

Comprehension Passages

Multiple Choice Questions

PASSAGE-1

Internet banking is the term used for new age banking system. Internet banking is also called as online banking and it is an outgrowth of PC banking. Internet banking uses the internet as the delivery channel by which to conduct banking activity, for example, transferring funds, paying bills, viewing checking and savings account balances, paying mortgages and purchasing financial instruments and certificates of deposits. Internet banking is a result of explored possibility to use internet application in one of the various domains of commerce. It is difficult to infer whether the internet tool has been applied for convenience of bankers or for the customers' convenience. But ultimately it contributes in increasing the efficiency of the banking operation as well providing more convenience to customers. Without even interacting with the bankers, customers *transact* from one corner of the country to another corner.

There are many advantages of online Banking. It is convenient, it isn't bound by operational timings, there are no geographical barriers and the services can be offered at a *minuscule* cost. Electronic banking has experienced explosive growth and has transformed traditional practices in banking.

Private Banks in India were the first to implement internet banking services in the banking industry. Private Banks, due to late entry into the industry, understood that the establishing network in remote corners of the country is a very difficult task. It was clear to them that the only way to stay connected to the customers at any place and at any time is through Internet applications. They took the Internet applications as a weapon of competitive advantage to corner the great *monoliths* like State Bank of India, Indian Bank etc. Private Banks are pioneer in India to explore the *versatility* of Internet applications in delivering services to customers.

Several studies have attempted to assess the relative importance of B2B and B2C business domains. There is wide difference in estimates of volume of business transacted over Internet and its components under B2C and B2B. However, most studies agree that volume of transactions in B2B domain far exceeds that in B2C. This is the expected result. There is also a growing opinion that the future of e-business lies in B2B domain, as compared to B2C.

This has several reasons, like low penetration of PCs to households, low bandwidth availability etc., in a large part of the world. The success of B2C ventures depends to a large extent on the shopping habits of people in different parts of the world. A survey sponsored jointly by Confederation of Indian Industries and Infrastructure Leasing and Financial Services on e-commerce in India in 2010 the following observations. 62% of PC owners and 75% of PC non-owners but who have access to Internet would not buy through the net, as they were not sure of the product offered. The same study estimated the size of B2B business in India by the year 2011 to be varying between ₹ 1250 billion to ₹ 1500 billion. In a recent study done by Arthur Anderson, it has been estimated that 84% of total e-business revenue is generated from B2B segment and the growth prospects in this segment are substantial. It has estimated the revenues to be anywhere between US \$ 8.1 trillion to over US \$ 21 trillion within the next three years (2014).

1. Which bank(s) is/are pioneer in India to explore the versatility of Internet banking in serving customers?
 - A. State Bank of India
 - B. Indian Bank
 - C. Public Sector Banks
 - D. Private Banks
 - E. None of these
2. Which of the following is not an advantage of online banking?
 - A. It is convenient.
 - B. It is bound by operational timings.
 - C. The services can be offered at a minimum cost.
 - D. There is no geographical barrier.
 - E. None of these
3. What percentage of PC non-owners but who have access to Internet would not prefer to buy through the net, as they are not sure of the product offered?

A. 75%	B. 62%
C. 84%	D. 76%
E. None of these	
4. Which type of activities are performed by Internet banking?
 - A. Paying bills
 - B. Transferring funds
 - C. Paying mortgages
 - D. Purchasing financial instruments and certificates of deposits
 - E. All of these
5. What estimate was made by Confederation of Indian Industries regarding the size of B2B business in India by the year 2011?
 - A. Between ₹ 250 billion to ₹ 500 billion
 - B. Between ₹ 1250 billion to ₹ 1500 billion
 - C. Between ₹ 850 billion to ₹ 1050 billion
 - D. Between \$ 8.7 trillion to \$ 21 trillion
 - E. None of these

Directions (Qs. 6 to 8) : Choose the word which is *MOST SIMILAR* in meaning to the word printed in **BOLD** as used in the passage.

6. **VERSATILITY**

A. multi-utility	B. vesicle
C. dullness	D. necessity
E. meanness	

7. MONOLITHS

- A. large blocks of stone
- B. large organisations
- C. monopoly
- D. dwarfs
- E. niche

8. TRANSACT

- A. do business
- B. tranquillize
- C. transcend
- D. exceed
- E. transfer

Directions (Qs. 9 & 10) : Choose the word which is **MOST OPPOSITE** in meaning to the word printed in **BOLD** as used in the passage.

9. SUBSTANTIAL

- A. meagre
- B. considerable
- C. large
- D. submissive
- E. sufficient

10. MINUSCULE

- A. small
- B. minimum
- C. minute
- D. large
- E. maximum

PASSAGE-2

One could, in theory, conceive of a country “specialising” entirely in agriculture and obtaining all its industrial requirements from abroad. But it could never become a high income country simply because technologically developed agriculture could never absorb more than a fraction of the working population on the available land. Though in all underdeveloped countries the greater part of the working population is “occupied” in agriculture, most of this represents disguised unemployment; a rural community maintains all its members and expects everyone to share in the work. Much of the greater part of this labour could be withdrawn from agriculture if alternative employment opportunities were available without any *adverse* effect, and probably with a beneficial effect, on total agricultural output. For the relief of the pressure of labour on the land is itself a most potent factor in *inducing* improvements in technology which raise yields per acre, as well as the yield per man. These improvements normally require an increase in the

capital employed on the land; but the savings necessary for the increase in capital are themselves a by-product of reduced population pressure. The reduction in the agricultural population, and the increased use of capital in agriculture are thus different aspects of the same process. As there are fewer mouths to feed, the “agricultural surplus” rises (the excess of agricultural production over the self-consumption of the farming population). The rise in the “surplus” enables the farmers to plough back a higher proportion of their output—in the form of better tools, improved seeds, fertilisers, etc., and such improvements tend to both “labour saving” and “land saving”; they *diminish* the labour requirements at the same time as they increase the yield of the land.

1. According to the passage, it is theoretically possible to think of country
 - A. advanced both in agriculture and industry
 - B. specialised in industry but not in agriculture
 - C. backward both in agriculture and industry
 - D. specialised in agriculture but not in industry
 - E. borrowing all its requirements from abroad
2. What, according to the passage, will be the achievement of inducing improvement in technology?
 - A. Higher specialisation in agriculture
 - B. Better employment opportunities
 - C. Beneficial effects on quality of life of people
 - D. Relieving the pressure of employment in industry
 - E. None of these
3. What could be done, according to the passage, to induce improvement in agricultural technology?
 - A. Import of better agricultural technology
 - B. Providing better weather forecasts
 - C. To relieve pressure of labour on land
 - D. Providing irrigation facilities
 - E. None of these
4. According to the passage, in underdeveloped countries
 - A. agriculture is in a primitive stage
 - B. per acre yield is very high
 - C. land is available in plenty

- D. alternative employment opportunities will have adverse effect on the lives of people
 - E. significant proportion of working population works in agriculture
5. Why, according to the passage, a country specialised in agriculture only cannot become a high income country?
- A. It simply cannot borrow all its industrial requirements from abroad
 - B. It can absorb only a fraction of its working population
 - C. Agriculture needs huge investments and infrastructural facilities
 - D. Technological advancements in agriculture has limitations
 - E. None of these
6. Which of the following statements is TRUE in the context of the passage?
- A. Underdeveloped countries are rapidly growing industrially
 - B. Technologically developed agriculture solves all the problems of unemployment
 - C. Relief of the pressure of labour on land raises yields per acre
 - D. Yield per acre and yield per man are unrelated
 - E. Surplus in agriculture is spent for domestic purposes
7. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE in the context of the passage?
- A. Theoretically there could be a country specialised entirely in agriculture
 - B. Capital is required to increase the per acre yield of the land
 - C. Agriculture surplus will rise if there are fewer mouths to feed
 - D. Technologically developed agriculture will absorb most of the working population on the available land
 - E. A rural community maintains all its members and expects everyone to share in the work
8. Which of the following is most OPPOSITE in meaning of the word ADVERSE as used in the passage?

- A. Negative
- B. Facilitating
- C. Supplementary
- D. Derogative
- E. Decorative

9. Which of the following is most nearly the SAME in meaning as the word INDUCING as used in the passage?

- A. Causing
- B. Augmenting
- C. Reducing
- D. Developing
- E. Increasing

10. Which of the following is most nearly the SAME in meaning as the word DIMINISH as used in the passage?

- A. Reduce
- B. Shorten
- C. Prohibit
- D. Increase
- E. Worsen

PASSAGE-3

Morning and afternoon, all the young girls and maidens used to *gather* around the village well with their water pots. There they exchanged pleasantries, chatted and discussed. Lakshmi was the prettiest girl at the well. But, she was an orphan.

One day, a well-built man came to Lakshmi's house. He brought with him the richest clothes and jewels as presents for her, "I am your dead father's brother," he told the astonished girl. "You have not seen me before because I have been staying abroad. You must come and live with me now." Lakshmi believed his sweet words and in a short time, locked up her little house and set out with the man.

But a terrible surprise was in store for poor Lakshmi when she got to her new-found uncle's home. The man locked her in a room. "I am not your uncle, but a robber. And I am going to marry you," he told her. Lakshmi howled and wept when she heard this. Saying he would be back in a day or two after making arrangements for the wedding, the man went away. Lakshmi continued sobbing for a while and then stopped. "I must think of a plan to escape," she told herself. Lakshmi guessed that the robber would try to enter her room. So she kept near her bed a sharp knife which she could find in the room.

One night the robber did enter her room but Lakshmi did not make any sound. She just kept a

tight hold of the knife and pretended to be sound asleep. When the robber was near her bed, she stood up suddenly, brandishing the knife. The robber was taken aback and with a loud cry, he ran out. Lakshmi *gave chase* and he climbed up the nearest tall tree. Lakshmi then gathered some dry figs and sticks around the foot of the tree and set them on fire. On seeing the rising flames, the robber gave a mighty yell and jumped down. But it was such a long way to the ground that he broke a couple of bones and was unable to move away from the place he fell.

In the mean time, the police was informed by someone about the robber. Very soon they reached the spot and arrested the robber. The people who had gathered at the spot were all praise for Lakshmi's courage and presence of mind,

1. The reason given by the man for his inability to meet Lakshmi was that
 - A. he had not known earlier where she lived
 - B. he was not friendly terms with her father
 - C. he was living in a foreign country
 - D. he was not sure whether she would recognise him
 - E. he was staying in another village, far away from her place
2. Why did Lakshmi go with the man?
 - A. She was convinced that the man was her uncle
 - B. She wanted to accompany him and then get him arrested by the police
 - C. She intended to teach him a good lesson
 - D. She wanted the man to marry her
 - E. She felt it necessary to verify his claim by accompanying him
3. Why did the robber run out of the room?
 - A. He was stabbed by Lakshmi
 - B. He got scared of the rising flames
 - C. Lakshmi told him to go out as fast as possible
 - D. He was afraid that Lakshmi would strike him with the knife
 - E. He ran out to catch hold of Lakshmi and bring her back
4. How was the robber injured?
 - A. Lakshmi stabbed him with the sharp knife

- B. He fell down accidentally while climbing the tree
 - C. He was beaten by Lakshmi and his bones were broken
 - D. He jumped down from the tree to save his life
 - E. He got burnt in the rising flames
5. "*But a terrible surprise was in store uncle's home.*" What is the "terrible surprise" that is being referred to?
 - A. The man told her that her father was dead
 - B. The man refused to marry her
 - C. The man took away her ornaments and locked her in a room
 - D. The man told her that he was her real uncle
 - E. The man turned out to be a robber interested in marrying her
 6. Where did the robber apparently go after locking up Lakshmi?
 - A. He went to her house to loot all the things
 - B. He went out to bring a sharp knife
 - C. He went away to bring clothes and jewels for her
 - D. He went away to make preparations for his marriage
 - E. He went out to bring the priest for performing the wedding ceremony
 7. Which of the following is most nearly the SAME in meaning as the phrase, *GAVE CHASE* as used in the passage?

A. escaped	B. continued
C. followed	D. prevented
E. raced	
 8. Which of the following is TRUE in the context of the passage?
 - A. Lakshmi told the robber to climb up the tall tree
 - B. At night, the robber entered Lakshmi's room with a knife
 - C. Lakshmi had no near relatives and she stayed alone
 - D. The robber started running after jumping from the tree
 - E. The people who had gathered at the spot set fire to the tree

9. Which of the following is most OPPOSITE in meaning of the word GATHER as used in the passage?
- | | |
|---------------|-----------|
| A. Collect | B. Reduce |
| C. Distribute | D. Break |
| E. Disperse | |
10. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE in the context of the passage?
- The police was summoned by Lakshmi herself
 - The well-built man was not the real brother of Lakshmi's father
 - When the robber entered the room at night, Lakshmi was awake
 - Lakshmi used to go to the village well to collect water
 - Lakshmi's guess regarding the robber turned out to be correct

PASSAGE-4

Progress in life depends a good deal on crossing one threshold after another. Some time ago, a man watched his little nephew try to write his name. It was hardwork, very hardwork. The little boy had arrived at an effort threshold. Today he writes his name with comparative ease. No new threshold confronts him. This is the way with all of us. As soon as we cross one threshold, as soon as we conquer one difficulty, a new difficulty appears, or should appear. Some people make the mistake of steering clear of thresholds. Anything that requires genuine thinking and use of energy they avoid. They prefer to stay in a rut where thresholds are not met. Probably, they have been at their job a number of years. Things are easy for them. They make no effort to seek out new obstacles to overcome. Real progress stops under such circumstances.

Some middle-aged and elderly people greatly enrich their lives by continuing to cross thresholds. One man went into an entirely new business when he was past middle life and made success of it, De Morgan didn't start to write novels until he was past sixty. Psychologists have discovered that man can continue to learn throughout his life. And it is undoubtedly better to try and fail than not to try at

all. There one can be placed in the category of the Swiss mountaineer of whom it was said, "*He died climbing*". When a new difficulty arises to obstruct your path, do not complain. Accept the challenge. Determine to cross this threshold as you have crossed numerous other thresholds in your past. In the words of a poet, do not rest but strive *to pass from dream to grander dream*.

- What obstructs real progress in life?
 - Remaining at one and the same post
 - Avoiding the thinking and energy
 - Shunning every work
 - Stopping education
 - Worrying about the future
- What does progress in life depend upon?
 - Good habits
 - Hardwork
 - Overcoming one difficulty after another
 - Spirit of service and cooperation
 - None of these
- What does '*He died climbing*' signify?
 - He died when he was climbing the hill
 - He died before getting at the top
 - He strove hard till the last moment of life
 - He climbed the hill and then died
 - He found it difficult to climb
- What does '*to pass from dream to grander dream*' mean?
 - Always having greater and greater aspiration in life
 - Seeing one good dream and then greater aspiration in life
 - Making plan after plan
 - Seeing one dream after the other
 - None of these
- What did the man entering a new business past middle life do of his business?
 - He miserably failed in it
 - He achieved partial success
 - He dropped the business after sometime
 - He achieved good success in it
 - He started writing novels
- How can you accomplish the most difficult tasks?

- A. By mobilizing all possible resources
 - B. By avoiding all obstacles
 - C. By sticking to hardwork
 - D. By getting other people to do your work for you
 - E. By doing it bit by bit and persisting in the effort
7. What does De Morgan's life teach?
- A. That it is futile to learn many things
 - B. That one is never old in case he has vigour
 - C. That it is never too late to learn
 - D. That creative writing can be made even late in life
 - E. None of these
8. How do middle-aged and elderly people add brilliance to their lives?
- A. By overcoming difficulty one after another
 - B. By getting sycophants to surround them
 - C. By making fine speeches
 - D. By acquiring resourcefulness
 - E. None of these
9. What should we do when a new difficulty obstructs our path?
- A. Run away from it
 - B. Be bold and face it
 - C. Manoeuvre to get it removed
 - D. Enlist other people's help to get it over
 - E. None of these
10. When did De Morgan start to write novels?
- A. When he was sixty years old
 - B. When he was below sixty
 - C. When he studied psychology
 - D. When he was a student
 - E. None of these

PASSAGE-5

In terms of the total energy consumed by different sectors, the largest consumer is understandably the industrial sector, which accounts for nearly half the total energy used in the country today. This is followed by the transport sector which consumes about 25%, the household sector (about 14%) and the agricultural sector (about 9%). This last sector has shown considerable increase in energy use over the last four decades. Among the primary fuels, the

relative proportion of coal has dropped from nearly 80% to 40% and that of oil has gone up from 17% to 44% over the same period.

Total energy consumption in India today is equivalent to 291 million tons of oil of which 26% comes from wood. On a per capita basis it works out to about one litre of oil per day, which is extremely low by international standards. The future energy demand depends upon the level of development envisaged and also on the sections of people to be affected by it.

The energy disparity between the urban and the rural population is at present *as wide as* between nations on a *worldwide scale*. There is apparently a greater need to provide energy in the rural areas and to improve the efficiency of energy use than merely to increase the national figures for energy consumption limiting its use to those who are getting the bulk share already.

With the projected rate of population growth, improving upon the per capita energy consumption is a Herculean task as our coal reserves and the capacity to import oil cannot be increased beyond a point. *There is clearly no escape* from the utilisation of renewable energy sources in a big way if the gap between the desired levels of energy supply and available resources has to be kept at the minimum.

1. The author is laying greater emphasis on which of the following?
 - (a) Efficient use of energy
 - (b) Increasing national indices for energy consumption
 - (c) Controlling population growth
 - A. Only (a)
 - B. Only (b)
 - C. Only (c)
 - D. All the three
 - E. Both (b) and (c)
2. The author feels that increasing per capita use of energy is
 - A. rather difficult, but not impossible
 - B. not easy, but certainly achievable
 - C. not at all desirable
 - D. a matter of great difficulty
 - E. a routine matter

3. According to the passage, the energy requirement of the future will be decided on the basis of which of the following?
 - (a) Total energy already consumed by us in the past
 - (b) Level of development of oil industry
 - (c) Profile of the affected people
 - A. Only (a)
 - B. Only (b)
 - C. Only (c)
 - D. Both (a) and (b)
 - E. Both (b) and (c)
4. Which of the following shows correctly the different sectors consuming energy arranged in ascending order?
 - A. Agriculture, transport, household, industrial
 - B. Agriculture, household, transport, industrial
 - C. Industrial, transport, household, agriculture
 - D. Industrial, household, agriculture, transport
 - E. None of these
5. Which of the following has been suggested by the author as the best possible solution to overcome energy crisis?
 - A. Importing large quantities of coal
 - B. Exploration of oil reserves
 - C. Reducing share of bulk users
 - D. Maximisation of renewable sources
 - E. Reducing the energy disparity between urban and rural areas
6. Which of the following styles has been adopted by the author?
 - A. Unsubstantiated arguments and views
 - B. Data based, but coloured by socialism
 - C. Highly subjective with bias for rural people
 - D. Objective, descriptive, lacking clarity
 - E. Data based, objective, positive, solution oriented
7. Which of the following has been mentioned as a major hurdle in enhancing per capita consumption of energy in India?
 - A. Present level of development in India
 - B. Increased use of energy in agriculture sector
 - C. Disparity in use of energy in rural and urban areas
 - D. International norm of 1 litre of oil per day per person
 - E. None of these
8. Which of the following statements is TRUE in the context of the passage?
 - A. The household sector has shown considerable increase in energy use
 - B. Use of oil has increased from 40% to 80%
 - C. Industrial sector uses 50% of total energy used in India
 - D. Energy consumption in India is 26% of world consumption
 - E. Import of oil to the extent required is quite possible
9. *The energy disparity as wide as worldwide scale*, the first sentence of third paragraph means
 - A. disparity in urban and rural is observed in all nations
 - B. in no other nation such disparity is observed
 - C. developed countries consume more energy than developing countries
 - D. worldwide scale is different for rural and urban areas
 - E. None of these
10. *There is clearly no escape* means.....
 - A. there is a way out, but it is ambiguous
 - B. there is a problem, but without solution
 - C. there is also no solution to this
 - D. there is hardly any alternative except
 - E. there is more than one way

PASSAGE-6

Peace and order are necessary, not just in our own country but also at the international level, if we are to secure national progress and development. The different countries in the world are coming closer today due to faster means of transport and communication. Economically, they are becoming increasingly interdependent. If peace is disturbed in one part of the world, it has adverse effects in other parts of the world as well. Nuclear weapons have already threatened the world with nuclear war. If the conflicts between different nations are not settled in time, they might *culminate* in a nuclear war destroying the whole world. It is therefore, in our own interest that the world is free of conflicts. If at all there are any, they must be settled promptly and peace should be restored. That is why we

have declared the establishment of international peace and understanding as an objective of our foreign policy.

We need the help and cooperation of other countries for our scientific, industrial and economic development, especially in those fields where we have yet to achieve self-sufficiency. We obtain the latest machinery, technology and financial aid from the developed countries. On our part we too offer help to the under-developed countries. We are keen on maintaining friendly relations with other countries. Such friendly relations *foster* international understanding.

We have always exerted ourselves to see that the disputes arising between the different nations are settled through peaceful negotiations. We play an active role in the United Nations, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation, the Commonwealth of Nations and other such international organisations. We make it a point to participate in the international conferences on issues like energy crisis, environmental imbalance, nuclear arms race etc. We always offer a helping hand to other nations affected by natural calamities such as famines, earthquakes, floods and so on. We strive to maintain peaceful and friendly relations with our neighbouring countries. *Why do we do all this!* We sincerely believe that conflicts in today's world should be minimised, making way for better cooperation among the nations. If this is achieved, human resources will no longer be wasted in things like war or aggression. There will be no destruction of wealth. We believe that, in a peaceful world, there will be greater scope for the economic and cultural development of countries.

1. According to the passage, maintaining friendly relations with other countries facilitate
 - A. developing international understanding
 - B. exchange of scientists and technologists
 - C. strategic planning in defence matters
 - D. import and export of several vital commodities
 - E. None of these
2. If conflicts between nations do not cease
 - A. international bodies will have to take up these issues

- B. international understanding will not be fostered
 - C. nuclear war will destroy the whole world
 - D. the means of transport and communication will be disrupted
3. Which of the following is obtained by us from the developed countries, according to the passage?
 - A. Fertilisers
 - B. Foodgrains
 - C. Leather Products
 - D. Technology
 - E. Crude Oil
4. Which of the following according to the passage, is facilitating the process of different countries coming together?
 - A. Emerging world order
 - B. Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
 - C. Our participation in international conferences
 - D. Need for self-sufficiency
 - E. Faster means of transport and communication
5. Minimising the conflicts and making way for better cooperation among the nations will result in
 - A. useful and purposive utilisation of human resources
 - B. better utilisation of means of transport and communication
 - C. culmination of nuclear war destroying the world
 - D. keenness on maintaining friendly relations with other countries
 - E. preservation of our national unity and integrity
6. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE in the context of the passage?
 - A. International conflicts must be settled promptly
 - B. We try to maintain friendly relations with our neighbours
 - C. We participate in many international conferences
 - D. Friendly relations with other countries foster international understanding

PASSAGE-7

- E. Each country can be considered isolated and insulated from the effects of other countries
7. Which of the following words is largely SIMILAR in meaning of the word CULMINATE as used in the passage?
- A. Reach the highest point
 - B. Stretch to the maximum
 - C. Absolute standards
 - D. Total destruction
 - E. Coming of age
8. Which of the following words is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning of the word FOSTER as used in the passage?
- A. Advocate
 - B. Hinder
 - C. Obviate
 - D. Facilitate
 - E. Jettison
9. The question "Why do we do all this" is asked in the passage in which of the following contexts?
- A. We always offer a helping hand to other nations in improving their technology
 - B. We endeavour to maintain peaceful and friendly relations with our neighbours
 - C. We obtain the latest machinery, technology and financial aid from the developed countries
 - D. We have shaped our foreign policy in a balanced and purposeful manner
 - E. None of these
10. Does any of the following sentences contain any idea expressed in the passage?
- A. We have to make conscious efforts to preserve our national unity
 - B. Our country is huge in size and population where many languages are spoken
 - C. We have adopted the objective of democracy in the interest of overall development of our country
 - D. Citizens must be well-informed about public issues in order to participate meaningfully in public
 - E. None of these statements contain any idea expressed in the passage

There is a fairly universal sentiment that the use of nuclear weapon is clearly contrary to morality and that its production does not go far enough. These activities are not only opposed to morality but also to law and if the legal objection can be added to the moral, the argument against the use and the manufacture of these weapons will considerably be reinforced. Now the time is ripe to evaluate the responsibility of scientists who knowingly use their expertise for the construction of such weapons which has *deleterious* effect on mankind.

To this must be added the fact that more than 50 per cent of the skilled scientific manpower in the world is now engaged in the armaments industry. How appropriate it is that all this valuable skill should be *devoted* to the manufacture of weapons of death in a world of poverty is a question that must touch the scientific conscience.

A meeting of biologists on the Long-Term Worldwide Biological Consequences of Nuclear War added frightening dimensions to those forecasts. Its report suggested that the long biological effects resulting from climatic changes may at least be as serious as the immediate ones.

Subfreezing temperatures, low light levels and high dose of ionizing and ultraviolet radiation extending for many months, after a large-scale nuclear war, could destroy the biological support systems of civilization, at least in the Northern Hemisphere. Productivity in natural and agricultural ecosystems could be severely restricted for a year or more. Post-war survivors would face starvation as well as freezing conditions in the dark and be exposed to near-lethal dose of radiation. If, as now seems possible, the Southern Hemisphere were affected also, global disruption of the biosphere could ensue. In any event, there would be severe consequences, even in the areas not affected directly, because of the interdependence of the world economy. In either case the extinction of a large fraction of the earth's animals, plants, and microorganism seems possible. The population size of Homo Sapiens conceivably could be reduced to

pre-historic levels or below and extinction of the human species itself cannot be excluded.

1. The author's most important objective of writing the above passage seems to
 - A. highlight the use of nuclear weapons as an effective population control measure
 - B. illustrate the devastating effects of use of nuclear weapons on mankind
 - C. duly highlight the supremacy of the nations which possess nuclear weapons
 - D. summarise the long biological effects of use of nuclear weapons
 - E. explain scientifically the climatic changes resulting from use of nuclear weapons
2. The scientists possessing expertise in manufacturing destructive weapons are
 - A. very few in number
 - B. irresponsible and incompetent
 - C. more than half of the total number
 - D. engaged in the armaments industry against their desire
 - E. not conscious of the repercussions of their actions
3. According to the passage, the argument against the use and manufacture of nuclear weapons
 - A. does not stand the test of legality
 - B. possess legal strength although it does not have moral standing
 - C. is acceptable only on moral grounds
 - D. becomes stronger if legal and moral considerations are combined
 - E. None of these
4. Which of the following is one of the consequences of Nuclear War?
 - A. Fertility of land will last only for a year or so
 - B. Post-war survivors being very few will have abundant food
 - C. Lights would be cooler and more comfortable
 - D. Southern hemisphere would remain quite safe in the post-war period
 - E. None of these
5. Choose the word which is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning of the word DELETERIOUS as used in the passage.

- | | |
|------------------|-------------------|
| A. Beneficial | B. Harmful |
| C. Irreparable | D. Non-cognizable |
| E. Revolutionary | |

6. The author of the passage seems to be of the view that
 - A. utilization of scientific skills in manufacture of weapons is appropriate
 - B. the evaluation of the scientists' expertise show their incompetence
 - C. manufacture of weapons of death would help eradication of poverty
 - D. spending money on manufacture of weapons may be justifiable subject to the availability of funds
 - E. utilization of valuable knowledge for manufacture of lethal weapons is inhuman
7. Which of the following BEST EXPLAINS the word DEVOTED as used in the passage?
 - A. dedicated for a good cause
 - B. utilized for betterment
 - C. abused for destruction
 - D. underutilized
 - E. overutilized
8. It appears from the passage that the use of nuclear weapons is considered against morality by
 - A. only such of those nations who cannot afford to manufacture weapons
 - B. almost all the nations of the world
 - C. only the superpowers who can afford to manufacture and sell weapons
 - D. a minority group of scientists who have the necessary skill and competence
 - E. most of the scientists who devote their valuable skills to manufacture nuclear weapons
9. Which of the following statement(s) (a), (b) and/ or (c) is/are definitely true in the context of the passage?
 - (a) Living organisms in the areas which are not directly affected by the consequences of nuclear war would also suffer
 - (b) There is a likelihood of extinction of the human species as a consequence of nuclear war

- (c) The post-war survivors would be exposed to the risk of near-lethal radiation
- A. Only (a) B. Only (b)
C. Only (c) D. Only (a) and (b)
E. All the three
10. The biological consequences of nuclear war as given in the passage include all the following except
- A. fall in temperature below zero degree celsius
B. ultraviolet radiation
C. high dose of ionizing
D. low light levels
E. None of these

PASSAGE-8

Mahatma Gandhi has repeatedly called himself a truthseeker and has learned, in the course of his search, that truth is a condition of being, not a quality outside of oneself or a moral acquisition, that it is of the very essence of the divine in man. Though he saw deceit and falsehood all around him and knew that it was accepted as the standard of life by people occupying positions of authority and influence, he was never afterwards tempted to *yield to it* even when to have done so would have brought advantage and no condemnation.

For healing he always had a great love and some aptitude and when at the age of seventeen *his family in conclave* suggested his going to England to study law, he *begged* to be allowed to study medicine instead. This, however, was not permitted and law was chosen for him. But, the love of healing remained, and though he could not study in the *orthodox* schools of medicine, he *gratified* his desire by studying various forms of nature-cure treatment and by experimenting with these on his person and on his friends and relatives. Some of these experiments produced remarkable results possibly not only due to the treatment but also to his devoted and instinctive nursing.

1. On whom did Gandhiji practice nature-cure?
- A. On sick patients in hospitals
B. On people occupying positions of authority and influence
C. Those who were in great need of the treatment
D. Those who were not cured by other medicines
E. None of these
2. Gandhiji studied law mainly because
- A. he wanted to be an eminent lawyer
B. he wanted to go to England
C. his family thrust upon him the study of law
D. he knew he can make a good career in legal profession
E. he wanted to serve people by solving their legal problems
3. What was Gandhiji's idea of truth?
- A. It should be assimilated as a personal quality
B. It should be observed with a healing touch
C. It should not be followed with an idea of sacrifice
D. It should be searched in the world around you
E. None of these
4. Mahatma Gandhi described himself as a man:
- A. in search of divine qualities
B. who would like to serve people
C. who would like to set standard of life
D. who would not compromise on his principles
E. None of these
5. Choose the word that is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning of the word BEGGED as used in the passage.
- A. Demanded B. Appealed
C. Suggested D. Requested
E. Protested
6. Choose the word which is MOST OPPOSITE in meaning of the word ORTHODOX as used in the passage.
- A. Backward B. Non-conventional
C. Unpopular D. Modern
E. Customary
7. What temptation did Gandhiji always resist?
- A. Getting attracted towards worldly comforts
B. Ignoring the dictates of elderly people
C. Healing the wound of other
D. Following deceit and falsehood
E. None of these

8. What was probably the real cause of Gandhiji's success in nature-cure?
- His detailed study of various medicinal systems
 - His confidence and desire to help people
 - His skills and aptitude in nursing
 - His experiments in search of truth
 - None of these
9. What did Mahatma Gandhi learn in the course of his search?
- Being truthful is a divine blessing
 - Truth is synonymous with one's existence
 - People are full of deceit and falsehood
 - Truth is a quality outside of oneself
 - None of these
10. What did Gandhiji see around him?
- Sick and unhealthy people
 - People accepting proper standard of life
 - People suffering from poverty and disease
 - People not having love and aptitude for healing
 - Dishonesty and untruthfulness
11. Explain the meaning of expression '*his family in conclave*' as used in the passage.
- Members of the family and relatives
 - Figurehead of the family
 - Private meeting of the family
 - Family meeting for celebrating Gandhiji's seventeenth birthday
 - None of these
12. Choose the word that is most nearly the SAME in meaning as the word GRATIFIED as used in the passage.
- Purified
 - Satisfied
 - Nurtured
 - Glorified
 - Projected
13. Choose the word which is most nearly the SAME in meaning as the word YIELD as used in the passage.
- Surrender
 - Provoke
 - Confine
 - Adapt
 - Adhere
14. Which of the following statements is NOT TRUE in the context of the passage?
- Gandhiji did many experiments in the area of nature-cure
 - Gandhiji did not study medicine in the orthodox school
 - Studying law was Gandhiji's first love
 - Truthfulness is the condition of being
 - Gandhiji was always a truthseeker
15. Which of the following statement(s) is/are true in the context of the passage?
- Gandhiji had a love and aptitude for nursing
 - Gandhiji experimented nature-cure on himself
 - Gandhiji encouraged deceit and psychofancy
- Only (a)
 - (a) and (c)
 - Only (c)
 - (a) and (b)
 - Only (b)

PASSAGE-9

Believe it or not, once a wonderful plate made of gold fell from heaven into the court of a temple at Banares. On the plate these words were inscribed: "A gift from Heaven to him who loves best." The priest at once made a proclamation that everyday, all those who would like to claim the plate should *assemble* at the temple to have their kind deeds *judged*.

Everyday for a whole year all kinds of holy men, hermits, scholars and nobles came and related to the priests their deeds of charity. The priests heard their claims. At last they decided that the one who seemed to be the greatest lover of mankind was a rich man who had every year given all his wealth to the-poor. So they gave him the plate of gold. But when he took it in his hand, it *turned* to worthless lead. When he dropped it in his amazement on to the floor, it became gold again.

For another year claimants came and the priests presented the heavenly gift three times. But the same thing happened, showing that Heaven did not consider these men *worthy* of the gift.

Meanwhile a large number of beggars came and lay about the temple gate, hoping that the claimants who came would give them alms to prove

they were worthy of the golden plate. It was a good thing for the beggars because the pilgrims gave them money but showed no sympathy, nor even a look of pity.

At last a peasant who had heard nothing about the plate of gold came near the temple. He was so *touched* by the sight of the miserable beggars that he wept. When he saw a poor blind and maimed wretch at the temple gate, he knelt at his side and *comforted* him with kind words. When this peasant went inside the temple, he was shocked to find it full of men boasting of their kind deeds and quarrelling with the priests. The priest who held the golden plate in his hand saw the peasant standing there and beckoned to him to know what he wanted. The peasant went near the priest and knowing nothing about the plate, accidentally touched it. At once it shone out with three times its former splendour and the priest said: "Son, the gift is yours, for you are the one who loves best."

1. The gift from Heaven was meant for those who
 - A. were scholars
 - B. were highly religious and loved God best
 - C. gave money to the poor
 - D. loved others in the best way
 - E. were poor peasants
2. What did the peasant see inside the temple?
 - A. Miserable beggars and blind men
 - B. Priests quarrelling among themselves
 - C. People speaking high of their kind deeds and fighting with the priests
 - D. The golden plate being converted to worthless lead
 - E. None of these
3. For which of the following was the proclamation made by the priest?
 - A. To find the richest person in the town
 - B. To find the rightful owner of the plate
 - C. To judge the worth of the golden plate
 - D. To judge his own deeds with the help of the people
4. What happened to the plate when it was touched by the peasant?

- A. It started glowing with greater splendour
 - B. It changed from gold to lead
 - C. It became heavier and fell on the ground
 - D. It turned into gold
 - E. Not mentioned in the passage
5. The rich man dropped the golden plate to the floor as he was
 - A. not interested in possessing it
 - B. afraid of holding it
 - C. curious to know about its purity
 - D. surprised to see it turning to lead
 - E. the rightful owner of the plate
6. Why did the beggars stay near the temple gate? They
 - A. wanted to prove their claim on the golden plate
 - B. had come to pray in the temple
 - C. knew that the visitors would give them alms
 - D. wanted to seek the sympathy of the peasant
 - E. wanted to have a glimpse of the golden plate
7. The priests could decide on the rightful owner of the plate when the peasant
 - A. met with an accident
 - B. entered the temple and stood there
 - C. put forward his claim on the heavenly gift
 - D. touched the plate unknowingly
 - E. comforted the poor blind man with kind words
8. Which of the following statements is TRUE in the context of the passage?
 - A. The rich man did not turn out to be the greatest lover of humanity
 - B. The peasant touched the plate to know whether he was its rightful owner
 - C. The priest told the peasant to narrate his kind deeds
 - D. The plate shone out in splendour when the peasant dropped it on the floor
 - E. The peasant went near the priest to ask for the golden plate
9. What made the peasant weep?
 - A. The quarrel between the priests and some people

- B. The greediness of the rich people
- C. The boastful crowd inside the temple
- D. The pitiable condition of the beggars
- E. None of the above

Directions (Qs. 10 to 12): Choose the word which is most nearly the SAME in meaning as the word given in **BOLD** as used in the passage.

10. TURNED

- A. bent
- B. moved
- C. changed
- D. revolved
- E. fell

11. WORTHY

- A. useful
- B. promising
- C. successful
- D. necessary
- E. deserving

12. JUDGED

- A. ordered
- B. justified
- C. announced
- D. explained
- E. assessed

Directions (Qs. 13 to 15): Choose the word which is most OPPOSITE in meaning of the word given in **BOLD** as used in the passage.

13. COMFORTED

- A. consoled
- B. ignored
- C. advised
- D. scolded
- E. controlled

14. ASSEMBLE

- A. distribute
- B. gather
- C. partition
- D. disperse
- E. dismantle

15. TOUCHED

- A. moved
- B. indifferent
- C. disconnected
- D. excited
- E. arrogant

PASSAGE-10

A struggle for power began with Bimbisara and Ajatshatru of the Kingdom of Magadha. In the 4th century BC, the Nandas came to power, with their capital at Pataliputra. The latter were replaced by the Mauryas at the close of the same century. This came about partly as a result of Alexander's invasion and the decline of Iranian strength in India.

Chandragupta Maurya took advantage of the unsettled conditions and with the help of his adviser Kautilya, built the first great empire in India. Under him and his two great successors, Bindusara and Ashoka, almost the whole of India, with the exception of the farthest south, was unified into one empire.

Many important developments took place in the social, economic and cultural life of the Indian people in this period—322 to 184 BC. Particularly important was the spread of Buddhism, which had been introduced earlier.

The decline of the Mauryan Empire after the rule of Ashoka was followed by a long period of new invasions and the formation of small states. Of the foreign invasions, the first was that of the Greeks who were the rulers of Bactria. They conquered the Punjab and parts of Sind and their contact had a lasting influence on the culture of India. Gandhara style of art emerged and flourished. The greatest Greek ruler in India was Menander (Milinda) in the 2nd century BC, who became a Buddhist.

The Greek invasion was followed by that of the Sakas. The Sakas displaced the Greek in Bactria and spread their power in Western India. One of the Saka kings was Rudradaman who, as the name suggests, was a devotee of Siva. He was responsible for important irrigation works in Saurashtra. The Sakas, like other invaders, became a part of Indian life and played an important role in the development of Indian Culture. Another group of invaders from Central Asia was that of the Kushanas early in the first century AD. The greatest of the Kushana rulers was Kanishka who, according to some historians, started the Saka Era in AD 78. Kanishka ruled his vast empire in India and Central Asia from Purushapura (modern Peshwar) for 40 years. Kanishka's empire brought to India the cultural tradition of Iran, Greece and Rome. It also provided a stimulus to trade between India and other parts of the world. Kanishka patronised the Mahayan form of Buddhism. It spread to Central Asia during this period and from there to China, Korea and Japan. The Kushana Empire declined in the third century AD.

1. A suitable title for the above passage is
 - A. Alexander's invasion of India
 - B. Kanishka, the great Kushana ruler
 - C. Development of India's Culture
 - D. India—the Period of Empires
 - E. None of these
2. The Kingdom of Magadha was ruled by the Nandas about
 - A. 2000 years ago
 - B. 2400 years ago
 - C. 2800 years ago
 - D. over 3000 years ago
 - E. None of these
3. The successors of the Nandas, whose capital was at Pataliputra, were the
 - A. Greeks
 - B. Iranians
 - C. Mauryas
 - D. Sakas
 - E. None of these
4. The cultural traditions of Iran, Greece and Rome came to India during the rule of
 - A. Ashoka
 - B. Kanishka
 - C. Menander
 - D. Rudradaman
 - E. None of these
5. Who, amongst the following, had their capital at Purushapura (modern Peshawar)?
 - A. The Mauryans
 - B. The Nandas
 - C. The Kushanas
 - D. The Sakas
 - E. None of these
6. The Saka Era is believed to have been established by
 - A. the Kushanas
 - B. Milinda, the Greek ruler
 - C. the Nandas
 - D. The Sakas
 - E. None of these
7. All of the following were foreign invaders of India, except
 - A. the Greeks
 - B. the Kushanas
 - C. the Mauryas
 - D. the Sakas
 - E. None of these
8. The greatest Greek ruler in India was
 - A. Ajatshatru
 - B. Bimbisara
 - C. Bindusara
 - D. Milinda
 - E. None of these
9. Who were the founders of the first great unified empire in India?
 - A. The Mauryans
 - B. The Nandas
 - C. The Kushanas
 - D. The Sakas
 - E. None of these
10. Which particularly important development took place in India between 322 to 184 BC?
 - A. The rulers of Bactria invaded India
 - B. Buddhism spread far and wide
 - C. The Sakas displaced the Greeks
 - D. Gandhara style of art attained its zenith
 - E. None of these

ANSWERS

PASSAGE-1

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
D	B	A	E	B	A	B	A	A	D

PASSAGE-2

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
D	E	C	E	B	C	D	B	B	A

PASSAGE-3

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
C	A	D	D	E	D	C	C	E	A

PASSAGE-4

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A	C	C	A	D	E	B	A	B	E

PASSAGE-5

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A	D	E	B	D	E	E	C	C	D

PASSAGE-6

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
A	C	D	E	A	E	A	B	B	E

PASSAGE-7

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
B	C	D	A	A	E	C	B	E	E

PASSAGE-8

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
E	C	A	A	E	B	D	C	B	E
11	12	13	14	15					
C	B	A	C	D					

PASSAGE-9

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
D	C	B	A	D	C	D	A	D	C
11	12	13	14	15					
E	E	D	D	B					

PASSAGE-10

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
C	D	C	B	C	A	C	D	A	B
