian or Turan Tiger) and Javan Tiger. Bengal Tiger, the most common and second largest subspecies of tigers in the world today, are residing in the forests of India, Nepal, Bhutan, and Bangladesh. Malayan Tiger is exclusively found in the southern parts of the Malay Peninsula which is situated in Southeast Asia. Bali Tiger lived on the Indonesian island of Bali and was hunted to extinction on 27 September 1937, when the last of the subspecies was killed. Caspian Tiger (Hyrcanian or Turan Tiger) was found in the sparse forest habitats and riverine corridors west and south of the Caspian Sea and east through Central Asia.
- (4) The year 2020 data has estimated that there are around 5,000 captive tigers in the US, more than the approximately 3,900 remaining in the wild. A vast majority of these captive tigers are privately owned and living in people's backyards, roadside attractions, and private breeding facilities. Tiger population in India according to latest assessment is 2967. Much more work is needed to protect this species if we are to secure its future in the wild. In some areas, including much of Southeast Asia, tigers are still in crisis and declining in number.

**21. Suggest a suitable title for the given paragraph.**

- |                                    |                                 |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| (a) The Dwindling Tiger Population | (b) Where are the Tigers?       |
| (c) Tigris Face Extinction!        | (d) Save the 'Panthera Tigris'! |

**22. What is the use of dark stripes on the body of a tiger?**

- |                                    |  |
|------------------------------------|--|
| (a) It is a unique pattern.        | (b) It allows the tiger to camouflage.       |
| (c) It helps the tiger in hunting. | (d) It helps the tiger to be spotted easily. |

**23. Tiger populations have declined by \_\_\_\_\_.**

- |           |          |           |           |
|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|
| (a) 96.1% | (b) 1.9% | (c) 93.1% | (d) 53.1% |
|-----------|----------|-----------|-----------|

**24. Tigers have been \_\_\_\_\_ from Southwest and Central Asia, and from the islands of Java and Bali.**

- |              |              |                |                |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|
| (a) captured | (b) tortured | (c) restricted | (d) eradicated |
|--------------|--------------|----------------|----------------|

**25. How many subspecies of tiger have been declared as endangered?**

- |       |       |       |       |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|
| (a) 9 | (b) 6 | (c) 3 | (d) 8 |
|-------|-------|-------|-------|

**26. Where is the Siberian tiger?**

- |                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| (a) In the South of Africa     | (b) In the North of America |
| (c) In the Northeast of Africa | (d) In the North of Asia    |

**27. Which organization has specified the number of extinct subspecies of tiger?**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| (a) International Union for Conservation of Nature | (b) International Union for Conservation of Tiger |
| (c) Indian Union for Conservation of Tiger         | (d) Interstate Union for Conservation of Tiger    |

**28. What does 'exponential drop' mean?**

- |                 |                     |                |                   |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|
| (a) Sudden rise | (b) Sudden decrease | (c) Steep rise | (d) Meteoric rise |
|-----------------|---------------------|----------------|-------------------|

**29. In "sparse forests habitats", 'sparse' means the same as:**

- |               |              |            |           |
|---------------|--------------|------------|-----------|
| (a) plentiful | (b) abundant | (c) meagre | (d) ample |
|---------------|--------------|------------|-----------|

**30. 'Camouflaged' means the opposite of:**

- |             |            |              |               |
|-------------|------------|--------------|---------------|
| (a) cloaked | (b) masked | (c) flaunted | (d) disguised |
|-------------|------------|--------------|---------------|

**IV. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow by choosing the correct option.**

- Weight gain and difficulty in losing weight are big concerns for those suffering from hypothyroidism. When thyroid hormones are low, metabolism slows down, causing weight gain. While there's no special diet that can help cure thyroid disorders completely, though eating a well-balanced diet can definitely help maintain proper thyroid functioning.
- Diet plays an important role in helping us manage the disease. While we may be good at controlling what we eat, it's also important to think about what we drink. Healthy drinks for people with hypothyroid should be low in calories and rich in nutrients. Thyroid inflammation may be behind our anxiety and stress.
- The thyroid gland secretes several hormones, including thyroxine (T4). These hormones help regulate metabolism and body temperature among many other things. If thyroid doesn't work properly, it can do a whole lot of damage. For instance, when thyroid makes more hormones than the body needs, it is called hyperthyroidism. By contrast, hypothyroidism is the result of too little thyroid hormone. Facial swelling is a common sign in this disease.
- These problems can range from small to big depending on when it is getting diagnosed. In most cases, if the thyroid is diagnosed and treated properly, it is possible for the person suffering from the disease to keep it

under control. Following a healthy lifestyle that includes physical activities and a nutritious diet can go a long way in maintaining a healthy thyroid. Some food contains nutrients that help in improving the health of the thyroid glands. These will not only help our thyroid heal but also support the liver, lymphatic system, and digestive system.

- (5) Ayurvedic practices believe that drinking warm lemon water helps balance and detoxify body. The warm water (it should be purified and lukewarm, not boiling) warms up our body while the lemon, which is an excellent source of vitamin C, is a powerful antioxidant that may help flush out toxins from our body. Since lemons are highly alkalizing, they help us release excess water (diuretic), boost our immune system, balance our body's pH level, clear up our skin with antioxidants, and even aid weight loss by curbing hunger pangs and cravings.
- (6) But on the top of everything, we should make sure that prior advice from the doctor before making significant dietary changes is taken.

**31. Identify the correct definition of 'hypothyroidism' from the following.**

- (a) 'Hypothyroidism' helps tolerate cold temperatures.  
(b) 'Hypothyroidism' causes weight gain and difficulty in losing weight.  
(c) Weight loss is a common phenomenon in 'hypothyroidism'.  
(d) 'Hypothyroidism' helps regulate metabolism.

**32. What happens when metabolism slows down?**

- (a) It causes weight gain. (b) It causes weight loss.  
(c) It urges a balanced diet for body. (d) It causes breathing problem.

**33. Identify the INCORRECT statement from the following as per your reading of the above passage.**

- (a) Weight gain and difficulty in losing it are big concerns nowadays.  
(b) There is a special diet which can help cure thyroid disorders completely.  
(c) A balanced diet can help maintain proper thyroid functioning.  
(d) The thyroid gland discharges several hormones.

**34. Healthy drinks for people with Hypothyroidism should be:**

- (a) low in calories and rich in nutrients. (b) low in nutrients and rich in calories.  
(c) low in calories and low in nutrients. (d) high in calories and low in nutrients.

**35. What is the possible reason behind our anxiety and stress according to the passage?**

- (a) Insomnia (b) Loss of taste (c) Thyroid inflammation (d) Nephrology problems

**36. T4 is a hormone that \_\_\_\_\_.**

- (a) regulates intestinal allergy and body temperature (b) regulates metabolism and body temperature  
(c) regulates our eating habits (d) keeps a check of our body weight

**37. What is the common symptom when thyroid is diagnosed?**

- (a) Loss of sleep (b) Excessive thirst (c) Blurred vision (d) Facial swelling

**38. What are the blessings of drinking warm lemon water?**

- A. It is an excellent source of vitamin C. B. It reduces hair fall.**  
**C. It helps flush out toxins from our body. D. It helps balance and detoxify body.**  
**E. It boosts immunity.**

- (a) D and E (b) A and E (c) All except B (d) Only B

**39. Choose the word from the following that precisely means the same as 'coherent'.**

- (a) Immune (b) Significant (c) Alkalizing (d) Sane

**40. What does 'lukewarm water' mean?**

- (a) Crystal clear water (b) Very hot water (c) Sterilized water (d) Tap running water

**V. Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow by choosing the correct option.**

- (1) Some of the world's greatest rivers are at risk of dying as a result of mismanagement, claims a new report from the campaign group WWF. The report names ten rivers which are most at risk and outlines the factors that threaten them.
- (2) A river as huge as the Ganges in India is threatened with running out of water. Everywhere you go in the world, people are facing the same problem that rivers are at risk. But big organisations including governments and the World Bank are taking the problem seriously and are developing new tools to address it.
- (3) The most threatened rivers, according to WWF, are the Danube in Europe; the La Plata and Rio Grande/Rio Bravo in the Americas; the Nile/Lake Victoria system in Africa; the Murray-Darling in Australia; and the Yangtze, Mekong, Salween, Ganges and Indus, all in Asia.



- (4) Some of the primary threats noted by WWF are – over-extraction which means water being pumped out of the river, climate change or rising temperature which is causing more evaporation, infrastructure, holding back water by dams and segmenting ecosystems, invasive species or new alien species which often threaten native species, and overfishing which threatens the sustainability of rivers.
- (5) When rivers are reduced to a trickle, seawater is no longer flushed out of estuaries and intrudes into groundwater and surface water. This in turn decreases the yields of shoreline crops.
- (6) But the fact is that the problem can easily be solved. There's plenty of water in the world. It is a political problem. A lot is being done to address these problems. WWF is calling for rivers to be better managed, for more efficient irrigation of crops – the use of 'drip systems' that deliver water directly to the plants – and for better monitoring of the water that is being used and to whom it is being distributed.
- (7) 'Environmental flows' in particular is a concept which has been developed to determine how much water is required to be left in a river in order to maintain its ecological health.
- (8) A great deal of more water than expected is required to be left in the river's natural course in order to supply the communities downstream, showing that the environmental flow concept can have real impact in protecting water resources.
- 41. Suggest a suitable title for the passage.**
- (a) The World Water Crisis (b) Save the Water Bodies  
(c) Ecological Balance at Risk (d) Rivers of the World at Threat
- 42. Which of the following is the right definition of 'estuaries'?**
- (a) An estuary is a partially enclosed, coastal water body where freshwater from rivers and streams separates from the salt water of the ocean.  
(b) An estuary is a partially enclosed, coastal water body where freshwater from rivers and streams mixes with salt water from the ocean.  
(c) An estuary is a fully enclosed, coastal water body where freshwater from rivers and streams mixes with salt water from the ocean.  
(d) An estuary is a partially exposed, coastal water body where freshwater from rivers and streams mixes with salt water from the ocean.
- 43. Which river(s) from the following is/are in Asia?**
- (a) The Yangtze, Salween (b) Mekong, Ganges and Indus  
(c) Rio Bravo (d) Only (a) and (b)
- 44. What does 'over-extraction' mean?**
- (a) It means polluting a river. (b) It means diverging a river.  
(c) It means merging rivers. (d) It means pumping out water from a river.
- 45. What are some of the primary threats to the extinction of rivers?**
- (a) Over-extraction and rising temperatures (b) Climate change and holding of water by the dams  
(c) Invasive species and overfishing (d) All of these
- 46. Which word from the following is the antonym of 'efficient'?**
- (a) Ineptness (b) Proficiency (c) Competence (d) Efficacy
- 47. What happens when rivers are reduced to a trickle?**
- (a) All the aquatic creatures die.  
(b) All the aquatic creatures look for an alternative.  
(c) The yields of shoreline crops decrease.  
(d) The shoreline areas become barren.
- 48. The rising problem of dying rivers is a \_\_\_\_\_ gimmick.**
- (a) natural (b) politically motivated (c) financial (d) ecological
- 49. \_\_\_\_\_ is a concept which has been developed to determine how much water is required to be left in a river to maintain its ecological health.**
- (a) Environmental flows (b) WWF  
(c) Monitoring (d) Community downstream
- 50. Which word from the following precisely means the same as 'supply'?**
- (a) Drip (b) Yield (c) Intrude (d) Segmenting

## PRACTICE PAPER—20

- |         |         |         |         |         |         |         |
|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| 1. (b)  | 2. (c)  | 3. (b)  | 4. (a)  | 5. (b)  | 6. (c)  | 7. (a)  |
| 8. (d)  | 9. (a)  | 10. (d) | 11. (c) | 12. (d) | 13. (a) | 14. (c) |
| 15. (a) | 16. (a) | 17. (c) | 18. (b) | 19. (d) | 20. (d) | 21. (a) |
| 22. (b) | 23. (a) | 24. (d) | 25. (b) | 26. (d) | 27. (a) | 28. (b) |
| 29. (c) | 30. (c) | 31. (b) | 32. (a) | 33. (b) | 34. (a) | 35. (c) |
| 36. (b) | 37. (d) | 38. (c) | 39. (b) | 40. (c) | 41. (a) | 42. (b) |
| 43. (d) | 44. (d) | 45. (d) | 46. (a) | 47. (c) | 48. (b) | 49. (a) |
| 50. (b) |         |         |         |         |         |         |