

Cloze Test

Developing vocabulary skills will also enable one to solve Cloze test. A cloze test is a paragraph from which certain words have been replaced with a blank. There are four words given for every blank. One has to choose the most appropriate word from the given options. Strategies for solving the Cloze test:

1. Read the whole paragraph alongwith the missing blanks and try to find out the main idea.
2. Try to find out the connotation indicated by the author, such as whether the paragraph is positive, negative or neutral. This will give further clue in effectively selecting the words for each blank.
3. Try to trace various linking words such as conjunctions and prepositions which give further clue regarding the type of word required for the blank.

Practice

Directions: Read the following paragraph and choose the most appropriate word for each blank. The first one has been done for you. Look at the explanation for the first one on the next page.

Only public universities have the potential to be truly world class institutions. Institutions and programmes of national ___1___ have already been identified by the Government. But these institutions have not been ___2___ or consistently supported. The top institutions require sustained funding from public sources. Academic salaries must be high enough to attract excellent scientists and scholars. Fellowships and other grants should be available for bright students. An academic culture that is based on merit-based norms and competition for advancement and research funds is a necessary component, as is a ___3___ mix of autonomy to do creative research and accountability to ___4___ productivity. World class universities require world class professors and students — and a culture to sustain and ___5___ them. A clearly ___6___ academic system has not been created in India — a system where there are some clearly ___7___ institutions that receive significantly greater resources than other universities. One of the main reasons that the University of California at Berkeley is so good is that other California universities receive much less support. India's best universities require sustained state support — they require the ___8___ that they are indeed top

institutions and deserve ___9___ support. But they also require effective management and an ___10___ of an academic meritocracy. At present, the structures are not in place to permit building and sustaining top-quality programmes even if resources are provided.

- | | |
|--------------------|--------------------|
| 1. (a) prominence | (b) level |
| (c) standards | (d) prestige |
| 2. (a) primarily | (b) compulsarily |
| (c) precisely | (d) adequately |
| 3. (a) fundamental | (b) judicious |
| (c) relevance | (d) nominal |
| 4. (a) ensure | (b) enable |
| (c) attain | (d) sustain |
| 5. (a) challenge | (b) stimulate |
| (c) provoke | (d) promote |
| 6. (a) established | (b) explained |
| (c) defined | (d) differentiated |
| 7. (a) identified | (b) justified |
| (c) associated | (d) selective |
| 8. (a) preference | (b) recognition |
| (c) status | (d) permission |
| 9. (a) immense | (b) sufficient |
| (c) exceptional | (d) commensurate |
| 10. (a) ethos | (b) aestheticism |
| (c) iota | (d) element |

[Answers: 2.(d), 3.(b), 4.(a), 5.(b), 6.(d), 7.(a), 8.(b), 9.(d), 10.(d)]

First, read the whole paragraph in order to orient yourself with the given subject matter.

Explanation

Word Class: Prominence (noun), Level (noun), Standards (noun), Prestige (noun)

Function and Contextual Clues:: The word in the blank should reveal some quality that these institutions possess. This can be ascertained from the word 'national' which precedes the blank.

From the given choices - 'Prominence' means something that is particularly noticeable'. 'Level' pertains to an even surface, 'standard' refers to a benchmark or customs established by authority' and 'prestige' means reputation.

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The choices for the first blank are quite close. However, it is the next sentence that provides another contextual clue. It explains that the chosen institutions have not been supported consistently. Also, the first sentence presents the condition that only public universities can become world class institutions. Therefore, the government has recognized some institutions that have the potential. So the meaning of the given sentence is that institutions that have this potential or whose potential is clearly identifiable; such institutions have already been spotted by the government. Thus, out of the four choices 'prominence' fits best. 'Level, prestige and standard' do not fit because the government is not setting a benchmark for the institutions. In fact the government is only identifying the institutions that have the potential of becoming world class institutions.

Cloze Test

Now, using the same approach fill the other blanks and complete the paragraph.

Given below are passages that contain blanks that are supposed to be filled in with the appropriate word from the four given choices. You can scan through the passage in an instant to get the gist, and then read carefully and fill in the blanks. Remember that consistency in logic and context is the key to develop the overall paragraph.



Exercise

Practice-1

Many young people have had no chance of going to the mountains. I earnestly hope that the chance may ... 1 ... especially to those who live in ... 2 ... cities. We have two bits ... 3 ... grand mountain country nearer than ... 4 ... Alps or Scotland, the Snowdon District ... 5 ... the Lake District. The sooner they ... 6 ... National Parks the better, places of ... 7 ... secured for us and future generations to ... 8 ... in, to climb in, or to ... 9 ... alone in. Let us see that they are ... 10 ... used; not as Hitler and Mussolini ... 11 ... the Alps to foster in young ... 12 ... the love of domination, and to ... 13 ... them for aggressive warfare. Let us ... 14 ... them as places where we may ... 15 ... adventure, and, refreshment for mind and ... 16 ... Mountaineering has this advantage over ... 17 ... other sports, entertainment depends very little ... 18 ... on natural ability or technical skill ... 19 ... nobody loses because somebody wins. By all ... 20 ... study the climbing technique if it interests you.

1. (a) happen (b) occur
(c) come (d) get
2. (a) the (b) a
(c) your (d) we
3. (a) of (b) in
(c) at (d) for
4. (a) some (b) those
(c) the (d) an
5. (a) in (b) of
(c) and (d) on
6. (a) become (b) approach
(c) turn (d) reach
7. (a) beauty (b) loveliness
(c) prettiness (d) cleanliness
8. (a) stand (b) run
(c) walk (d) dance
9. (a) get (b) be
(c) feel (d) stay
10. (a) always (b) well
(c) accurately (d) correctly
11. (a) used (b) abused
(c) misused (d) accused

12. (a) population (b) men
(c) children (d) world
13. (a) instruct (b) train
(c) teach (d) tutor
14. (a) use (b) desire
(c) regard (d) adjust
15. (a) feet (b) experience
(c) find (d) search
16. (a) soul (b) spirit
(c) body (d) conscious
17. (a) most (b) none
(c) some (d) all
18. (a) indeed (b) of course
(c) certainly (d) surely
19. (a) for (b) and
(c) when (d) while
20. (a) accounts (b) standards
(c) means (d) rights

Practice-2

Science has made an ... 1 ... contribution to the relief of human suffering and humanity ... 2 ... a deep debt of ... 3 ... to scientists whose ... 4 ... and sacrifices have led to the many ... 5 ... discoveries and inventions which have done so much to ... 6 ... human pain and ... 7 It is indeed ... 8 ... to calculate the ... 9 ... of science in providing ... 10 ... to suffering mankind. In the first place, machines have to a ... 11 ... extent replaced human ... 12 The men of today are more ... 13 ... than their brethren of two generations past who were ... 14 ... to severe physical strain.

1. (a) excessive (b) enormous
(c) intensive (d) active
2. (a) feels (b) offers
(c) owes (d) acknowledges
3. (a) money (b) gratefulness
(c) thanks (d) gratitude
4. (a) labours (b) discoveries
(c) achievements (d) successes
5. (a) strange (b) useful
(c) advantageous (d) profitable

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|-------------------|-----------------|
| 6. (a) decrease | (b) disappear |
| (c) alleviate | (d) belittle |
| 7. (a) unrest | (b) discomfort |
| (c) anxiety | (d) sacrifice |
| 8. (a) possible | (b) impossible |
| (c) plausible | (d) impertinent |
| 9. (a) use | (b) relevance |
| (c) cost | (d) value |
| 10. (a) peace | (b) rest |
| (c) relief | (d) comfort |
| 11. (a) large | (b) big |
| (c) wide | (d) broad |
| 12. (a) work | (b) labour |
| (c) effort | (d) enterprise |
| 13. (a) easy | (b) resourceful |
| (c) fortunate | (d) unlucky |
| 14. (a) subjected | (b) averse |
| (c) inclined | (d) used |

Practice-3

The country has made considerable progress in the ... 1 ... of health with which the common men, the poorer sections of society, are ... 2 ... concerned. The result of the progress can be ... 3 ... from the fact that the average expectancy of life has increased. The rate of mortality has ... 4 The number of medical colleges has increased. About 800 public health centers have been ... 5 ... in development blocks. It is ... 6 ... that all the centers do not have doctors. It must, however, be ... 7 ... that constant efforts are being made to make up the leeway. There is, however, a great demand for the opening of new hospitals. It is not possible to provide trained personnel everywhere.

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|-------------------|-------------------|
| 1. (a) domain | (b) area |
| (c) field | (d) region |
| 2. (a) somewhat | (b) purely |
| (c) vitally | (d) seemingly |
| 3. (a) judged | (b) inferred |
| (c) seen | (d) analysed |
| 4. (a) dipped | (b) cut down |
| (c) dropped | (d) slipped |
| 5. (a) initiated | (b) erected |
| (c) raised | (d) established |
| 6. (a) lamentable | (b) regrettable |
| (c) definable | (d) None of these |

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|-----------------|----------------|
| 7. (a) admitted | (b) confessed |
| (c) known | (d) understood |

Practice-4

It is difficult to ... 1 ... the future course of events. We cannot be ... 2 I see some danger ... 3 We cannot afford to ... 4 ... our efforts. We have to be prepared for every sacrifice. We ... 5 ... do without some ... 6 ... of life. It is the government's endeavour to provide the necessities of life of the people. But we cannot be too sure. We cannot say if our friends will continue to stand by us. Each one of us has, therefore, to be prepared for the biggest sacrifice. This should be constantly ... 7 ... in mind. As I said, truth and justice are on our side and victory shall be ours.

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|
| 1. (a) depict | (b) predict |
| (c) judge | (d) edict |
| 2. (a) satisfied | (b) deficient |
| (c) complacent | (d) implemented |
| 3. (a) in front | (b) before |
| (c) lead | (d) ahead |
| 4. (a) lax | (b) relax |
| (c) hoax | (d) None of these |
| 5. (a) have to | (b) may have to |
| (c) might have to | (d) will have to |
| 6. (a) necessities | (b) necessities |
| (c) vitalities | (d) essentials |
| 7. (a) kept | (b) retain |
| (c) bore | (d) bom |

Practice-5

Over the entire field of policy making, the problems facing the government are increasingly scientific and technological in ... 1 Our decisions in defence and foreign ... 2 ... are increasingly governed by the developments in military and civil technology, ... 3 ... in such matters as armament and disarmament, the ... 4 ... of a new law for the seas or an international regime for space. The ... 5 ... field of industry and agriculture, education, health and welfare confronts us with a wide range of technological choices, and even decisions in such ... 6 ... non-scientific areas as taxation and procurement ... 7 ... affect the pace and ... 8 ... of the nation's technological progress.

- | | |
|---------------|----------------|
| 1. (a) intent | (b) content |
| (c) essence | (d) pith |
| 2. (a) events | (b) happenings |
| (c) affairs | (d) conditions |

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3. (a) in particular (b) especially
(c) virtually (d) seemingly
4. (a) detail (b) elaboration
(c) spreading (d) dimension
5. (a) complete (b) entire
(c) all (d) whole
6. (a) obviously (b) clearly
(c) seemingly (d) None of these
7. (a) willingly (b) profoundly
(c) superficially (d) intensely
8. (a) quality (b) caliber
(c) talent (d) intensity

Practice-6

The ... 1 ... of education has also been a ... 2 ... instrument in emphasizing and shaping the underlying unity of mankind. The best ... 3 ... perhaps in which we can describe the present ... 4 ... is to call it a 'decade of promise'. The marvels of science, the immense ... 5 ... of harnessing nuclear energy for peaceful purposes and urge to ... 6 ... resources to their optimum level have all of them significantly contributed in tackling problems on a ... 7 ... scale rather than attempting to solve these baffling issues of ignorance, poverty and disease separately by individuals and nations.

1. (a) need (b) mode
(c) spread (d) development
2. (a) effective (b) defective
(c) latest (d) potent
3. (a) form (b) method
(c) format (d) manner
4. (a) period (b) decay
(c) decade (d) age
5. (a) effects (b) labour
(c) possibilities (d) capability
6. (a) materialize (b) utilize
(c) synthesize (d) pressurize
7. (a) global (b) globe
(c) world (d) universal

Practice-7

Gandhiji had little sense of beauty or artistry in ... 1 ... objects though he ... 2 ... natural beauty. The Taj Mahal was for him an ... 3 ... of forced labour and little more. His sense of smell was ... 4 ... And yet in his own way, he had ... 5 ... the art of living and had made of his life an artistic whole. Every ... 6 ... had meaning

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and grace without a ... 7 ... touch. There were no rough ... 8 ... or sharp ... 9 ... about him, no trace of ... 10 ... or commonness in which unhappily our middle classes ... 11 ... Having found an inner peace he ... 12 ... it to others and ... 13 ... through life's ... 14 ... ways with firm and ... 15 ... steps.

1. (a) man-made (b) material
(c) vulgar (d) worldly
2. (a) accepted (b) appreciated
(c) admired (d) abhorred
3. (a) building (b) embodiment
(c) explanation (d) monument
4. (a) limited (b) meek
(c) strong (d) feeble
5. (a) discovered (b) invented
(c) realized (d) sensed
6. (a) account (b) gesture
(c) indication (d) word
7. (a) false (b) right
(c) true (d) benign
8. (a) ground (b) manners
(c) edges (d) words
9. (a) contours (b) ideas
(c) weapons (d) corners
10. (a) capacity (b) hostility
(c) caprice (d) vulgarity
11. (a) excel (b) sustain
(c) follow (d) dislike
12. (a) absorbed (b) released
(c) radiated (d) reflected
13. (a) followed (b) marched
(c) peeped (d) muddled
14. (a) easy (b) simple
(c) ordinary (d) tortuous
15. (a) long (b) tottering
(c) undaunted (d) quick

Practice-8

There is a(n) ... 1 ... realization that the world is a single ... 2 ..., and the diversities that one notices are only ... 3 ... and not real. It is the spirit of universalism that is fast spreading to every ... 4 ... and corner of the earth. This spirit of ... 5 ... has become possible, thanks to the many discoveries and inventions which science and technology have made available to mankind during the last few years. We have, in a

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sense, today ... 6 ... time and space, and what occurs in one part of the universe finds its ... 7 ... in a matter of a few seconds in the other. What was considered to be mere ... 8 ... of imagination or fantasy, say, a quarter of a century ago, has become reality in our own lives.

1. (a) decreasing (b) increasing
(c) squeezing (d) freezing
2. (a) unit (b) unity
(c) parity (d) trinity
3. (a) superfluous (b) superficial
(c) surface (d) imperial
4. (a) hook (b) look
(c) nook (d) brook
5. (a) awakening (b) quickening
(c) hankering (d) dwindling
6. (a) overcome (b) contained
(c) conquered (d) handled
7. (a) duplicate (b) echo
(c) suplicate (d) voice
8. (a) figment (b) fiction
(c) segment (d) concerned

Practice-9

The solution to the many ... 1 ... problems of present-day India in different fields — a challenging task to be ... 2 ... within the lifetime of a generation — most obviously will make many demands ... 3 ... the youth who are to ... 4 ... leadership of the nation in the coming years. Students have a deeper understanding of the problems ... 5 ... the country. Remember without hard and sustained work, dedicated ... 6 ... and fervour and, above all, without the collective discipline and national character the realization of our goals will neither be smooth nor easy.

1. (a) baffling (b) squabbling
(c) nibbling (d) breathing
2. (a) completed (b) done
(c) accomplished (d) accompanied
3. (a) on (b) in
(c) for (d) at

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- 4 (a) presume (b) consume
(c) assume (d) take
5. (a) confronting (b) lacing
(c) defacing (d) facing
6. (a) fervour (b) zeal
(c) seal (d) weal

Practice-10

India has for ... 1 ... given the lead in different fields and the impact of its civilization and culture has spread to the ... 2 ... corners. This has become possible, thanks to the lead given by her sages and saints, statesmen and scholars and poets and litterateurs. It is training and education that ... 3 ... contributed to her progress. As the Radhakrishnan Commission has rightly mentioned, "If India is to ... 4 ... the confusion of our times, she must ... 5 ... for guidance not to those who are lost in the mere exigencies of the passing hour, but to her men of letters. Her men of science, to her poets and artists and to her discoverers and inventors. These intellectual ... 6 ... of civilization are to be found and trained at the universities, which are the ... 7 ... of the inner life of the Nation."

1. (a) years (b) periods
(c) ages (d) time
2. (a) furthest (b) longest
(c) farthest (d) widest
3. (a) fundamentally (b) basically
(c) eventually (d) finally
4. (a) create (b) remove
(c) confront (d) contribute to
5. (a) turn (b) return
(c) go (d) move
6. (a) guardians (b) perpetuation
(c) dons (d) pioneers
7. (a) epitome (b) sanctuaries
(c) temples (d) None of these



Answer Key

Practice-1

1. (c) 2. (a) 3. (a) 4. (c) 5. (c) 6. (a) 7. (a) 8. (c) 9. (b) 10. (b)
11. (a) 12. (b) 13. (b) 14. (a) 15. (c) 16. (c) 17. (a) 18. (a) 19. (b) 20. (c)

Passage – 2

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (d) 4. (a) 5. (b) 6. (c) 7. (b) 8. (b) 9. (d) 10. (c)
11. (a) 12. (b) 13. (c) 14. (a)

Passage – 3

1. (c) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (c) 5. (d) 6. (b) 7. (a)

Passage – 4

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (d) 4. (b) 5. (b) 6. (b) 7. (a)

Passage – 5

1. (b) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (b) 5. (b) 6. (c) 7. (b) 8. (a)

Passage – 6

1. (c) 2. (d) 3. (d) 4. (c) 5. (c) 6. (b) 7. (a)

Practice-7

1. (a) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (d) 5. (a) 6. (b) 7. (a) 8. (c) 9. (d) 10. (d)
11. (a) 12. (c) 13. (b) 14. (d) 15. (c)

Passage – 8

1. (b) 2. (a) 3. (b) 4. (c) 5. (a) 6. (c) 7. (b) 8. (a)

Passage – 9

1. (a) 2. (c) 3. (c) 4. (c) 5. (d) 6. (b)

Passage – 10

1. (c) 2. (c) 3. (b) 4. (c) 5. (a) 6. (d) 7. (b)



Explanations

Practice-1

1. c The most appropriate option is 'come' as it is most idiomatically correct in this context.
2. a Options (c) and (d) are totally absurd with reference to the given passage. The best option here would be (a).
3. a The preposition 'of' fits in the sentence perfectly. Therefore, option (a) is the correct answer.
4. c An article would fit here. Between the two articles given 'the' is correct option.
5. c The line talks about two or three districts so the correct option here would be 'and'.
6. a The most appropriate option is 'become', which means to 'turn into'.
7. a 'Beauty' is the best option for describing nature.
8. c The word that fits here is 'walk'. Options (a), (b) and (d) do not fit in with the passage.
9. b The most appropriate option is 'be' as 'be alone' is the correct phrase to be used here.
10. b Looking at the passage, the option that would be suitable for this blank is 'well'.
11. a The obvious answer is 'used' as a comparison is being made in this sentence and the word 'used' is being reiterated.
12. b As the line talks about new recruits in the army so the best option here would be 'men'.
13. b Army men are trained and not taught or tutored and as the word 'for' is used later, that is why the most suitable option is (b).
14. a We can 'use' a place and not 'regard', adjust or desire a place. Thus, (a) is the correct option.
15. c Grammatically the best option is 'find'.
16. c The line already mentions mind, so the options (a), (b) and (d) are ruled out because they are more or less synonyms. The correct option to be used here is 'body'.
17. a The option that fits here the best is 'most'. Option (b) makes to sense and using option (d) would be assuming too much.
18. a 'Indeed' gives the necessary stress needed in the sentence., Therefore, option (a) is the most appropriate option.
19. b The best conjunction to fit here is 'and'.
20. c (c) is the best option here as the author wants the reader to go ahead and not worry about studying climbing techniques.

Practice-2

1. b The best option is (b) as it means to a large extent.
2. c The correct option is (c) because the line mentions debt, so somebody owes 'a debt' and 'not offers' or 'feels it'. Thus, (c) is correct.
3. d Options (c) and (d) are quite close but the more suitable option is (d).
4. a Here (a) is the correct option because its intended meaning here is hard work which goes very well with sacrifices.
5. b 'Useful' is the correct option because the discoveries and inventions prove to be 'useful' to the common man in day-to-day life.
6. c The best option here is (c) as it means to make pain easy to bear and lessen.
7. b As the line mentions pain so the option that goes best with it is discomfort.
8. b Impossible is the correct option because to measure human feelings is not possible.
9. d Option (a) and (c) are irrelevant. The best option here is 'value' - meaning 'worth or importance' as opposed to option (b), which means 'pertinence to a matter at hand'.
10. c A person who is suffering from pain and discomfort gets 'relief' and not rest or peace.
11. a 'Large' is the correct option here as it here implies to a 'great extent'.
12. b The best option here is 'labour' as it here means 'physical toil'.
13. c The correct option is fortunate as we later discover that the previous generation suffered much hardship which has been removed to a large extent today.
14. a The correct option here is 'subjected' as it here means that the men were put under severe physical strain.

Practice-3

1. c Though the options (a) and (b) are quite close but the better option here is (c).
2. c Option (c) - 'Vitality' which means 'to an important degree' is the best options that fits here. The other options fail to give the appropriate meaning.
3. b One is drawing conclusions from the fact that the average expectancy of life has increased. Therefore, the most appropriate answer here is (b) - inferred

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4. c The options (a) and (c) are quite close but the better option here is (c).
5. d An institution is 'established' and not erected or initiated. Thus, (d) is the correct option.
6. b 'Regrettable' is the suitable option because the absence and lack of doctor is regretted.
7. a (a) is the most appropriate option, as it must be 'acknowledged' or 'admitted that constant efforts are being made.

Practice-4

1. b The future is always predicted which means to foretell. Thus, (b) is correct.
2. c The correct option is (c) because it means relaxed or satisfied. But as the previous line says that future cannot be always predicted. So we need to stay alert and not complacent.
3. d Though (a) and (d) have similar meaning but 'ahead' is more suitable to fit here.
4. b The best option is (b) - 'relax' which means to 'slacken or reduce in intensity'. Option (a) 'Lax' which means 'something that is lacking in firmness' does not fit in with the sentence.
5. b (a) and (d) are not correct because we are not fully sure that it is going to happen the way we think. Thus, (b) is the correct option.
6. b The correct answer is (b) as it means something which is required in day-to-day life and we cannot do without it.
7. a 'Kept' is the best option which here means that it should be constantly remembered and not forgotten.

Practice-5

1. b The correct option is 'content'. The other options do not fit in properly.
2. c (c) seems to be the most appropriate option though (a) is also close.
3. b 'Especially' is the best option that fits here as it gives the proper stress that is necessary.
4. b The suitable option that fits here is (b) - 'elaboration', meaning 'addition of extra material or clarifying detail'.
5. b 'Entire' is the best option as it covers everything.
6. c Option (c) - 'seemingly', which means 'in appearance but not necessarily in actuality' fits in the sentence perfectly.
7. b 'Profoundly' is the best option here because here it means deeply.
8. a 'Quality' goes very well here with pace and also fits exactly in the context of the paragraph.

Practice-6

1. c Here the best option would be 'spread' of education because it talks about the unity of mankind. And all mankind can be united only when education is present everywhere. Thus, the spread is important.
2. d (a) and (d) are close options but (a) is ruled out as before the blank there is 'a' so option (a) is ruled out. Thus, (d) is correct.
3. d The best way of describing the present is being talked in the sentence so, option (d) seems to be the more appropriate choice.
4. c The sentence mentions decade of promise. So we can easily infer from that the answer is (c).
5. c 'Possibilities' is the best option as nuclear energy still has not been used for peaceful purposes. So it would be used in future is a possibility.
6. b (b) is the best option as it means here to use resources to the utmost.
7. a We are talking about a worldwide scale and hence, option (a) 'global' is the best option here.

Practice-7

1. a The answer is man-made because it mentions that Gandhiji preferred natural beauty instead of man-made objects.
2. c Although (b) and (c) are quite close but (c) is the better option here.
3. b (b) is the best option here as it means a concrete form.
4. d Option (d) is the most appropriate option, meaning 'limited'.
5. a Gandhiji was not the one to invent the art of living so option (b) is ruled out. Rather he had discovered it. So (a) is the correct option.
6. b The sentence talks about touch so the best option that would go with it is 'gesture'.
7. a (a) is the best option. The other options are irrelevant in this context.
8. c 'Rough edges' gives the correct phrase. Therefore, (c) is the most appropriate option.
9. d Because the previous option talks about rough edges, here the suitable option is corners.
10. d In the context of the passage the correct option is (d). Moreover, 'vulgarity' which means 'the quality of lacking taste and refinement' matches with the 'commonness' mentioned.
11. a We are talking about the negative qualities in which the middle class people surpass others. So option (a) - 'excel' seems to be the only option that fits here.

5.10

12. c Here the sentence means that he propagated his knowledge to other people. Thus, the correct option is (c).
13. b Options (c) and (d) are absurd and are ruled out. The best option that fits in the blank is (b).
14. d As life is supposed to be very easy that is why it describes life's ways as tortuous.
15. c The sentence mentions firm steps. So the word that goes with it is 'undaunted' which means 'bold and fearless'.

Practice-8

1. b 'Increasing' is the correct option here as in the next sentence it is mentioned that it is spreading. So we can easily infer that if it is spreading it has to increase.
2. a The passage talks about the world being a single undivided entity or whole and therefore, option (a) - 'Unit' is the best option.
3. b As the sentence mentions it is not real so the correct option is 'superfluous' because it also means the same.
4. c It is a commonly used term nook and corner, so the correct answer is 'nook'.
5. a The most logically correct option is 'awakening' - which means 'the start of a feeling or awareness'.
6. c The best option here is 'conquered' as the author talks of having taken control of time and space with the help of science and technology.
7. b An echo sounds exactly the same as the original and returns back after a few seconds. It is thus compared to the events here.
8. a Here figment means a notion perceived in mind or a fabrication.

Cloze Test

Practice-9

1. a The correct option here is baffling as it means puzzling.
2. c A task is accomplished so the correct option is (c).
3. c Apart from (c) the rest of the options are absurd as we always make a demand 'for' something.
4. c The correct option is 'assume'. Just as we assume responsibility we assume leadership.
5. d Although options (a) and (d) are close but the more appropriate option is (d).
6. b (a) cannot be used as it is already mentioned. (c) and (d) are absurd. The correct option is 'zeal' as it means 'enthusiasm'.

Practice-10

1. c In this opening line, the author is talking about a length by time. Therefore, 'ages' is the most appropriate option.
2. c 'Farthest' is the correct option because it means the corner at the extreme far.
3. b The chief contributor to India's, progress was 'training and education'. Therefore, in this context, the most appropriate answer would be option (b) - which means 'chiefly or for the most part'.
4. c The answer is 'confront' as it means to face boldly.
5. a 'Turn for guidance' is the right statement just as we say turn for help, which means look or ask for help or guidance.
6. d The correct option is pioneers as it means innovators or one who initiates.
7. b In the context of the passage, the correct option is (b).