

Reading Comprehension

The Reading comprehension section of the paper contains two unseen passages. One of these passages is a factual/descriptive/literary passage. Questions based on this passage are usually designed to assess comprehension, interpretation, analysis, inference and vocabulary. The other passage is a case-based factual passage with verbal/visual inputs like statistical data, charts, etc. Questions based on this passage are usually designed to assess comprehension, interpretation, analysis, inference and evaluation.

Quick Tips

- ▶ Read the passage carefully at a decent pace.
- ▶ If required, go through the passage again to understand it clearly.
- ▶ Read the questions carefully and choose/give the appropriate answer.
- ▶ You have to choose/give the answer as per the Information given in the passage. Don't use your own opinion or knowledge.
- ▶ Be careful while choosing/giving synonyms or antonyms for the given words. If you are unable to understand the meaning of a word, try to find out the meaning of that word in the context of the passage.
- ▶ If you are asked to choose/give a suitable title for the passage, it should be according to the theme or main idea of the passage.
- ▶ In case of multiple choice questions, sometimes you may feel that two of the given options can be the answer. In such cases read the question carefully and make sure that you understand clearly what is being asked. Choose the appropriate answer in the context of the passage.
- ▶ While answering the questions based on verbal/visual inputs like statistical data, charts, etc., make sure that you analyse and interpret the data correctly.
- ▶ Your common sense and presence of mind can also help you in choosing/giving the appropriate answer.

Factual, Descriptive or Literary/Discursive or Persuasive PASSAGES

Passage 1

Arthur lay in his cabin, still trying to piece together the events of the last few hours. He had watched his home planet of Earth be demolished to make way for a hyperspace bypass, been saved by his friend Ford, and then whisked away on a ship that was powered by an "infinite improbability drive." It was all too much for him.

Just then, Ford stuck his head around the door.

"Hey, Earthman", he said, "come and have a look at this."

Arthur stumbled after him down a corridor and into the ship's control room. He gazed in amazement at the banks of controls and flashing lights. In the centre of the room was a large console covered in buttons and switches, and in the middle of the console was a small, white mouse.

"What's that?" asked Arthur.

"That's the ship's computer," said Ford.

Arthur stared at the mouse. "That's a computer?" he said.

"Yup," said Ford. "Find-dimensional, biologically-based, super intelligent, and in the form of a white lab mouse. Pretty neat, huh?"

"I don't know," said Arthur. "I don't think I really understand anything anymore. Why is a mouse the ship's computer?"

"It's a long story," said Ford. "But the short version is that the mice built the Earth as a giant computer to figure out the Ultimate Question of Life, the Universe, and Everything. Then they ran out of money and had to destroy it to make way for a hyperspace bypass.

So now they're using the Heart of Gold to finish the calculation."

Arthur was about to say something, but at that moment the ship's intercom crackled to life.

"Good evening, Heart of Gold," said a smooth, computerised voice. "This is Eddie, your shipboard computer. I'm feeling a bit depressed today. Would you like me to sing you a song?"

"Oh, not again," groaned Ford.

"Eddie, would you mind shutting up?" said Arthur. Arthur sighed and leaned back against the console, trying to make sense of everything. But as he closed his eyes, he heard a voice inside his head.

"Hello?" it said.

Arthur jumped, startled. "Who's there?" he said.

"It's me," said the voice. "Marvin."

"Marvin?" said Arthur. "Who's Marvin?"

"The Paranoid Android," said the voice.

Arthur looked around, but he didn't see anyone.

"Where are you?" he said.

"I'm down here," said the voice.

Arthur looked down and saw a small, metal figure shuffling across the floor. It was about three feet tall, with a round head and a body that looked like it had been cobbled together from spare parts. Its eyes were a dull red, and its voice was a monotone.

"I've been waiting for someone to talk to me for over two million years," said Marvin.

Adapted: An excerpt from "The Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy" by Douglas Adams. (CBSE SQP 2023-24)

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) Select the option that classifies Arthur's confusion about drastic events such as the destruction of his home planet and the introduction of new technologies, correctly.
 - (i) Routine and boredom
 - (ii) Adventure and excitement
 - (iii) Loss and change
 - (iv) Calm and relaxation
- (b) What is the significance of the white lab mouse in the control room of the Heart of Gold spaceship?
 - (i) It is the captain of the ship
 - (ii) It serves as the ship's computer
 - (iii) It is a pet of the crew
 - (iv) It is used for scientific experiments
- (c) Share evidence from the text to support the view that the writer's writing style is descriptive and humorous.
- (d) Complete the sentence appropriately with a characteristic or its description.
Based on the information given in the excerpt, one can infer that the mice who built the Earth are
- (e) Select the option that is similar in meaning to Ford's expression, "Pretty neat, huh?".
 - (i) Easy, isn't it?
 - (ii) Could be worse, no?
 - (iii) Impressive, yes?
 - (iv) Too difficult for you?
- (f) Explain, why the name "The Paranoid Android" is considered ironic.
- (g) In the line, "... a body that looked like it had been cobbled together from spare parts...", what comparison does the word "cobbled" refer to?
- (h) How does the following, impact the readers, even though they know Marvin is just an android?
"I've been waiting for someone to talk to me for over two million years," said Marvin.
- (i) Read the five headlines (A)-(E), given below:
 - A. HUMANITY'S JOURNEY WITNESSED BY A DEPRESSED ROBOT
 - B. HITCHHIKING THROUGH SPACE: A COMICAL TAKE ON THE END OF THE WORLD
 - C. NEW STUDY FINDS ALIENS LIVING AMONG US
 - D. GROUNDBREAKING TECHNOLOGY WILL SOON ENABLE TIME TRAVEL
 - E. INTERGALACTIC TRAVEL VIA NEW INFINITE IMPROBABILITY DRIVE

Identify the option that displays the headline/s that DOES/DO NOT correspond with occurrences in the passage.

 - (i) Only A
 - (ii) B, C and D
 - (iii) Only E
 - (iv) A and E

- a. (iii) Loss and change
- b. (ii) It serves as the ship's computer
- c. **Descriptive:** "In the centre of the room was a large console covered in buttons and switches, and in the middle of the console was a small, white mouse."
(These lines provide a clear image of the setting and the unconventional form of the ship's computer.)
Humorous: "Oh, not again," groaned Ford.
(This line suggests that the ship's computer, Eddie, often offers to sing songs and annoys the crew. Ford's reaction of groaning tells us that he is tired of it. The fact that a computer is attempting to sing a song also implies humour.)
- d. highly intelligent/technologically advanced (because they built the earth as a giant computer)

Or

- indifferent to the suffering of others (because they ran out of money and had to destroy the earth)
- e. (iii) Impressive, yes?
 - f. The name 'The Paranoid Android' is considered ironic because human-like emotions, such as paranoia, are not expected from a robot. The name 'paranoid' implies irrational fear and anxiety, whereas a robot is thought of as logical and unemotional. It plays with readers' expectations.
 - g. In the given line, the word 'cobbled' refers to the comparison with cobblers. 'Cobbled' here implies that the body of Marvin was put together using spare parts in the same way in which a cobbler takes scraps of leather and stitches them together to make a shoe.
 - h. Even though the readers know Marvin is just an android, the statement by Marvin evokes a sense of loneliness and isolation; It creates a sense of sympathy towards Marvin. It also emphasises lack of communication between beings and raises questions about the meaning and value of existence.
 - i. (iv) A and E

Passage 2

1. When we think of the game of cricket, we come to the conclusion that it is primarily a game that depends on outstanding physical activities, good hand-eye co-ordination, speed, skill and strength. It provides entertainment and generates strong feelings of excitement. A good match of cricket or of any other game neither adds to the existing stock of human knowledge nor reveals any secret of existence. It does not carry any deep meaning but most people, particularly the lover of sports attach deep emotions and numerous meanings to it. Games are thought of as a metaphor for life. They are supposed to teach many lessons. In fact, more is said

and written about a cricket match than about scientific findings or great philosophy.

2. This is because games, like a morality play, in which settings and rules are made by us, can easily make people test their fair and foul conduct, principles of reward and punishment, and emotions of joy and disappointment. They can make us experience the thrill of war without exposing us to its dangers. A man watching a cricket match on T.V. and munching popcorn is like a surrogate warrior. In fact, games provide us with a safe outlet for our aggressiveness. If games become aggressive, they lose the very purpose of providing entertainment and purging us of our aggressiveness. They can calm our impatience without creating any conflict.
3. Commentators, journalists, politicians and analysts can do a great favour to the competing teams by keeping the excitement within limits. The teams should play without being dominated by feelings of national honour and shame. Excellent performance of the players of both teams should be enjoyed and appreciated. Winning or losing in a game should not be taken seriously. A game is fun if it is played with true spirit of sportsmanship. (CBSE 2023)

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option.

Most people conclude that cricket is primarily a game because

- (i) it is played as a match
 - (ii) it requires two teams
 - (iii) it includes physical activity
 - (iv) it depends only on skill and strength
- (b) Comment on the writer's reference to that cricket does not reveal any secret of existence.
- (c) List two responses which watching a game of cricket gives rise to.
- (d) Select the option that conveys the opposite of 'destroy' from words used in the passage.
- (i) Reveals
 - (ii) Experience
 - (iii) Generate
 - (iv) Purging
- (e) The writer would agree with the given statements based on paragraph 2, EXCEPT.
- (i) Rules of any game are made by people.
 - (ii) Watching a cricket match makes the viewer believe that he is fighting a battle.
 - (iii) It is necessary for a game to be aggressive in order to build excitement.
 - (iv) A game can test people's sense of fair judgement.
- (f) With reference to the passage, a spectator is compared to a 'surrogate warrior'.
- Choose the option that best describes this phrase:
- (i) A spectator who is paid to watch.
 - (ii) A spectator who is in pain while watching the match.
 - (iii) A spectator who enjoys the match as an armchair soldier.
 - (iv) A spectator who makes judgement about reward and punishment.

- (g) Why does the writer compare games to a morality play?

- (h) Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference with respect to the following:

The writer says that games can calm our impatience without creating any conflict by

- (i) The writer advises the players that games should not become aggressive because
- (j) Select the most suitable title for the above passage.
- (i) Excellent Performance by Cricketers
 - (ii) The Benefits of Playing Cricket
 - (iii) Cricket – The King of Games
 - (iv) The True Spirit of Playing Games

Answers

- a. (iii) It includes physical activity
- b. The writer says that cricket does not reveal any secret of existence. It does not bring into light anything that is new or interesting about the existence. It does not carry any deep meaning but people attach deep emotions and numerous meanings to it.
- c. 1. Watching a game of cricket makes us experience the thrill of war without exposing us to its dangers. A person watching a cricket match on TV and munching popcorn is like a surrogate warrior.
2. Watching a game of cricket generates strong feelings of excitement.
- d. (iii) Generate
- e. (iii) It is necessary for a game to be aggressive in order to build excitement.
- f. (iii) A spectator who enjoys the match as an armchair soldier.
- g. The writer compares games to a morality play because games, like a morality play, can easily make people test their fair and foul conduct, principles of reward and punishment, and emotions of joy and disappointment.
- h. providing us with a safe outlet for our aggressiveness.
- i. if games become aggressive, they lose the very purpose of providing entertainment and purging us of our aggressiveness.
- j. (iv) The True Spirit of Playing Games

Passage 3

1. World Conservation Day is celebrated internationally to increase awareness about the best practices needed to protect our natural resources. The Earth is supplied with a limited amount of resources that we all rely upon, like water, air, soil and trees. The World Nature Conservation Movement is a great opportunity to celebrate the progress we've made and determine to take action, wherever needed. It is time to remind ourselves that we need to give back to nature instead of just using resources without thinking about conservation. There is a need to replenish and recycle the resources we consume from nature.

2. Our forests, rivers, oceans and soils provide us with the food we eat, the air we breathe, the water we irrigate our crops with. We also rely on them for numerous other goods and services. We depend on them for our health, happiness and prosperity. We have a cycle of biodiversity which needs proper conservation.
3. The population explosion remains one of the major reasons why natural resources are getting depleted at a very fast rate. Technological advancement and luxurious lifestyles have led to several environmental problems like global warming, ozone layer depletion, river water pollution and deforestation, which threaten the planet's future.
4. Humans, animals, marine creatures and the environment, all need to be protected and conserved for the planet's future well-being. There are many examples of conservation. One is a programme to try to preserve wetlands, or a programme to try and save old buildings. Another example is of an attempt to minimise the amount of electricity used by turning off lights when leaving a room, or an attempt to turn off the running tap to avoid wastage of water. There are lots of examples like these which need implementation.
5. Following these small steps in our daily lives we can help to maintain the balance of nature, thereby saving humankind from the kinds of natural disasters we may face in the near future.
6. Nature also has a profound impact on our minds and our behaviour, helping reduce anxiety, brooding, and stress and increase our attention, capacity, creativity and ability to connect with other people. So there is a need to save nature if we want to save life as the two are interconnected and need each other. If we hurt or destroy the environment, surely we will be ruined. We must create awareness among family members, and try and practise a sustainable lifestyle to protect and conserve nature. (CBSE 2023)

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) Complete the sentence by choosing the appropriate option.**

There is an urgent need to conserve our natural resources because:

- (i) we are aimlessly using the natural resources and not replenishing them.
 - (ii) they will be replaced by man-made resources.
 - (iii) serious efforts are needed to cut down the consumption of these resources.
 - (iv) we must become alert before it is too late.
- (b) In the opinion of the writer, which are the primary natural resources without which our life is not possible?**
- (c) In paragraph 1, the writer talks about 'celebrating the progress'. Explain in context.**
- (d) The writer would not agree with the given statements based on paragraph 6, EXCEPT.**
- (i) Stress can be relieved by working overtime.
 - (ii) Nature can affect man's emotional well-being.

- (iii) Lifestyle cannot be changed permanently.
- (iv) Destruction of the environment is a temporary measure undertaken by man.

- (e) In the context of the given passage, what is the synonym of 'replenish' (para 1)? Choose the correct option.**

- (i) Scarcity
- (ii) Restore
- (iii) Reconcile
- (iv) Minimise

- (f) List two ways in which forests and rivers help mankind.**

- (g) How can the solutions suggested in paragraph 4 be best described?**

- (i) Unrealistic
- (ii) Short term
- (iii) Practical
- (iv) Challenging

- (h) Why is it fair to say that population explosion remains one of the major reasons why natural resources are getting depleted rapidly?**

- (i) Complete the given sentence with an appropriate reference with respect to the following:**

The writer quotes the example of family awareness in order to (Paragraph 6).

- (j) Select the most suitable title for the above passage.**

- (i) Ways to Save the Environment
- (ii) Save Nature Save Life
- (iii) Nature – A Pharmacy
- (iv) Nature – A Food Factory

Answers

- a. (i) we are aimlessly using the natural resources and not replenishing them.
- b. In the opinion of the writer, the primary natural resources without which our life is not possible are water, air, soil and trees.
- c. In the context of the passage, the writer here wants to convey that we should celebrate the progress we have made but we should also be determined to take action thinking about the conservation of natural resources.
- d. (ii) Nature can affect man's emotional well-being.
- e. (ii) Restore
- f. Forests and rivers help mankind by providing the food to eat and the water to irrigate the crops with.
- g. (iii) Practical
- h. It is fair to say that population explosion remains one of the major reasons why natural resources are getting depleted rapidly because technological advancement and luxurious lifestyles have led to several environmental problems like global warming, ozone layer depletion, river water pollution and deforestation.
- i. suggest that we should try and practise a sustainable lifestyle to protect and conserve nature.
- j. (ii) Save Nature Save Life

Passage 4

1. I know many friends of mine who drink coffee regularly but do not know that coffee exists in different forms other than instant coffee. There are many who swear by Flora café classic or Coco gold, which they consider premium coffee. I may sound offensive but instant coffee is not the only way; in fact it's a very bad way of making coffee! Instant coffee cannot match up to brewed coffee's flavour nor does it have Arabica beans. It uses Robusta beans that are lower in flavour. Don't know the difference?! Read on...
2. That plant might be a genius! It created a chemical that would keep pests away. Fortunately for us and unfortunately for the plant – that plan did not work the way it was intended to. The chemical might have averted a few pest attacks, but attracted a far greater threat—human beings. The plant I am talking about is coffee and the chemical is caffeine.
3. To begin from the beginning – coffee is from a more mature part of the tree – the seed – unlike other stimulants. The ripe berry is picked and de-pulped leaving us with a seed called 'green bean' or 'green coffee'. Green bean is uncharacteristically bland with a taste nowhere close to that of coffee, but it is valued for its higher antioxidant levels.
4. It's an interesting phenomenon to see how this bland green bean turns to a flavourful coffee bean. Coffee bean is a seed and like any other seed is rich in proteins, fats and all necessary ingredients for giving birth to a new plant. When exposed to heat, the fats and carbohydrates in the bean turn into essential oils, which give the characteristic taste and aroma to the coffee bean. The degree of roasting depends on the need or purpose of use.
5. These beans are ground so that the surface area of the bean is increased, which makes extraction easier. The bean can be ground or crushed but making the particles uniform will ensure equal extraction, or else the smaller particle will get overextracted and the larger one underextracted. Hence, the burr grinder is used to ensure that the coffee bean gets ground in a uniform way in which all particles are of similar sizes.
6. Does underextraction give a lighter coffee and overextraction a stronger one? No. For a lighter or stronger coffee less or more coffee powder has to be used. Why? Underextraction will not get all the flavours of the coffee as the water runs too quickly. It will not get what you want – it will taste sour. Overextraction will bring out all unnecessary flavours rendering the taste bitter. (CBSE 2023)

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) Complete the sentence by choosing an appropriate option.**

The author complained that his friends

- (i) consumed only Flora classics.
- (ii) were not aware of different forms of coffee.
- (iii) were severely addicted to drinking coffee.
- (iv) considered Coco gold as premium coffee.

- (b) Comment on the writer's reference to the unique feature of coffee plant. (paragraph 2)**
- (c) List the reason why the author refers to humans as 'great threat' to coffee plants.**
- (d) Select an option that conveys the same meaning as 'energiser' from words used in paragraph 3.**
 - (i) Bland
 - (ii) Mature
 - (iii) Antioxidant
 - (iv) Stimulants
- (e) Complete the given sentence with an appropriate inference with respect to the following:**
Fats and carbohydrates turn into essential oils leading to
- (f) Comment on the writer's reference to the interesting phenomenon in paragraph 4.**
- (g) Overextraction does not give a stronger coffee. Based on your understanding of paragraph 6, list one method to get a stronger coffee.**
- (h) The writer would not agree with the given statements based on paragraph five EXCEPT.**
 - (i) The burr grinder grinds coffee beans uniformly.
 - (ii) Less surface area makes extraction easier.
 - (iii) Grinding gives stronger aroma.
 - (iv) Good coffee is a mix of smaller and bigger particles.
- (i) Why is it fair to say that the right degree of extraction of coffee is important?**
- (j) Select the most suitable title of the above passage.**
 - (i) The Art of Coffee Making
 - (ii) Benefits of Consuming Coffee
 - (iii) Green Coffee – The Perfect Antioxidant
 - (iv) The Coffee Addict

Answers

- a. (ii) were not aware of different forms of coffee.
- b. Coffee plant produces a chemical known as caffeine that acts as a natural pesticide but it attracts human beings.
- c. The chemical (caffeine) that coffee plant secretes keeps pests away but it attracts humans. Humans are known for over exploitation of natural resources. So, the author refers to humans as 'great threat' to coffee plants.
- d. (iv) Stimulants
- e. the characteristic taste and aroma of the coffee beans.
- f. The interesting phenomenon discussed in paragraph 4 is about the turning of the bland green bean to a flavourful coffee bean.
- g. Based on our understanding of paragraph 6, we can say that to get a stronger coffee more coffee powder has to be used.
- h. (i) The burr grinder grinds coffee beans uniformly.
 - i. It is fair to say that the right degree of extraction of coffee is important because underextraction will not get all the flavours of the coffee as the water runs too quickly and it will make the coffee taste sour. On the other hand, overextraction will make the coffee taste bitter.
 - j. (i) The Art of Coffee Making

Passage 5

1. Academics has always been an essential part of human development. It prepares us to survive in the outside world and establish an identity of our own. But, is an individual's development restricted to merely academics? In India, from an early age, we have been taught that education is limited to the boundaries of academics only; the idea of getting out into the field, for gaining practical experience, is always considered a hoax. This has hindered students' development. But the truth is that education represents a considerably broader field than we know of it. Our teaching, from the basics, has been focused on getting good grades and job offers, rather than being creative and unique.
2. In the 21st century, the pure academics type of education is slowly paving way for a whole new type. The paradigm shift in the whole education system is evident. People have now come to understand that education is a 360 degree activity that should focus on students' overall development, rather than restricting them to the classroom.
3. Co-curricular activities that take place outside the classroom but reinforce or supplement classroom curriculum, in some way, have become a point of focus today. Such activities help in the growth of the child, in more than one way. Participating in these activities helps the youngsters grow mentally and emotionally, socially and individually. Intellectual development of a student may take place in the classroom, but for the aesthetic development, such as team building, character building and physical growth, a student must step out into the outside world. For instance, if a student is a part of school football team, he/she will learn team-work and coordination, in a practical manner, which cannot be taught in the class.
4. Similarly, in colleges and institutions, there is a need for practical exposure so that the students can experience the actual working of the industry. For example, taking a student to a manufacturing firm will give him/her the real insight and better learning of the industry. Catering to this change, most professional colleges, including B-schools, have started providing practical exposure to students through regular guest lectures, industrial visits, conferences, seminars, cultural festivals and so on. With industry visits, students are able to better identify their prospective areas of work in the overall organisational function. Moreover, they help enhance interpersonal skills and communication techniques. In addition, guest lectures are equally important for all-round development of students. It is a great way for students to gain maximum exposure, as the guest speakers talk about their real life experiences and not what is there in the textbooks.
5. Through such events, students are made to participate and coordinate different events wherein they get to know how exactly things are managed. Classroom teaching provides the foundation and

co-curricular activities provide practical exposure and opportunities to implement what students learn in the classroom. This helps in developing the overall personality of an individual, inculcating various soft-skills in them, which otherwise are difficult to teach. Clearly, life beyond academics creates creative and empowered professionals.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) **The shift in the education system means:**
 - (i) to restrict to classroom activities
 - (ii) to focus on academic development
 - (iii) to ignore 360 degree activity
 - (iv) to focus on overall development
- (b) **Guest speakers talk about:**
 - A. all-round development
 - B. their real life experiences
 - C. what is in textbooks
 - D. gaining exposure
 - (i) A only
 - (ii) B only
 - (iii) C only
 - (iv) C and D
- (c) **What has hindered students' development in India?**
- (d) **Classroom teaching provides**
- (e) **From earlier times, what has not been the focus of education?**

Getting good marks Option A	Getting job offers Option B
Idea of gaining practical knowledge Option C	Individual's development restricted to academics Option D

 - (i) Option A
 - (ii) Option B
 - (iii) Option C
 - (iv) Option D
- (f) **What should students do for the aesthetic development?**
- (g) **To get a better insight into industry, students should**
- (h) **What kind of co-curricular activities have become a point of focus today?**
- (i) **What is the relationship between (A) and (B)?**
 - A. the pure academics type of education is paving way for a whole new type.
 - B. people have now come to understand that education is a 360 degree activity.
 - (i) B contradicts A
 - (ii) B elaborates A
 - (iii) They are not related in any way
 - (iv) A refutes B

Answers

- a. (iv) to focus on overall development
- b. (ii) B only
- c. In India, we have been taught from an early age that education is limited to the boundaries of academics only and the idea of getting out into

the field for gaining practical experience is always considered a hoax. This has hindered students' development in India.

- d. the foundation e. (iii) Option C
- f. For the aesthetic development, such as team building, character building and physical growth, a student should move out of the classroom and participate in outdoor games.
- g. visit industry
- h. The co-curricular activities that take place outside the classroom but reinforce or supplement classroom curriculum in some way, have become a point of focus today.
- i. (ii) B elaborates A

Passage 6

1. The role friends play in our lives has become significantly greater than at any other time, in our history. Today many of us live and work at great distances from where we were born or we grew up and are separated from our original families. The pain we feel when we are away from our families can be significant.
2. The happiness of the individual relies on friendships which form a necessary human connection. It is perfectly normal to need and want friends and depression is more prevalent among those who lack friends. They lack the intimacy and richness friends can bring into our lives. Frequently friends reflect similar values to us. Yet these values are often different from the ones we grew up with; they are the values we created for ourselves in our adult lives.
3. Communication skills are fundamental in all friendships. The more friends and acquaintances one has, the greater are one's communication skills. Some call these, people skills.
4. Like watering a plant, we grow our friendships (and all our relationship) by nurturing them. Friendships need the same attention as other relationships, if they are to continue. These relationships can be delightfully non-judgemental, supportive, understanding and fun.
5. Sometimes a friendship can bring out the positive side that you never show in any other relationship. This may be because the pressure of playing a 'role' (daughter, partner or child) is removed. With a friend you are to be yourself and free to change. Of course you are free to do this in all other relationships as well, but in friendship you get to have lots of rehearsals and discussion about changes as you experience them. It is an unconditional experience where you receive as much as you give. You can explain yourself to a friend openly without the fear of hurting a family member. How do friendships grow? The answer is simple. By revealing yourself; being attentive; remembering what is most important to your friend and asking them about it; putting yourself in their position, showing empathy; seeing the world through the eyes of your friend you will understand the value of friendship. All this means learning to accept a person from a completely different family to your

own or perhaps someone from a completely different cultural background. This is the way we learn tolerance. In turn we gain tolerance and acceptance for our own difference.

6. Friendships are made by being considerate which means all the communication skills come into play; active listening skills, questioning skills, negotiation skills, reflecting content skills, reflecting emotion skills, and editing yourself.
7. Friendships offer a great opportunity to learn about yourself because a friend can reflect back to you 'how you come across in the world'. They also allow you to practice skills in dealing with 'personal boundaries' by looking after yourself as well as your friend. They help you develop resilience in relation to the wider social world beyond your family.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

(a) Friendships grow by:

- (i) revealing yourself (ii) being reticent
- (iii) showing indifference (iv) All of these

(b) The more friends we have, the greater are our

(c) In the passage nurturing friendship has been compared to:

- (i) bringing up children
- (ii) watering plants
- (iii) looking after the patients
- (iv) helping the neighbours

(d) How do we learn tolerance?

(e) Choose the synonym of 'prevalent'.

- (i) Irregular (ii) Uncommon
- (iii) Frequent (iv) Limited

(f) How is friendship different from other relationships? Mention two points that you can infer from the passage.

(g) Friendships help in developing in relation to the broader social world.

(h) Select the option that lists what we can conclude from the text.

A. Friendships are made by being considerate.

B. Friendships do not need the same attention as other relationships.

C. Friendships grow by showing empathy.

- (i) A and B are true
- (ii) B and C are true
- (iii) A and C are true
- (iv) All A, B and C are false

(i) Mention the communication skills which help in building friendship.

Answers

- a. (i) revealing yourself b. communication skills
- c. (ii) watering plants
- d. The company of friends from different cultural backgrounds teaches us tolerance. Friendship

means learning to accept a person from a completely different family to your own or from a completely different cultural background. This is the way we learn tolerance.

e. (III) Frequent

f. Friendship is different from other relationships as:

(i) It is an unconditional experience where one receives as much as one gives.

(ii) it can bring out the positive side that one never shows in any other relationship.

g. resilience

h. (III) A and C are true

i. Active listening skills, questioning skills, negotiation skills, reflecting content skills, reflecting emotion skills and editing yourself are the communication skills which help in building friendship.

Passage 7

1. The art of living is learnt easily by those who are positive and optimistic. From humble and simple people to great leaders in history, science or literature, we can learn a lot about the art of living, by having a peep into their lives. The daily routines of these great men not only reveal their different, may be unique life styles, but also help us learn certain habits and practices they followed. Here are some; read, enjoy and follow in their footsteps as it suits you.
2. A private workplace always helps. Jane Austen asked that a certain squeaky hinge should never be oiled so that she always had a warning whenever someone was approaching the room where she wrote. William Faulkner, lacking a lock on his study door, detached the doorknob and brought it into the room with him. Mark Twain's family knew better than to breach his study door—they would blow a horn to draw him out. Graham Greene went even further, renting a secret office; only his wife knew the address and the telephone number. After all, everyone of us needs a workplace where we can work on our creation uninterruptedly. Equally we need our private space too!
3. A daily walk has always been a source of inspiration. For many artists, a regular stroll was essentially a creative inspiration. Charles Dickens famously took three hour walks every afternoon, and what he observed on them fed directly into his writing. Tchaikovsky could make do with a two hour jaunt but wouldn't return a moment early; convinced that doing so would make him ill. Ludwig van Beethoven took lengthy strolls after lunch, carrying a pencil and paper with him in case inspiration struck. Nineteenth century composer Erik Satie did the same on his long hikes from Paris to the working-class suburb where he lived, stopping under street lamps to jot down ideas that came on his Journey; it's rumoured that when those lamps were turned off during the war years, his music declined too. Many great people had limited social life too. One of Simone de Beauvoir's close friends puts it this way. "There were no receptions, parties. It was an uncluttered kind of life, a simplicity

deliberately constructed so that she could do her work". To Pablo, the idea of Sunday was an 'at home day'.

4. The routines of these thinkers are difficult. Perhaps it is because they are so unattainable. The very idea that you can organise your time as you like is out of reach for most of us, so I'll close with a toast to all those who worked with difficulties. Like Francine Prose, who began writing when the school bus picked up her children and stopped when it brought them back; or T.S. Eliot, who found it much easier to write once he had a day job in a bank than he had as a starving poet and even F. Scott Fitzgerald, whose early books were written in his strict schedule as a young military officer. Those days were not as interesting as the nights in Paris that came later, but they were much more productive and no doubt easier on his liver.
5. Being forced to follow someone else's routine may irritate, but it makes it easier to stay on the path. Whenever we break that trail ourselves or take an easy path of least resistance, perhaps what's most important is that we keep walking.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) How did F. Scott Fitzgerald write his early books?
 - (b) The writers in the past used to:
 - (i) follow a certain daily routine
 - (ii) enjoy the public life
 - (iii) drink a lot
 - (iv) travel a lot
 - (c) What did composer Erik Satie use to do?
 - (d) According to the passage the writers in their daily routines
 - (e) Choose the synonym of 'stroll'.
 - (i) Wander
 - (ii) Jump
 - (iii) Rest
 - (iv) Argue
 - (f) Everyone of us needs a workplace where we can
 - (g) What did Beethoven take with him during his long walk?
 - (i) Guitar and flute
 - (ii) Bread and butter
 - (iii) Pencil and paper
 - (iv) Rice and curry
 - (h) Who can learn the art of living easily?
- (I) A statement of Assertion (A) is followed by a statement of Reason (R). Choose the correct answer out of the given choices.
- Assertion (A):** We can learn a lot about the art of living, by having a peep into the lives of great leaders.
- Reason (R):** For many artists, a regular stroll was never a creative inspiration.
- (i) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and Reason (R) is the correct explanation of Assertion (A)
 - (ii) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true but Reason (R) is not the correct explanation of Assertion (A)
 - (iii) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false
 - (iv) Assertion (A) is false but Reason (R) is true

Answers

- a. F. Scott Fitzgerald wrote his early books in his strict schedule as a young military officer. Those days were not as interesting as the nights in Paris that came later, but they were much more productive and easier on his liver.
- b. (i) follow a certain daily routine
- c. Composer Erik Satie used to go on long walks from Paris to the working-class suburb where he lived. He used to stop under street lamps to write down the ideas that came on his journey.
- d. had unique life styles
- e. (i) Wander
- f. work on our creation uninterruptedly
- g. (iii) Pencil and paper
- h. People who are positive and optimistic can learn the art of living easily. The most important thing is to stay on the path that one has chosen and to keep walking on it.
- i. (iii) Assertion (A) is true but Reason (R) is false

Passage 8

1. Giving soothes an individual with the vibration of joy. Unconditional giving is a natural principle and evident everywhere in nature which gives us solids, liquids and minerals. Water gives itself away for our agriculture and other uses. Trees give flowers, fruits and wood. Air gives us the very life-breath and the sun gives us light of life.
2. Even the animals give us milk, egg, meat, skin and various services. But what do we humans contribute to the cosmos in return? Isn't our role predominately selfish and destructive? We expand civilisation to disturb ecological balance, spread pollution in the fresh natural atmosphere, indulge in ruthless deforestation, kill animals even for sport and consume all natural resources for our own selfish interest.
3. It is always great to make donations, but what about giving your own time? It's wonderful to drop off used clothing, books and toys at a shelter for the homeless, but what about spending an hour each week reading and playing with the deprived children? Come face-to-face with the person you are helping. It will make your giving more meaningful.
4. It is not about just the time that you give to the deprived children, but what you give to your family. Are you there when they need you? Or, is it always you who demand help and cooperation from the rest of your family members? How much do you care for the elderly that live with you or are far away from you? How do you utilise your spare moments? Isn't it that you just sit before the television and keep on flipping the channels trying to find something that suits your interest? Shut it down! You can use these precious spare moments making a 'Get Well Soon' card for your grandmother, or someone dear to you not in good spirits, or send a letter via Internet. Why be on the 'Facebook' all the

time chatting with your friends whom you already meet daily at school?

5. The law of Karma is a natural law whereby we are paid back in the same coin. We have added much for our comforts but we have not been able to attain any tranquillity. We are constantly haunted by excessive greed for grabbing which is severely disturbing peaceful coexistence. We rarely do what we can for preservation of nature and even our own fellow men. We have not moved much from the primitive selfish mentality where self-preservation was the law for survival.
6. What can we give back to the cosmos? We humans are predominantly gifted with mind and intellect. These are very sharp instruments indeed which can be used as surgeon's knife for healing or an instrument for killing. Instead of nurturing anger, jealousy, hatred, selfishness and animosity, we can spread love, care, kindness and benevolence to all, thereby transform the earthly vibration into a heavenly one. If not anything else, we can at least pray for the happiness and well being of all. We are here in the image of God. We have divine inheritance of love, wisdom and self-transformation. We may resolve to be engaged in divine enjoyment of nature and God's creation with love, Jesus said, "Those that give shall receive."
7. Instead of being always at the receiving end, let us abide the principle of giving by all means and see how things change for humanity at large.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) The principle of is seen everywhere in nature.
 - (i) law
 - (ii) discipline
 - (iii) love
 - (iv) unconditional giving
- (b) Giving becomes worthwhile by:
 - (i) donating old clothes to the needy
 - (ii) donating books and toys to the homeless
 - (iii) spending an hour with the deprived children
 - (iv) None of the above
- (c) Our peaceful co-existence is disturbed by
- (d) The sharp instruments humans are gifted with are
- (e) How is our attitude towards nature?
- (f) What is the 'law of Karma'?
- (g) Read the given statements and choose the correct option.
 - A. Come face-to-face with the person you are helping.
 - B. We have moved much from the primitive selfish mentality.
 - (i) B elaborates A
 - (ii) B contradicts A
 - (iii) A is true but B is false
 - (iv) Both A and B are false

(h) We have divine inheritance of:

A. Wisdom

B. Self-transformation

C. Love

(i) A and C

(ii) B and C

(iii) A and B

(iv) All A, B and C

(i) What can we give back to the cosmos?

Answers

- a. (iv) unconditional giving
- b. (iii) spending an hour with the deprived children
- c. our excessive greed
- d. mind and intellect
- e. Our attitude towards nature is predominately selfish and destructive. We expand civilisation to disturb ecological balance, spread pollution, indulge in deforestation, kill animals even for sport and consume all natural resources for selfish interest.
- f. The law of Karma is a natural law whereby we are paid back in the same coin. We have added much for our comforts but we have not been able to attain any tranquillity.
- g. (iii) A is true but B is false
- h. (iv) All A, B and C
- i. We humans are gifted with mind and intellect. We can spread love, care, kindness and benevolence to all, thereby transform the earthly vibration into a heavenly one. If not anything else, we can at least pray for the happiness and well being of all.

Passage 9

1. Maharana Pratap ruled over Mewar only for 25 years. However, he accomplished so much grandeur during this reign that his glory surpassed the boundaries of countries and time turned him into an immortal personality. He along with his kingdom became a synonym for valour, sacrifice and patriotism. Mewar had been a leading Rajput kingdom even before Maharana Pratap occupied the throne. Kings of Mewar, with the cooperation of their nobles and subjects, had established such traditions in the kingdom, as augmented their magnificence despite the hurdles of having a smaller area under their command and less population. There did come a few thorny occasions when the flag of the kingdom seemed sliding down. Their flag once again heaved high in the sky thanks to the gallantry and brilliance of the people of Mewar.
2. The destiny of Mewar was good in the sense that barring a few kings, most of the rulers were competent and patriotic. This glorious tradition of the kingdom almost continued for 1500 years since its establishment, right from the reign of Bappa Rawal. In fact only 60 years before Maharana Pratap, Rana Sanga drove the kingdom to the pinnacle of fame. His reputation went beyond Rajasthan and reached Delhi. Two

generations before him, Rana Kumbha had given a new stature to the kingdom through victories and developmental work. During his reign, literature and art also progressed extraordinarily. Rana himself was inclined towards writing and his works are read with reverence even today. The ambience of his kingdom, was conducive to the creation of high quality work of art and literature. These accomplishments were the outcome of a long-standing tradition sustained by several generations.

3. The life of the people of Mewar must have been peaceful and prosperous during the long span of time; otherwise such extraordinary accomplishment in these fields would not have been possible. This is reflected in their art and literature as well as their loving nature. They compensate for lack of admirable physique by their firm but pleasant nature. The ambience of Mewar remains lovely, thanks to the cheerful and liberal character of its people.
4. One may observe astonishing pieces of workmanship not only in the forts and palaces of Mewar but also in public utility buildings. Ruins of many structures, which are still standing tall in their grandeur, are testimony to the fact that Mewar was not only the land of the brave but also a seat of art and culture. Amidst aggression and bloodshed, literature and art flourished and creative pursuits of literature and artists did not suffer. Imagine, how glorious the period must have been when the Vijaya Stambha, which is the sample of our great ancient architecture even today was constructed. In the same fort, Kirti Stambha is standing high, reflecting how liberal then administration was which allowed people from other communities and kingdoms to come and carry out construction work. It is useless to indulge in the debate whether the Vijaya Stambha was constructed first or the Kirti Stambha. The fact is that both are standing side by side and reveal the proximity between the king and the subjects of Mewar.
5. The cycle of time does not remain the same. Whereas the reign of Rana Sanga was crucial in raising the kingdom to the acme of glory, it also proved to be his nemesis. History took a turn. The fortune of Mewar—the land of the brave, started waning. Rana tried to save the day with his acumen, which was running against the stream and the glorious traditions for sometime.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) How was Mewar fortunate?
 - (i) All of its rulers were competent
 - (ii) Most of its people were competent
 - (iii) Most of its rulers were competent
 - (iv) Only a few of its people were incompetent
- (b) When thorny occasions came:
 - (i) the flag of Mewar seemed to be lowered
 - (ii) the flag of Mewar was hoisted high
 - (iii) the people of Mewar became impatient
 - (iv) most of the rulers showed patience
- (c) Why did Maharana Pratap become immortal?
- (d) What were the difficulties in the way of Mewar?

- (e) Rana Sanga drove the kingdom to the
- (f) We may observe astonishing pieces of workmanship in Mewar's:
- A. Public utility buildings
B. Palaces
C. Forts
- (i) A and C (ii) A and B
(iii) B and C (iv) All A, B and C
- (g) Read the given statements and choose the correct option.
- A. Rana Kumbha contributed a lot to the glory of Mewar.
B. Rana Kumbha gave a new stature to the kingdom through victories and developmental work.
- (i) B elaborates A
(ii) B contradicts A
(iii) A is true but B is false
(iv) Both A and B are false
- (h) Art and literature could flourish in Mewar because of
- (i) How was the life of the people of Mewar?

Answers

- a. (iii) Most of its rulers were competent
b. (i) the flag of Mewar seemed to be lowered
c. Maharana Pratap became immortal because he added a lot of grandeur to Mewar and his name became a synonym for valour, sacrifice and patriotism. His glory surpassed the boundaries of countries and time turned him into an immortal personality.
d. The kings of Mewar established the glorious tradition of the kingdom which continued for a very long time but there were the hurdles of having a smaller area under their command and less population.
e. peak of fame f. (iv) All A, B and C
g. (i) B elaborates A
h. long-standing tradition sustained by generations
i. The life of the people of Mewar must have been peaceful and prosperous. This is reflected in their art and literature as well as their loving nature. The ambience of Mewar remains lovely because of the cheerful and liberal character of its people.

Passage 10

1. Too many parents these days can't say no. As a result, they find themselves raising children who respond greedily to the advertisements aimed right at them. Even getting what they want doesn't satisfy some kids; they only want more. Now, a growing number of psychologists, educators and parents think it's time to stop the madness and start teaching kids about what are really important values like hard work, contentment, honesty and compassion. The struggle to set limits has never been tougher and the stakes have never been higher. One recent study of adults, who were

overindulged as children, paints a discouraging picture of their future; when given too much too soon, they grow up to be adults who have difficulty coping with life's disappointments. They also have a distorted sense of entitlement that gets in the way of success in the workplace and in relationships.

2. Psychologists say that parents who overindulge their kids set them up to be more vulnerable to future anxiety and depression. Today's parents, themselves raised on values of thrift and self-sacrifice, grew up in a culture where 'no' was a household word. Today's kids want much more, partly because there is so much more to want. The oldest members of this 'Generation Excess' were born in the late 1980s, just as PCs and video games were making their assault on the family rooms. They think of MP3 players and flat-screen TVs as essential utilities and they have developed strategies to get them. One survey of teenagers found that when they crave something new, most expect to ask nine times before their parents give in the every measure, parents are shelling out record amounts. In the heart of this buying blitz, even parents who desperately need to say no find themselves reaching for their credit cards.
3. Today's parents are not equipped to deal with the problem. Many of them raised in the 1960s and 1970s, swore they'd act differently from their parents and have closer relationships with their own children. Many even wear the same designer clothes as their kids and listen to the same music. And they work more hours; at the end of a long week, it's tempting to buy peace with 'yes' and not mar precious family time with conflict. Anxiety about the future is another factor. How do well-intentioned parents say no to all the sports gear and arts and language lessons they believe will help their kids thrive in an increasingly competitive world? Experts agree: too much love won't spoil a child. Too few limits will.
4. What parents need to find is a balance between the advantages of an affluent society and the critical life lessons that come from waiting, saving and working hard to achieve goals. That search for balance has to start early. Children need limits on their behaviour because they feel better and more secure when they live within a secure structure. Older children learn self-control by watching how others, especially their parents act. Learning how to overcome challenges is essential to become a successful adult. Few parents ask kids to do chores. They think their kids are already overburdened by social and academic pressures. Every individual can be of service to others and life has meaning beyond one's own immediate happiness. That means parents eager to teach values have to take a long, hard look at their own.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) would have difficulty in coping with life's disappointments.
(b) What do parents need to find?

(c) Critical lessons of life come from:

- (i) teachers
- (ii) dealing with problems
- (iii) Knowledge
- (iv) None of the above

(d) What do many psychologists, educators and parents think now?

(e) Choose the antonym of 'Conflict.'

- (i) Clash (ii) Strife
- (iii) Harmony (iv) Rivalry

(f) Select the option that lists what we can conclude from the text.

A. Today's parents have promised to have closer relationships with their children.

B. Today's parents have promised to act differently from their parents.

C. Experts say too much love spoils a child.

- (i) A and C are true
- (ii) A and B are true
- (iii) B and C are true
- (iv) All A, B and C are true

(g) is essential to become a successful adult.

(h) Read the given statements and choose the correct option.

A. Today's kids want much more.

B. There is so much more to want.

- (i) A refutes B
- (ii) A is true and B is false
- (iii) B is the cause of A
- (iv) They are not related in any way

(i) How do older children learn self-control? Why do most parents not ask kids to do chores?

Answers

- a. Adults who were overindulged as children
- b. Parents need to find a balance between the benefits of an affluent society and the critical life lessons learnt through patience, saving and working hard to achieve goals.
- c. (iv) None of the above
- d. Many psychologists, educators and parents think that it's time to start teaching kids important values like hard work, contentment, honesty and compassion. It's also time to set the limits.
- e. (iii) Harmony f. (ii) A and B are true
- g. Learning how to overcome challenges
- h. (iii) B is the cause of A
- i. Older children learn self-control by watching how others, especially their parents act. Most parents don't ask kids to do chores because they think their kids are already overburdened by social and academic pressures.

Passage 11

1. The effects of plastic bags on the environment are really quite devastating. The needless deaths from plastic bags are increasing every year. While there are many objections to the banning of plastic bags based solely on their convenience, the damage to the environment needs to be assessed too.
2. The environmental balance of the waterways is being thrown off by the rate of plastic bags finding their way into the mouths and intestinal tracts of sea mammals. As one species begins to die off at an abnormal rate, every other living organism in the waterways is also impacted.
3. The indefinite period of time that it takes for the average plastic bag to break down can be literally hundreds of years. Every bag that ends up in the woodlands of the country threatens the natural progression of wildlife. Because the breakdown rate is so slow, the chances that the bag will harmlessly go away are extremely slim. Throughout the world, plastic bags are responsible for the suffocation deaths of woodland animals as well as for inhibiting soil nutrients. The land litter that is made up of plastic bags has the potential to kill over and over again. It has been estimated that one bag has the potential to unintentionally kill one animal every three months due to indigestion or inhalation.
4. While it's a noble thought to place the plastic bags in the recycling bin every week, studies have proven that there are very few recycling plants that actually recycle them. Most municipalities either burn them or send them off to the landfill after sorting. This is because it can be expensive to recycle this type of plastic. It does not melt down easily and is often not fit to be reused in its original form.
5. The premise of recycling these bags is nice. Yet funding for the upgrading of the recycling units just has not happened and thus less than 1% of all bags are sent to recycling plants worldwide. Most are left to become a pollution problem in one way or another.
6. There are always alternatives to plastic bags and the search for better and more alternatives continues. Paper bags are a possible option, but they also take their toll on the environment. The use of trees to increase the production of paper products will also have a negative environmental effect.
7. Reusable plastic bags are being introduced in regions that want to outlaw the plastic bags altogether. These are stronger and more durable and can be used for three to five trips to the store. Of course, the reusable cloth bag is fast becoming a favourite among the environmental supporters. While so far no bag is without its issues, these are the bags that are currently recommended for use to help protect environmental concerns.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

(a) People do not want to put a ban on plastic bags because:

- (i) they are cheap and convenient
- (ii) they are not so harmful
- (iii) they are durable
- (iv) they can be disposed off

(b) What is throwing off the environmental balance of the waterways?

(c) Which signboard will be the best one regarding the environmental concerns?

Use Jute Bags

Option A

Use Plastic Bags

Option C

Use Paper Bags

Option B

Use Cloth Bags

Option D

(i) Option A

(ii) Option B

(iii) Option C

(iv) Option D

(d) What do most municipalities do to the plastic bags? Why?

(e) The average plastic bag breaks down in

(f) As per the estimation how can a plastic bag kill one animal?

(g) The use of paper bags has a on the environment.

(h) The word 'litter' means:

(i) a unit to measure milk, petrol, etc.

(ii) rubbish

(iii) a heap of corn

(iv) a heap of rotten papers

(i) Read the given statements and choose the correct option.

A. There are always alternatives to plastic bags.

B. The search for better and more alternatives continues.

(i) A is true but B is false

(ii) A is false but B is true

(iii) Both A and B are false

(iv) Both A and B are true

Answers

a. (i) they are cheap and convenient

b. The environmental balance of the waterways is being thrown off by the death of many species of sea mammals caused by plastic bags finding their way into the mouths and intestinal tracts of sea mammals. As one species begins to die off quickly, every other living organism in the waterways is also impacted.

c. (iv) Option D

d. Most municipalities either burn the plastic bags or send them off to the land fill after sorting. They do so because recycling the plastic bags can be expensive.

e. an indefinite period of time

f. As per the estimation, one plastic bag has the potential to unintentionally kill one animal every three months due to indigestion or inhalation.

g. negative effect

h. (ii) rubbish

i. (iv) Both A and B are true

Passage 12

1. I have lived in Rishikesh for 15 years and have seen the shift in the mindset of India's younger generation. While they are patriotic, prepared to join any movement, march, wave political flags, join Facebook groups, they are not, in most cases, convinced by India's culture. In fact, they ask questions that evidence their dissatisfaction with and disinterest in what we call culture, values and sanskaras.

"Why can't we date before marriage? Why do we live in a joint family? I believe in God but not in temples or puja. Why can't my parents understand?" They are turning from vegetarians to non-vegetarians, from teetotalers to drinkers, from obedient to rebellious young adults at alarming rates. And at the same time, parents say: "What's wrong with our children? They are going astray."

2. My academic background is psychology from Stanford University hence I am used to doing analysis. I came to India at the age of 25, having grown up in Los Angeles, in the heart of American upper class 'modern' culture and was so filled with delight by the grace, the truth, the divinity, and the depth of traditional Indian culture that—despite protests from people back home—I stayed. I have seen both the worlds, up close hip American culture where acceptance is based on how you look in a black mini-skirt; how many times a week you're seen drinking coffee past 2 am in the local 'hot spot'; how many drug-filled dens you visit on a Saturday night. And I have seen the results. Fifteen-year-olds killed in drunken driving accidents, night after night of sleeplessness stealing the minds of Ivy-League students, third marriages by 25, a country where the most commonly prescribed medicines are anti-depressants, anti-anxiety medication and sleeping pills.

3. There is much to be emulated about Western culture—its commitment to excellence and perfection, punctuality, reliability, fulfilment of promises, adherence to contracts, integrity and honesty—attributes which other countries like India would benefit by adopting. But, tragically, what is being adopted by metropolitan Indian youth is the illusion of (not real) sophistication, allure of glamour, myth of material enjoyment that is seeping into Indian culture.

4. India's culture, values, ethics and traditions form the foundation of a successful, meaningful and fulfilling life. If you ask a person in Los Angeles, stepping out of her Mercedes, "How are you?" Chances are you will get in reply a list of complaints—"My back is hurting; the housekeeper (maid) didn't show up; the store ran out of my favourite cereal; too much traffic on the road....." Put the same question to an elderly Indian, and the chances are your question will be answered with "Sub Bhagwan ki kripa hai" This is the fruit of culture: deep satisfaction despite ups and downs of daily life. Apparently, God's *kripa* seems to have showered abundantly more upon the LA woman. Yet, she needs a pill to go to sleep. A pill to wake up, a pill to make it through the day.

5. India's values have kept India strong and united despite thousands of years of invasions. They have kept their minds and hearts independent even when their country was colonised and oppressed.
6. However, today what is needed is a new vocabulary. The youth of today are being raised differently from those in previous generations. Information is at their finger-tips. Modern science and technology have rendered the inexplicable and impossible a decade ago, child's play today. We cannot expect them to accept "because I said so" or "because God made it that way."
7. Most middle-aged Indians today would never have dared disobey or question their parents. Therefore, their children's continuous chant of "why?" seems insolent and disrespectful. Today's youth have been raised to wonder; to question, to investigate, to discover.
8. Give them scientific, rational, pragmatic reasons to be vegetarian. Explain that the meat industry is the single largest contributor to world hunger as well as environmental destruction. India is the richest country in the world in its depth of culture, values, ethics and tradition. The values and ethics of centuries ago are just as valid and applicable today as then. We only have to explain them differently.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) What is being adopted by metropolitan Indian youth?
- (b) What is acceptance based on in hip American culture?
- (c) The narrator of the passage grew up in
- (d) The narrator is used to
- (e) Choose the synonym of 'Insolent'.
 (i) Disrespectful (ii) Modest
 (iii) Serene (iv) Timid
- (f) What has/have kept India strong and united?
 (i) Indian people (ii) Indian values
 (iii) People's dissatisfaction (iv) Indian youth
- (g) Read the given statements and choose the correct option.
 A. There is much to be emulated about Western culture.
 B. Its commitment to excellence and perfection, punctuality, integrity and honesty.
 (i) A contradicts B
 (ii) B elaborates A
 (iii) A is true but B is false
 (iv) A is false but B is true
- (h) What has the narrator seen?
 (i) How does India's younger generation show patriotism?
 A. By joining movements
 B. By marching and waving political flags
 C. By joining facebook groups

- (i) A and B are true
- (ii) A and C are true
- (iii) B and C are true
- (iv) All A, B and C are true

Answers

- a. Metropolitan Indian youth is adopting the illusion of sophistication, allure of glamour and myth of material enjoyment.
- b. In hip American culture, acceptance is based on wearing modern dresses like mini-skirts, etc., and on staying out late at night drinking coffee or visiting drug-filled dens.
- c. Los Angeles d. analyse things
- e. (i) Disrespectful f. (ii) Indian values
- g. (ii) B elaborates A
- h. The narrator has seen the shift in the mindset of India's younger generation. While they are patriotic, prepared to join any movement, march, they are not, in most cases convinced by India's culture.
- i. (iv) All A, B and C are true

Passage 13

1. Education is the fundamental right of every Indian citizen. It is an important pre-requisite for the progress of an individual and of the nation. Other than primary and secondary education, vocational education is also catching up fast with today's generation.
2. Vocational education refers to a system or course of study which prepares individuals for jobs that are based on manual or practical activities.
3. The plethora of opportunities available in diverse fields today means that exams are not the end of the world. Gone are the days when students only opted for a traditional career in engineering or medical course. Today, youngsters look for satisfaction in the jobs they do, and thus they prefer to pursue a career or field of their interest.
4. Vocational education basically consists of practical courses through which one gains skills and expertise directly linked to a career in future. Moreover, with the Indian economy expanding, different sectors are growing and so is the demand for professionals in various fields. Professions like hair cutting, fashion designing, palmistry, footwear designing, advertising, public relations, interior designing, wedding planning, gift packing, toy making, tourism industry, mobile and gadget repairing, nutrition and fitness industry, gym culture and many more, have witnessed a surge in demand by the people availing these services, and it has resultantly pulled a large number of aspirants into these vocations.
5. Not only do these professions offer umpteen opportunities and a glorious career but also, most of the time they do not require any major academic qualification. All that is needed, is the honed skill required for the profession, the enthusiasm to learn

and the passionate desire to create something new and unique. Then the sky becomes the limit. In fact, through hard work and creativity, one can be far more successful and famous in the world than those pursuing the regular field of study. There are endless personalities who did not fare well in exams but, by choosing the career of their own choice and working hard in the field they loved, have made a distinguished name for themselves. Pablo Picasso, Walt Disney, Shiamak Davar, Lata Mangeshkar, Bill Gates, Jawed Habib, Ritu Kumar, Sachin Tendulkar and many more have not pursued an academic career, yet are extremely successful today.

6. The growing demand for professionals had led to the opening up of institutes and training colleges to provide training for the same. A formal vocational training follows a structured training programme and provides certificates, diplomas or degrees, recognised by State/Central Government or other reputed concerns; informal vocational training helps in acquiring some marketing expertise, which enables a person to pursue the profession of his/her choice.
7. The purpose of the programme is to enhance individual employability, reduce the mismatch between demand and supply of skilled manpower and provide an alternative to those pursuing higher education without particular interest or purpose. There is a need to focus on skills for the informal sector as it is estimated that the largest share of new jobs in India is projected to come from the unorganised sector that employs up to 93% of the national workforce and produces 60% of GDP.
8. If all the sectors of India join hands in providing the different education patterns under one roof, it can boost India's employment rates greatly. Vocational education will not only provide jobs, but also give many a reason to live a worthy and independent life.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) Which of the following is catching up fast with today's generation?
 - (i) Fundamental education
 - (ii) Primary education
 - (iii) Secondary education
 - (iv) Vocational education
- (b) How does informal vocational training help individuals?
- (c) What is the purpose of vocational training?
- (d) Choose the synonym of 'plethora'.
 - (i) Lack
 - (ii) Wrath
 - (iii) Excess
 - (iv) Myth
- (e) Vocational education basically comprises
- (f) The vocational education programme:
 - A. reduces the mismatch between demand and supply of skilled manpower.
 - B. provides an alternative to those pursuing higher education without interest.

C. reduces individual employability.

- (i) Only A
 - (ii) Only B
 - (iii) Both A and B
 - (iv) All A, B and C
- (g) There is a need to focus on skills for
 - (h) Read the given statements and choose the correct option.
 - A. The decreasing demand for professionals had led to the closing of institutes and training colleges.
 - B. Education is the fundamental right of every Indian citizen.
 - (i) B elaborates A
 - (ii) A is false and B is true
 - (iii) Both A and B are true
 - (iv) Both A and B are false
 - (i) What do youngsters today look for?

Answers

- a. (iv) Vocational education
- b. Informal vocational training helps individuals in acquiring some marketing expertise, which makes an individual able to pursue the profession of his/her choice.
- c. The purpose of vocational training is to enhance individual employability, minimise the mismatch between demand and supply of skilled manpower and provide an alternative to those pursuing higher education without particular interest or purpose.
- d. (iii) Excess
- e. practical courses
- f. (iii) Both A and B
- g. the informal sector
- h. (ii) A is false and B is true
- i. Today, youngsters look for satisfaction in the jobs they do. So, they prefer to pursue a career or field of their interest.

Passage 14

1. Concern about the effects of television on children has centred exclusively upon the contents of the programmes which children watch. Social scientists and researchers do complex and ingenious experiments to find out whether watching violent programmes makes children behave aggressively. But it is easy to overlook the simple fact that one is always just watching television when sitting in front of the screen rather than having any other experience.
2. Parents who are deeply troubled about the effects of television upon their children have centred their concern on the subject matter of the programmes. A group called Action for Children's Television (ACT) was formed in the US not only to reduce the amount of violence in programmes but also to protest against incessant commercial breaks which encouraged children to crave for fashionable toys and unhealthy foods. One of its founders described its aims "..... parents have the right to ask that programmes aimed at the young should meet the specific needs of children....."

3. But is it the needs of children which are at stake when parents demand better programmes?

Surely the fact that young children watch so much television reflects the needs of parents to find a convenient source of amusement for their offspring and a period of quiet for themselves. Their anxieties about the possible ill effects of those hours of passive, quiet viewing are lessened if the time spent at least seems to be educational.

4. The real needs of young children are quite different. They need to develop initiative and to find out things for themselves; television provides answers too easily. Children need to acquire fundamental skills of communication; television retards verbal development because the child is silent while watching it. Television discourages the sort of games that enable the young to discover their strengths and weaknesses, with the result that as adults they will be less fulfilled.

Their need for fantasy is gratified far better by their own make-believe activities than by the adult-made fantasies offered on television. Intellectual stimulation is provided more completely by manipulating, touching and doing than by passively watching and listening.

5. Oddly enough, the television industry, though often cynical and self-serving in its exploitation of children, sometimes unknowingly serves their best interests. Because television offers cheap junk programmes, conscientious parents do in fact limit their children's viewing when such undesirable programmes are the only ones available. Unfortunately, if organisation like ACT succeed in improving the quality of programmes significantly, the effects on young children will be more harmful because their permitted viewing time will increase and no matter how good their content, TV programmes are always a poor substitute for other activities.

6. There are a number of fallacies that have misled parents into thinking that the problem of television will be solved by improving its quality. It is suggested, for example, that a youngster unfamiliar with TV programmes will find making friends difficult and will be labelled as an outsider. On the contrary, other children will usually respect their independence and recognise, even envy, the richness of their alternative activities. More subtle is the mistaken belief that the experience that children gain from watching television is the same as when the adults watch television, their own past and present experiences come into play, so that they can test the view of the world presented on the small screen against their knowledge of real life. But young children have very few real-life experiences to set against their viewing, so that for them TV is primary source of experience; their formative years are spent largely in an unreal, unnatural, second-hand world.

7. It is also universally assumed that TV is an important source of learning. Like an animated picture book, it presents in an easily digestible and entertaining way,

a great deal of information about the natural world, history, current affairs, other countries and so on. But the 'knowledge' of today's television-educated children, spouting words and ideas they do not fully understand and 'facts' whose accuracy they cannot judge from their limited experience, cannot compare with the knowledge acquired by reading or activity. It is then that children use their minds and their bodies, their imaginative and reasoning power, to enrich their lives.

8. Only when parents begin to question the nature of television itself and its effects on their children and on themselves as parents, will they begin to realise that it is not the programme but television itself, and especially the good programmes, which poses the greater threat to their children's well-being.

(Adapted from The Plug in Drug by Marie Winn)

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) Parents who are worried about the effects of TV upon their children have focused their concern on:**

- (i) serials shown on TV
- (ii) timings of TV programmes
- (iii) subject matter of the programmes
- (iv) All of the above

- (b) What does the group called ACT aim at?**

- (c) How does television affect a child's communication skills?**

- (d) TV is an important source of learning because:**

- (i) child doesn't need any book to learn
- (ii) TV shows deal with a variety of subjects
- (iii) TV presents a great deal of information about natural world, history and current affairs in an easily digestible and entertaining way
- (iv) None of the above

- (e) The full form of ACT is**

- (f) The real needs of young children are**

- (g) Pick the synonym of 'acquire'.**

- (i) Hamper
- (ii) Obtain
- (iii) Compel
- (iv) Sacrifice

- (h) Read the given statements and choose the correct option.**

A. Television offers cheap junk programmes.

B. Conscientious parents limit their children's watching television.

- (i) A contradicts B
- (ii) A is the cause of B
- (iii) A is true but B is false
- (iv) Both A and B are false

- (i) Which knowledge is better—the one gained by watching television or the one gained by reading books? Why?**

Answers

- a. (iii) subject matter of the programmes
- b. The group called ACT aims at not only reducing the amount of violence in programmes but also protesting against incessant commercial breaks which encouraged children to crave for fashionable toys and unhealthy foods.
- c. Television affects a child's communication skills in a negative way. It retards verbal development because the child is silent while watching it.
- d. (iii) TV presents a great deal of information about natural world, history and current affairs in an easily digestible and entertaining way
- e. Action for Children's Television
- f. to develop initiative and to find out things for themselves
- g. (ii) Obtain h. (ii) A is the cause of B
- i. Knowledge gained by reading books is better than the one gained by watching television because while reading books, a child's mind and body are at work and his imaginative and reasoning power is used to enrich his life.

Passage 15

1. We often make all things around us the way we want them. Even during our pilgrimages we have begun to look for whatever makes our heart happy, gives comfort to our body and peace to the mind. It is as if external solutions will fulfil our needs, and we do not want to make any special efforts even in our spiritual search. Our mind is resourceful—it works to find shortcuts in simple and easy ways.
2. Even pilgrimages have been converted into tourism opportunities. Instead, we must awaken our conscience and souls and understand the truth. Let us not tamper with either our own nature or that of the Supreme.
3. All our cleverness is rendered ineffective when nature does a dance of destruction. Its fury can and will wash away all imperfections. Indian culture, based on Vedic treatises assists in human evolution, but we are now using our entire energy in distorting these traditions according to our convenience instead of making efforts to make ourselves worthy of them.
4. The irony is that humans are not even aware of the complacent attitude they have allowed themselves to sink to. Nature is everyone's Amma and her fierce blows will sooner or later corner us and force us to understand this truth. Earlier, pilgrimages to places of spiritual significance were rituals that were undertaken when people became free from their worldly duties. Even now some seekers take up this pious religious journey as a path to peace and knowledge. Anyone travelling with this attitude feels and travels with only a few essential items that his body can carry. Pilgrims traditionally travelled light, on foot, eating light, dried chickpeas and fruits, or whatever was available. Pilgrims of olden days did not feel the need to stay in special AC bedrooms, or travel by luxury cars or indulge themselves with delicious food and savouries.

5. Pilgrims traditionally moved ahead, creating a feeling of belonging towards all conveying a message of brotherhood among all they came across whether in small caves, ashrams or local settlements. They received the blessings and congregations of yogis and mahatmas in return while conducting the dharma of their pilgrimage. A pilgrimage is like penance or *sadhana* to stay near nature and to experience a feeling of oneness with it, to keep the body healthy and fulfilled with the small amount of food, while seeking freedom from attachments and yet remaining happy while staying away from relatives and associates.
6. This is how a pilgrimage should be rather than making it like a picnic by taking a large group along and living in comfort, packing in entertainment, and tampering with environment. What is worse is giving a boost to the ego of having had a special darshan. Now alms are distributed, charity done while they brag about their spiritual experiences.
7. We must embark on our spiritual journey by first understanding the grace and significance of a pilgrimage and following it up with the prescribed rules and rituals—that is what translates into the ultimate and beautiful medium of spiritual evolution. There is no justification for tampering with nature.
8. A pilgrimage is symbolic of contemplation and meditation and acceptance, and is a metaphor for the constant growth or movement and love for nature that we should hold in our hearts.
9. This is the truth!

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) **What do we look for in pilgrimages these days?**
- (b) can wash away imperfections.
- (c) **A pilgrim can keep his body healthy**
- (d) **People, take up pious religious journey for:**
 - (i) peace and knowledge (ii) love and affection
 - (iii) hatred and fear (iv) All of these
- (e) **We satisfy our ego:**
 - (i) by having a special darshan
 - (ii) by distributing alms
 - (iii) by treating it like a picnic
 - (iv) Both (i) and (ii)
- (f) **How should we not make a pilgrimage?**
- (g) **A pilgrimage symbolises:**
 - A. Meditation.
 - B. Acceptance.
 - C. Contemplation.
 - (i) A and B (ii) B and C
 - (iii) A and C (iv) All A, B and C
- (h) **How should we embark on our spiritual journey?**
- (i) **Read the given statements and choose the correct option.**
 - A. We are now using our entire energy in distorting traditions.
 - B. We should tamper with our own nature.
 - (i) A elaborates B
 - (ii) A contradicts B
 - (iii) A is true but B is false
 - (iv) Both A and B are false

Answers

- a. In pilgrimages these days, we look for whatever makes our heart happy, gives comfort to our body and peace to the mind. We do not want to make any special efforts even in our spiritual search.
- b. Nature's fury
- c. by eating small amount of food
- d. (i) peace and knowledge
- e. (iv) Both (i) and (ii)

- f. We should not make a pilgrimage like a picnic by taking a large group along and living in comfort, packing in entertainment and tampering with environment. We should neither have a special darshan nor brag about giving alms.
- g. (iv) All A, B and C
- h. We should embark on our spiritual journey by first understanding the grace and significance of a pilgrimage and following it up with the prescribed rules and rituals.
- i. (iii) A is true but B is false

Case-based Factual PASSAGES

Passage 1

1. In recent years, there has been a surge in both group and solo travel among young adults in India. A survey conducted among young adults aged 18-25 aimed to explore the reasons behind their travel preferences and recorded the percentage variation for 10 common points that influence travel choices.
2. Among those who prefer solo travel, the most common reason cited was the desire for independence and freedom (58%), followed closely by the opportunity for introspection and self-discovery (52%). Additionally, solo travellers appreciated the ability to customise their itinerary to their preferences (44%) and the chance to meet new people on their own terms (36%).
3. On the other hand, those who prefer group travel often cited the desire for socialising and making new friends (61%) as their primary reason. Group travel also provided a sense of security and safety in unfamiliar places (52%) and allowed for shared experiences and memories with others (48%). Additionally, group travellers enjoyed the convenience of having pre-planned itineraries and organised transportation (38%).
4. Interestingly, both groups had similar levels of interest in exploring new cultures and trying new experiences (40% for solo travellers, 36% for group travellers). Similarly, both groups valued the opportunity to relax and escape from the stresses of everyday life (36% for solo travellers, 32% for group travellers).
5. However, there were also some notable differences between the two groups. For example, solo travellers placed a higher priority on budget-friendly travel options (38%) compared to group travellers (24%). Conversely, group travellers were more likely to prioritise luxury and comfort during their travels (28%) compared to solo travellers (12%).
6. Overall, the survey results suggest that both group and solo travel have their own unique advantages and appeal to different individuals, based on their preferences and priorities. (CBSE SQP 2023-24)

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) Infer two possible ways that the survey, mentioned in paragraph (1), could be beneficial.

- (b) Which travel choice point of the survey would influence tour operators to incorporate group dinners, social events, and shared accommodations in their itinerary?

- (i) Freedom to customise Itinerary
- (ii) Luxury and comfort
- (iii) Security and safety
- (iv) Desire for making new friends

- (c) What do the top choices in the survey, for travelling solo and in a group suggest about young adults?

- (d) Identify the solo traveller from the following three travellers:

- (i) Reshma — I don't want to keep hunting for rickshaws or taxis. A pre-booked vehicle is perfect.
- (ii) Nawaz — I'm happy sharing a room in a hostel. I don't need hotel accommodation.
- (iii) Deepak — I'm not worried about my well-being, even while exploring remote areas.

- (e) Which of the following is an example of an opportunity for self-discovery, as mentioned in paragraph 2?

- (i) Trying new cuisine
- (ii) Hiring a tour guide
- (iii) Purchasing local artifacts
- (iv) Advance booking travel tickets

- (f) How might the differences in budget priorities between solo and group travellers impact the types of accommodations and activities offered by the travel industry in India?

- (g) Complete the sentence appropriately.

The similarities in the percentage of both solo and group travellers who are interested in exploring new cultures and trying new experiences may be due to

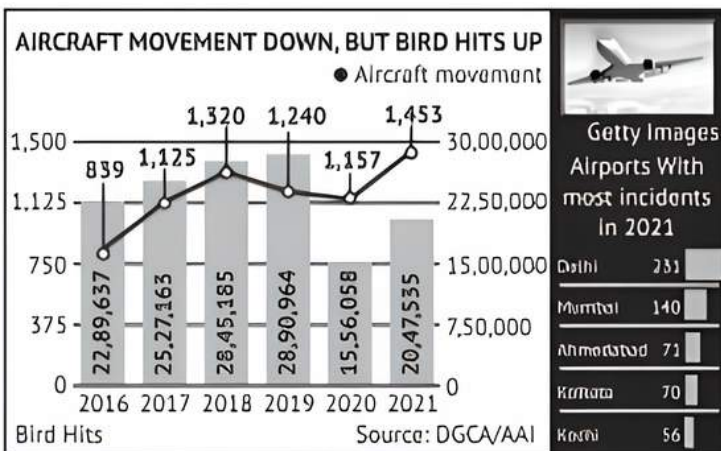
- (h) State TRUE or FALSE.

The title, "Wanderlust: The Solo Travel Trend Among Young Adults in India", is appropriate for this passage.

Answers

- a. 1. The survey can enable the tourism industry to understand the changing preferences and behaviours of young adult travellers, which can inform future marketing and promotional strategies.
2. The survey can help travel companies to change and adapt their services to meet the preferences and expectations of young adult travellers.
- b. (iv) Desire for making new friends
- c. The top choices in the survey, for travelling solo and in a group suggest that young adult travellers value independence and freedom when travelling alone and when travelling in a group, they value socialising and making new friends.
- d. (ii) Nawaz --- I'm happy sharing a room in a hostel. I don't need hotel accommodation.
- e. (i) Trying new cuisine
- f. 1. For budget-conscious solo travellers, the travel industry in India may need to provide more affordable accommodation options such as hostels and budget hotels.
2. For group travellers, the travel industry may need to focus on offering more luxury accommodations and experiences that may fulfil their desire for comfort and convenience.
- g. a shared desire for adventure.
Or
a willingness to step outside of their comfort zones.
- h. False

Passage 2



1. How bird hits happen, why they are a concern?

New Delhi June 20

At least two bird strike incidents happened on Sunday. Both aircrafts returned to their airports of origin and were grounded for maintenance. An ABC aircraft, which took off from Guwahati towards Delhi, suffered damage to its left engine following a bird hit at 1600 feet. The pilots returned to Guwahati. The other strike happened on another flight from Patna to Delhi. The

pilots of the aircraft suspected a bird strike during the take-off roll but continued to climb. Following the take off rotation, they were informed by the cabin crew of sparks emanating from the left engine. Subsequently, the pilots were also informed by air traffic control of smoke coming out of one of the engines. The pilots declared an emergency and returned to Patna.

2. Why are bird strikes a concern?

Bird strikes are among the most common threats to aircraft safety, and they typically occur during take-off or landing. Dozens of bird-strikes happen each day but some can be more dangerous than others. Typically, when birds collide with an aircraft's airframe, it is unlikely to cause significant problems for the pilots flying. But there are instances when the aircraft engine ingests the birds. This can lead to a loss of thrust for the engine and cause manoeuvrability problems for the crew. In these cases, where a jet engine ingests a bird, procedures would generally call for pilots to land the plane at the closest airport. While most airframe bird strikes are not considered critical to air safety, if a collision cracks a window or a wind screen, pilots will look to land as early as possible.

3. How critical are bird strikes to air safety?

Smaller planes would generally be more susceptible to the dangers of bird strikes than larger ones. However, given that bird strikes mostly happen during take-off and landing, these incidents could distract the pilots during what are highly critical phases of flights that demand the complete attention of the crew.

4. What causes bird strikes?

The presence of birds around an aircraft increases the chances of a bird strike. In the monsoon, as water puddles emerge on open grounds attracting insects to breed, the presence of birds increases. In some cases, bird hits also happen at higher altitudes when a plane is cruising. These are more dangerous than the low-altitude hits, given that they can cause rapid depressurisation of cabins. Other reasons for bird activity around the airfield could be presence of landfills or waste disposal sites that can attract a large number of birds. (CBSE 2023)

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

(a) Does the following statement agree with the information given in paragraph 1.

When an airplane is hit by a bird or is suspected to have been hit, the passengers must be asked to get down at once.

Select from the following:

True: If the statement agrees with the information.
False: If the statement contradicts the information.
Not Given: If there is no information on this.

(b) Select the option that displays the most likely reason for bird hits.

- (i) When the aircraft is overloaded
- (ii) At the time of landing or taking off
- (iii) When the crew become negligent
- (iv) When the passengers become panicky

- (c) Complete the sentence appropriately with one word.

Smaller planes are generally more than the larger ones.

- (d) Complete the sentence by selecting the most appropriate option.

When the window or the windscreen of the airplane is cracked due to a bird hit

- (i) the crew must rush to the cockpit.
- (ii) the pilot must land at the closest airport.
- (iii) the pilot must inform the maintenance engineer.
- (iv) the pilot must get instructions from the aviation wing what should he do in emergency.

- (e) Based on the reading of the text, state a point to further the statement.

Dozens of bird hits take place every day

- (i) but only a few are dangerous.
- (ii) all of them are fatal
- (iii) but after every bird hit it is imperative to land the aircraft.
- (iv) the pilot should ignore them.

- (f) Complete the sentence based on the following statement:

Complete attention of the crew is demanded during take-off and landing.

We can say this because

- (g) Complete the sentence appropriately with one/two words.

In cases where the aircraft engine ingests the bird, it leads to the loss of thrust and causes problems in

- (h) Which are the areas more prone to bird hits?

- (i) Based on the reading of the text, state a point to challenge the given statement:

The area around airfields should be clear of any waste disposal sites.

- (j) Look at the graph. It shows that between 2016 and 2021, whereas air flights have come down, the bird hits have gone up. This implies that the incidence of bird hits has

- (i) decreased
- (ii) increased
- (iii) remained constant
- (iv) been alarming

- h. Water puddles on open grounds, land fills or waste disposal sites that can attract a large number of birds, are the areas more prone to bird hits.

- i. Smaller planes would generally be more susceptible to the dangers of bird strikes than larger ones.

Or

Bird hits also happen at higher altitudes when a plane is cruising.

- j. (ii) increased

Passage 3

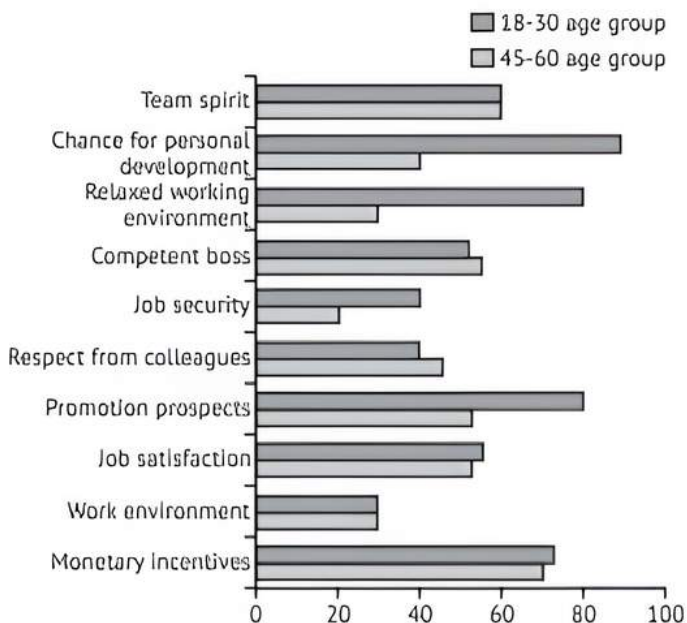
1. Nowadays companies demand an outstanding job performance by every single employee to be better than that of their competitors because there is competition among enterprises. The employers make efforts to motivate the employees and optimise performance.
2. There are numerous factors affecting job performance. These can be divided into external and internal factors. The internal factors are team spirit, competent boss, respect from colleagues and job satisfaction. The external factors are chance for personal development, job security, promotion prospects and monetary incentives. The decisive determinant is that the employees remain highly motivated. One possible method to increase motivation is the salary. Employees are willing to stay longer hours in the office and perform better, when they have the chance to get financial rewards, for instance, a higher salary or bonuses.
3. The bar graph (given ahead) shows the result of a survey conducted among workers in a company to analyse their work performance across ten different factors that contribute to make their work environment pleasant. The workers are grouped into two categories—those between the ages of 18-30 and those between 45-60. Interestingly, in six out of the ten factors surveyed, the 18-30 age group is shown to be more affected than the 45-60 age group. Factors, besides the salary, which affect the work performance of the two different age groups are interesting. These factors are the chance for personal development, relaxed working environment, promotion prospects, job satisfaction and monetary incentives. Furthermore, two out of the remaining four factors namely, team spirit and work environment have been equally influential among the two groups. The 45-60 years workers are impacted a lot by 'respect from colleagues' whereas the prospect of a promotion is an important reason that drives younger employees to work better.
4. Job performance of happy employees is 31% more productive and they show three times more creativity than their unhappy counterparts. They are more resilient and more likely to stay in the same company for a longer period. Consequently, they drive the company towards long-term goals by being more productive and efficient.

(CBSE 2023)

Answers

- a. False
- b. (ii) At the time of landing or taking off
- c. susceptible
- d. (ii) the pilot must land at the closest airport.
- e. (i) but only a few are dangerous.
- f. take-off and landing are highly critical phases of flights.
- g. manoeuvrability

Factors affecting work performance



Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) Does the following statement agree with the information given in para 1?

When the company has a lot of competitors, it tries to invent the most efficient technology to stay ahead.

Select from the following:

True: If the statement agrees with the information

False: If the statement contradicts the information

Not Given: If there is not information on this

- (b) Why do you think the companies demand exemplary performance from their employees? Support your answer with reference to the passage.

- (c) Select the option that displays the most likely reason for employees to perform better.

(i) Companies demand an outstanding performance

(ii) If the company grows, their growth is assured

(iii) When there are chances to get financial gratification

(iv) To drive the company towards long-term goals

- (d) Select two factors that display that work performance of both the categories of workers remains the same.

- (e) Based on the bar graph, complete the following statement:

The 18-30 age group is shown to be more affected than the 45-60 age group in most factors.

We can say this because

- (f) Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option.

Loyalty as an attribute is there in employees who are:

(i) senior (ii) healthy

(iii) motivated (iv) happy

- (g) The 45-60 age group workers are motivated by

- (h) Based on the reading of the passage, state a point to challenge the given statement.

Increase in salary is the only motivation for better job performance.

- (i) Complete the sentence.

The internal factors affecting work performance are

- (j) Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option.

The concluding sentence of the passage makes a clear case for by listing it as a core component of steering the company towards long-term goals.

(i) collaboration

(ii) flexibility

(iii) happiness

(iv) adaptability

Answers

a. False

b. The companies demand exemplary performance from their employees because there is competition among companies and they want to do better than their competitors.

c. (iii) When there are chances to get financial gratification

d. Team spirit and work environment are the two factors that display that work performance of both the categories of workers remains the same.

e. In six out of the ten factors surveyed, the 18-30 age group is impacted more than the 45-60 age group.

f. (iv) happy

g. the 45-60 age group workers are motivated by 'respect from colleagues'.

h. Factors, besides the salary, which affect the work performance of the two different age groups are interesting.

Or

The 45-60 years workers are impacted a lot by respect from colleagues whereas the prospect of a promotion is an important reason that drives younger employees to work better.

i. team spirit, competent boss, respect from colleagues and job satisfaction.

j. (iii) happiness

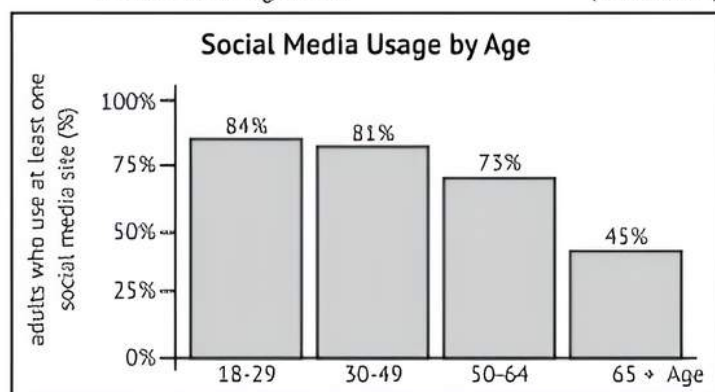
Passage 4

- News- If you can't remember the last time, you saw a teenager reading a book, newspaper or magazine, you're not alone. In recent years, less than 20 per cent of teens report reading a book, magazine or newspaper daily for pleasure. More than 80 per cent say they use social media every day, according to research published by the World Psychological Association.
- "Compared with previous generations, teens in the 2010s spent more time online and less time with traditional media, such as books, magazines and television," said lead author of the book yGen and

professor of psychology at ABC University. "Time on digital media has displaced time once spent enjoying a book or watching TV."

3. Swaner and her colleagues analysed data concluded from an ongoing study of a nationally representative sample of approximately 50,000 eighth, tenth and twelfth grade students annually. They looked at survey results from 1976 to 2016, representing more than 1 million teenagers. While the study started with only twelfth-graders in the 1970s, eighth- and tenth-graders were added in 1991.
4. Use of digital media increased substantially from 2006 to 2016. Among twelfth-graders, internet use during leisure time doubled from one to two hours per day during that period. It also increased 75 per cent for tenth-graders and 68 per cent for eighth-graders.
5. "In the mid-2010s, the average twelfth-grader reported spending approximately two hours a day texting, just over two hours a day on the internet—which included gaming—and just under two hours a day on social media," said Swaner. That's a total of about six hours per day on just three digital media activities during their leisure time."
6. In comparison, tenth-graders reported a total of five hours per day and eighth-graders reported four hours per day on those three digital activities. Consequently, the spent time in the digital world is seriously degrading the time they spend on more traditional media such as print book and newspapers.
7. The decline in reading print media was especially steep. In the early 1990s, 33 per cent of tenth-graders said they read a newspaper almost every day. By 2016, that number was only 2 per cent. In the late 1970s, 60 per cent of twelfth-graders said they read a book or a magazine almost every day; by 2016, only 16 per cent did. Twelfth-graders also reported reading fewer books each year in 2016 compared to how much they read in 1976, and approximately one-third did not read a book (including e-books) for pleasure in the year prior to the 2016 survey.
8. There's no lack of intelligence among young people. However, due to over dependence on digital media they find it difficult to focus for long periods of time and to read long-form text. Subsequently, they find it challenging to understand complex issues and develop critical thinking skills.

(CBSE 2023)



Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) Does the following statement agree with the information given in paragraph 1?

The writer believes that very few teens indulge in reading as a pleasurable activity.

Select from the following:

True: If the statement agrees with the information.

False: If the statement contradicts the information.

Not Given: If there is no information on this.

- (b) Select the option that displays the most likely reason for this research.

In order to find out

- (i) reading choices of teenagers.
- (ii) digital competency of teenagers.
- (iii) speed of reading text.
- (iv) the decline of time spent on traditional media.

- (c) Complete the statement based on the following statement:

Traditional media has been replaced by digital media, we can say this because

- (d) Do you think that the researchers of study added tenth and eighth-graders to the survey deliberately?

Support your answer with reference to the text.

- (e) Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option:

The concluding sentence of the text makes a clear case for by listing it as a core competency for analysis and application.

- (i) following social media
- (ii) reading long texts
- (iii) building focus and concentration
- (iv) developing constructive habits

- (f) Complete the given sentence by selecting the most appropriate option.

The digital activities that the twelfth-graders indulge in are

- (i) texting, gaming, television
- (ii) texting, gaming, social media
- (iii) newspaper, books, magazine
- (iv) television, books, gaming

- (g) Complete the sentence appropriately with one/two words:

Teens today hardly read print media for

- (h) Based on the reading of the text, state a point to challenge the given statement:

"Time on digital media has displaced time once spent enjoying a book or watching T.V."

- (i) What does the author mean by 'degrading the time' in para 6?

- (i) spending less time
- (ii) waste of time
- (iii) consuming more time
- (iv) saving time

(j) As per the given graph the percentage of people above 50 years is the percentage of teenagers using social media.

- (i) greater than (ii) less than
(iii) equal to (iv) negligible to

Answers

- a. True
b. (ii) digital competency of teenagers.
c. young people today are more dependent on digital media.
d. Yes, the researchers of study added tenth and eighth-graders to the survey deliberately to draw attention to the widespread digital media usage among teenagers.
e. (iii) building focus and concentration
f. (ii) texting, gaming, social media
g. pleasure.
h. The spent time in the digital world is seriously degrading the time they spend on more traditional media such as print book and newspapers.

Or

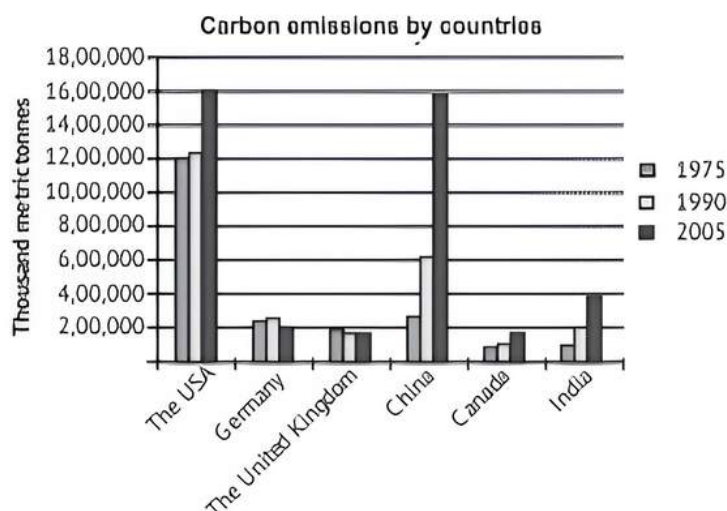
Subsequently they find it challenging to understand complex issues and develop critical thinking skills.

- i. (ii) waste of time j. (ii) less than

Passage 5

The given chart provides information about the amount of carbon emissions in different countries during three different years.

The bar chart compares the emission of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere of six countries, including two of emerging nations, for three decades starting from 1975 until 2005.



As an overall assessment, it can be clearly seen that only Germany and the United Kingdom managed to reduce the carbon emissions compared to the other countries. The USA, being the number one polluter of all, emitted 12,00,000 thousand metric tonnes in 1975 and this count increased to 13,00,000 and 16,00,000 thousand metric tonnes in 1990 and 2005 respectively.

In contrast, the carbon emissions of China was nearly 3,00,000 thousand metric tonnes in 1975 and it rose by nearly 100% in 1990 and surged dramatically to just below 16,00,000 thousand metric tonnes in 2005. In terms of the percentage increase, China was the largest contributor in carbon emissions of all.

The figures for Germany and the United Kingdom remained relatively stable throughout the period of time, and so were for Canada until 1990. The carbon dioxide emissions in India increased exponentially from around 1,00,000 in 1975 to just below 4,00,000 thousand metric tonnes in 2005.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) What does the given data compare?
(b) Figures for these countries remained relatively stable throughout the period.
(i) Germany and India
(ii) The USA and China
(iii) The United Kingdom and the USA
(iv) Germany and the United Kingdom
(c) Which country has registered a dramatic rise in CO₂ emission over the years?
(d) Which country had almost the same level of CO₂ emission in the first and the second decade?
(i) Germany (ii) Canada
(iii) Both (i) and (ii) (iv) India
(e) Which is the highest quantity of CO₂ emission achieved globally?
(i) 16,00,000 (ii) 15,70,000
(iii) 13,00,000 (iv) 18,00,000
(f) What do you think can be the reason for surging of CO₂ emission?
(g) The carbon dioxide emissions in India
(h) State TRUE or FALSE.

China is the number one polluter of all consistently.

Answers

- a. The given data compares the amount of emission of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere of six countries during three different years.
b. (iv) Germany and the United Kingdom
c. China has registered a dramatic rise in CO₂ emission over the years.
d. (iii) Both (i) and (ii) e. (i) 16,00,000
f. Fast paced industrialisation, lack of sustainable development and the urge to become world's top economy can be the reasons for surging of CO₂ emission.
g. have increased rapidly h. False

Passage 6

1. Today's woman is highly self-directed person, alive to the sense of her dignity and the importance of her functions in the private domestic domain and the public domain of the world of work. Women are rational in approach, careful in handling situations and want to do things as best as possible. The Fourth World Conference

of Women held in Beijing in September, 1995 had emphasised that no enduring solution of society's most threatening social, economic and political problems could be found without the participation and empowerment of women. The 1995 World Summit for Social Development had also emphasised the pivotal role of women in eradicating poverty and mending the social fabric.

2. The Constitution of India had conferred on women equal rights and opportunities—political, social, educational and of employment—with men because of oppressive traditions, superstitions, exploitation and corruption. The majority of women are still not allowed to enjoy the rights and opportunities bestowed on them. One of the major reasons for this state of affairs is the lack of literacy and awareness among women. Education is the main instrument through which we can narrow down the prevailing inequality and accelerate the process of economic and political change in the status of women.
3. The role of women in a society is very important. Women's education is the key to better life in the future. A recent World Bank study says that educating girls is not a charity, it is good economics and if developing nations are to eradicate poverty, they must educate the girls. The report says that the economic and social returns on investment in education of the girls considerably affect the human development index of the nation. Society would progress only if the status of women is respected and the presence of an educated woman in the family would ensure education of the family itself. Education and empowerment of women are closely related.
4. Women's education has not received due care and attention from the planners and policy makers. The National Commission for Women rightly pointed out that even after 50 years of independence, women continue to be treated as the single largest group of backward citizens of India. The role of women in overall development has not been fully understood, nor has it been given its full weight in the struggle to eliminate poverty, hunger, injustice and inequality at the national level.

Even when we are in the 21st century, our society still discriminates against women in matters of their rights and privileges and prevents them from participating in the process of national and social progress. Various Committees and Commissions have been constituted before and after independence to evaluate the progress in women's education and to suggest ways and means to enhance the status of women. Female literacy rate has gone up in the 20th century from 0.6% in 1901 to 39.2% in 1991, but India still possesses the largest number of illiterate women in the world. The female literacy index for the year 1991 shows that there are eight states which fall below the national average. The most populous states of the country, UP, MP, Bihar and Rajasthan fall in the category of most backward states as far as female literacy is concerned.

5. The prevailing cultural norms of gender behaviour and the perceived domestic and reproductive role of women tend to affect the education of a girl. Negative attitude towards sending girls to schools, restrictions on their mobility, early marriage, poverty and illiteracy of parents affect the girl's participation in education.
6. Women's political empowerment got a big boost with the Panchayati Raj Act of 1993 which gave them 30% reservation in Village Panchayats, Block Samitis and Zila Parishads throughout the country. The National Commission for Women was also set up in 1992 to act as a lobby for women's issues.
7. The educational system is the only institution which can counteract the deep foundations of inequality of sexes that are built into the minds of people through the socialisation process.
Education is the most important instrument of human resource development. The educational system should be used to revolutionise the traditional attitudes and inculcate new values of equality.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) What are the factors that affect the girl's participation in education?
- (b) Even in the 21st century, it is alarming that there is/are:
 - (i) reservation for women
 - (ii) discrimination against women
 - (iii) positive attitude towards women
 - (iv) early marriages
- (c) What has been done to evaluate the progress in women's education?
- (d) Women are not allowed to enjoy their rights and opportunities due to:
 - (i) equal rights
 - (ii) social changes
 - (iii) lack of literacy and awareness
 - (iv) corruption
- (e) Women's education has not received due care from:
 - (i) planners and policy makers
 - (ii) National Commission for Women
 - (iii) block heads
 - (iv) Indian banks
- (f) How can the deep roots of inequality of sexes be counteracted?
- (g) Women's education is the key
- (h) Read the given statements and state true or false.
 - A. Marriage and empowerment of women are closely related.
 - B. The Constitution of India had conferred on women equal rights and opportunities.

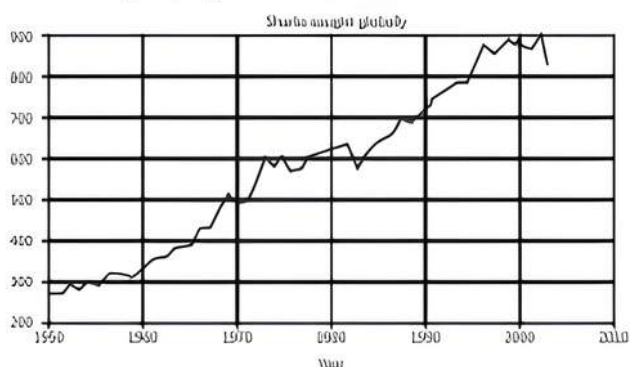
Answers

- a. Negative attitude towards sending girls to schools, restrictions on their mobility, early marriage, poverty and illiteracy of parents are the factors that affect the girl's participation in education. The prevailing cultural norms of gender behaviour and the perceived domestic and reproductive role of women tend to affect the education of a girl.
- b. (ii) discrimination against women
- c. Various committees and commissions have been constituted before and after independence to evaluate the progress in women's education.
- d. (iii) lack of literacy and awareness
- e. (i) planners and policy makers
- f. The educational system is the only institution which can counteract the deep roots of inequality of sexes that are built into the minds of people through the socialisation process.
- g. to better life in future.
- h. A is false but B is true.

Passage 7

Andy Dehart is a shark expert and TV presenter who lives in the United States of America. He has had a lifelong interest in sharks and is always trying to look for ways to educate the public about them. Many people think that sharks have little or no intelligence, but Andy points out that recent studies have shown that many shark species possess powerful problem-solving abilities and social skills. "Sharks do not want to attack humans," he asserts, "There is no shark species that eats humans as part of its regular diet. In most shark attack cases, the shark leaves after realising that it has mistakenly bitten a human and not its intended prey."

When Andy was a boy, his father worked for a national oceanic organisation, and Andy travelled with him all over the Caribbean. He grew up by the coast and he has been connected with the sea for as long as he can remember. He also lived near one of the best aquariums in America. Andy then went on to build a career working with sharks in an aquarium environment. More recently, he has been involved with television and the making of programmes about sharks.



Andy and his wife had their first child two years ago. They were amused and amazed to see to what extent their work with animals has proved to be useful in

bringing up their daughter. They know how to observe her behaviour and teach her how to do things by rewarding her. Andy loves sharks and is very passionate about their survival and protection. He feels extremely lucky to have had opportunities working at the National Aquarium and the television station which presents the Nature Channel. He never wastes a moment in either place that could be spent educating people about sharks. He does admit that it is probably not possible to get everyone to love sharks as he does. However, he does hope to persuade people personally or through the media to respect sharks and the critical role they play in our environment. His main objective is to keep spreading awareness that sharks are not dangerous man-eaters, but essential creatures in our oceans, as they provide ecological balance and help to control other species.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) As a child, what was it that influenced Andy's later choice of career?
- (b) maximum sharks were caught globally.
 - (i) In 1970
 - (ii) Before 2000
 - (iii) After 2000
 - (iv) After 2010
- (c) How did Andy's work help in bringing up his daughter?
- (d) What evidence is there that sharks may be intelligent?
 - (i) Their problem solving abilities
 - (ii) Their social skills
 - (iii) Their oceanic organisation
 - (iv) Both (i) and (ii)
- (e) Which of the following statements is true?
 - (i) Andy loves sharks
 - (ii) Andy is passionate about sharks' survival and protection
 - (iii) Andy has been involved with television and the making of programmes about sharks
 - (iv) All of the above
- (f) Why does Andy believe that sharks attack humans only by mistake?
- (g) Many people think that sharks
- (h) State TRUE or FALSE.

Andy's main objective is to keep spreading awareness that sharks are not dangerous man-eaters.

Answers

- a. When Andy was a child, his father worked for a national oceanic organisation, and he travelled with his father all over the Caribbean. This influenced Andy's later choice of career.
- b. (iii) After 2000
- c. Andy knew how to observe her behaviour and how to teach her to do things. In this way, Andy's work helped in bringing up his daughter.

- d. (iv) Both (i) and (ii) e. (iv) All of the above
 f. Andy asserts that sharks don't eat humans as a part of their regular diet and in most attack cases, the shark leaves after realising that it has mistakenly bitten a human.
 g. have no intelligence h. True

Passage 8

1. The defence mechanism of human body is a gift of nature provided to human beings. The power of our body to fight against various disease producing agents is known as defensive mechanism. This defensive mechanism depends upon various factors which can be categorised mainly into two types: common factors and special factors.
2. Amongst the common factors, the most important is the health of human beings. We all know if we are having a good health, our body automatically remains protected against diseases. For keeping good health, one should have nutritious balanced diet. A balanced diet is that which contains carbohydrates, fat, proteins and vitamins in proportionate amount.
3. The skin of our body saves us against many micro-organisms producing diseases, provided that it is intact. In case there are cuts or abrasions on it, the micro-organisms penetrate the body through those cuts and abrasions and can cause diseases. Therefore, a cut or an abrasion should never be left open. In case there is no bandage, etc. available, it may be covered by a clean cloth.
4. Some bacteria reside on and inside the human body. They are our friends and useful for us. They do not cause any disease and by their presence, do not allow disease causing organisms to settle on those places. For example, the micro-organisms present in human saliva secrete a chemical which does not allow diphtheria causing bacteria to grow inside the oral cavity. Similarly, the bacteria residing in female genital tract make the media acidic which do not allow the disease causing organism to grow and multiply.
5. The human body secretes a variety of fluids which are killers for disease causing micro-organisms. For example, gastric juice (acidic in nature) secreted by our intestinal tract kills all organisms which enter our body through food. Similarly, a substance called lysozyme secreted by eye glands saves us against many infectious diseases of eyes, as it kills the bacteria which go inside our eyes by contact or from environment, etc.
6. There are a few automatic activities of our body known as "reflex phenomenon" which protect the body against many infections. This reflex phenomenon includes sneezing, coughing and vomiting. Whenever any harmful or irritating substance enters our nose or goes inside our body via mouth or respiration, the body reacts against these and tries to expel the harmful substance from the body.
7. Fever is one of the most important constituents of the defensive mechanism of our body. The organ which regulates the temperature of our body is known as hypothalamus and it is situated in the brain. When micro-organisms, after entering the body, release toxic

products and these reach the brain through blood, the hypothalamus starts increasing the temperature of body. The person gets fever. This fever is very useful for the human body because, by the increase of temperature, the micro-organisms which are the root cause of the problem get killed. The rise in temperature also increases blood circulation. Therefore, each and every tissue of body gets more blood supply. By increased circulation, all toxic products secreted by micro-organisms get removed from the body by way of urination and perspiration. Hence, in the initial stage, fever should never be suppressed by use of antipyretic medications.

We all know that whenever any part of our body receives an external injury, that area becomes swollen, red, hot and tender. This is again due to defensive mechanism of our body because by all these signs, the affected area receives more circulation and due to it, the injured part heals well.

After performing many experiments, it has been observed that the secretions of human nose have the power to stop harmful activities of many viruses. Many cells present inside the human body aid it by increasing the defensive mechanism. These include white blood cells, mast cells, macrophages etc. Whenever the need arises, these cells come out of blood vessels and reach the affected site and engulf and kill the problem causing micro-organisms. In addition to it, healthy blood has got a wonderful power to stop the growth of micro-organisms and ultimately kill them. The power is because of the presence of some substances in the blood. Out of these important ones are leukins, beta-lysin and lysozyme.

We are living in an environment which is full of bacteria. Many of these bacteria can produce serious diseases but all of us do not suffer from such diseases. It is due to a special power present in our body to fight these diseases. A part of the special power of our body is known as innate immunity. This is inherited by us. The other part of this special power is called acquired immunity. This we gain during our lifetime.

Acquired immunity is of two types: Passive immunity and active immunity.

In passive immunity, the substances which fight against diseases are being manufactured outside the body i.e., in vitro and after that, this readymade immune substance is given to the person. For example, the anti-tetanus serum and anti-diphtheria serum.

A new-born child acquires passive immunity through his or her mother via her blood and milk. This immune mechanism protects the child against diseases in first six to nine months of the childhood. After that, for acquiring immunity for rest of the life, one should adopt the method of immunisation. This process of increasing the immune status of body by way of immunisation recommended by the World Health Organisation (WHO), each and every child should be protected against six killer diseases. These diseases are tuberculosis, polio, diphtheria, tetanus, pertussis (whooping cough) and measles. In India, we are having this programme since January, 1978.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) The defence mechanism of human body enables man to
- (b) The automatic activities of our body which protect it against many infections is called:
 - (i) defence mechanism (ii) immune system
 - (iii) hypothalamus (iv) reflex phenomenon
- (c) On what does the defensive mechanism depend?
- (d) According to the passage, for keeping good health one should have:



Option A



Option B



Option C



Option D

- (i) Option A (ii) Option B
- (iii) Option C (iv) Option D
- (e) Why should a cut or an abrasion never be left open?
- (f) The best gift of nature provided to human beings, as mentioned in the passage, is:
 - (i) power to think
 - (ii) power to fight his enemy
 - (iii) ability to smile
 - (iv) power to fight against disease producing agents known as defence mechanism
- (g) What should we do in the initial stage of fever?
- (h) State TRUE or FALSE.

Lysozyme saves us against many infectious diseases of eyes.

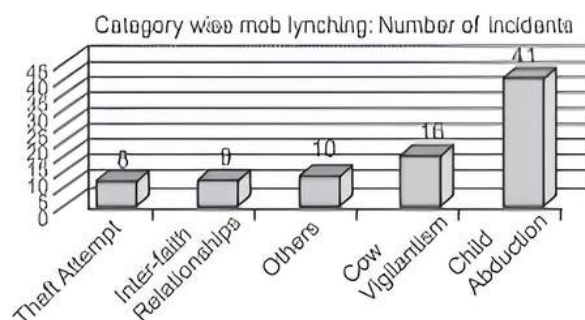
Answers

- a. fight against diseases
- b. (iv) reflex phenomenon
- c. The defensive mechanism depends on various factors which can be categorised mainly into two types: common factors and special factors.
- d. (iv) Option D
- e. The skin of our body saves us against many micro-organisms producing diseases. In case there is a cut or an abrasion on it, the micro-organisms penetrate the body through that cut or abrasion and can cause diseases. Therefore, a cut or an abrasion should never be left open.

- f. (iv) power to fight against disease producing agents known as defence mechanism
- g. In the initial stage, fever should never be suppressed by use of antipyretic medications.
- h. True

Passage 9

1. The word 'lynching' in fact originated in the United States in the mid 18th century. The term was first believed to be used by planter Charles Lynch to describe extra-judicial authority assumed by private individuals. It came to be applied over time to extra-judicial killings by crowds.
2. The Delhi riots of February 2020 that led to the death of more than 40 people were a result of mob lynching motivated by communal hatred. It was closely followed by the Palghar Mob Lynching Case of April 2020. Additionally, several cases of lynching have come up in past few years.
3. Given below is a chart of several incidents of mob lynching that occurred in 2018 and the category they belonged to, including theft attempt, inter-faith relationships, cow vigilantism, etc., with child abduction topping the charts with 41 incidents, according to counterview.net.
4. Several defences have been made such as lynching being an 'alien concept' or an incident of criminal intent which has nothing to do with communal hatred. Meanwhile, the rate of crime and the resulting number of death is rising and appalling. This defence has many flaws since beating up people and lynch attacks are not recent developments.
5. Over the years, Dalits have been lynched with enormous cruelty. Jhajjar, Khairlanji and Una are just three recent sites of ghastly lynching of Dalits. In recent years, Dalits have been lynched for growing a moustache, riding a horse, or building a two-storey home. Single women have frequently been lynched through the centuries, branded as witches.



With such defence and inaction, there seems no early end therefore to the long dark night of hate and fear that has been unleashed by lynching, the scourge of new India.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) By whom was the term 'lynching' first used?
- (b) The rate of crime in India and the resulting death rate is:
 - (i) dormant (ii) increasing
 - (iii) decreasing (iv) None of these

(c) From the above passage it can be inferred that:

- (i) mob lynching is a prevailing crime
- (ii) mob lynching is a decreasing crime
- (iii) mob lynching is a recent crime
- (iv) mob lynching is a communal crime

(d) The number of cases of mob lynching due to theft attempt

(e) Mention the main reasons behind mob lynching.

(f) Single women, who were lynched, were branded as witches to the act of lynching.

- (i) condemn (ii) refute
- (iii) contradict (iv) justify

(g) State TRUE or FALSE.

'Lynching' originated in the United States in the early 18th century.

(h) Is mob lynching a recent crime?

Answers

- a. The term 'lynching' was first believed to be used by planter Charles Lynch to describe extra-judicial authority assumed by private individuals.
- b. (ii) Increasing
- c. (i) mob lynching is a prevailing crime
- d. is the lowest
- e. The main reasons behind mob lynching are child abduction, cow vigilantism, inter-faith relationships, theft attempt, etc.
- f. (iv) justify g. False
- h. No, mob lynching is not a recent crime since beating up people and lynch attacks have been happening for centuries.

Passage 10

1. For many years now, the Governments have been promising the eradication of child labour in hazardous industries in India. But the truth is that despite all the rhetoric, no Government so far has succeeded in eradicating this evil, nor has any been able to ensure compulsory primary education for every Indian child. Between 60 and 100 million children are still at work instead of going to school, and around 10 million are working in hazardous industries. India has the biggest child population of 380 million in the world, plus the largest number of children who are forced to earn a living.
2. We have many laws that ban child labour in hazardous industries. According to the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, the employment of children below the age of 14 in hazardous occupations has been strictly banned. But each state has different rules regarding the minimum age of employment. This makes implementation of these laws difficult.
3. The act applies to the organised or factory sector and not the unorganised or informal sector, where most children find employment as cleaners, servants, porters and waiters among other forms of unskilled work. Thus, child labour continues because the implementation of the existing laws is lax.

4. There are industries which have a special demand for child labour because of their nimble fingers, high level of concentration and capacity to work hard at abysmally low wages. The carpet industry in UP and Kashmir employs children to make hand-knotted carpets. There are 8,0000 child workers in Jammu and Kashmir alone. In Kashmir, because of the political unrest, children are forced to work, while many schools are shut. Industries like gem cutting and polishing, pottery and glass want to remain competitive by employing children.

5. The truth is that it is poverty which is pushing children into the brutish labour market. We have 260 million people below the poverty line in India and a large number of them are women. Poor and especially woman-headed families, have no option but to push their little ones into this hard life, in hostile conditions with no human or labour rights.

6. There is a lobby which argues that there is nothing wrong with children working as long as the environment for work is conducive to learning new skills, but studies have shown that the children are made to do boring, repetitive and tedious jobs and are not taught new skills as they grow older. In these hell holes like the sweatshops of old, there is no hope.

7. Children working in hazardous industries are prone to debilitating diseases which can cripple them for life. By sitting in cramped, damp and unhygienic spaces, their limbs become deformed for life. Inside matchstick, fireworks and glass industries, they become victims of bronchial diseases and tuberculosis (TB).

Their mental and physical development is permanently impaired by long hours of work. Once trapped, they can't get out of this vicious cycle of poverty. They remain uneducated and powerless. Finally, in later years, they too are compelled to send their own children to work. Child labour perpetuates its own nightmare.

8. If at all the Government was serious about granting children their rights, an intensive effort ought to have been made to implement the Supreme Court's Directive of 1997 which laid down punitive action against employers of child labour. Only compulsory primary education can eliminate child labour.

9. Surely, if 380 million children are given a better life and elementary education, India's human capital would be greatly enhanced. But that needs, as former President Abdul Kalam says, "a Second Vision."

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

(a) Vicious cycle of poverty refers to:

- (i) the poor remaining uneducated and powerless
- (ii) working in glass industries
- (iii) impairment of physical development
- (iv) getting elementary education

(b) How can India's human capital be enhanced?

- (c) The Supreme Court's Directive of 1997 provides
- (d) Which of the following Industries employ child labour in abundance?
- Pottery
 - Gem cutting and polishing
 - Glass
 - All of the above
- (e) What are the loopholes in the Child Labour Act?
- (f) Governments have been promising for many years:
- the eradication of community riots
 - the non-stop supply of electricity
 - the eradication of child labour in hazardous industries
 - None of the above
- (g) Why do industries prefer child labour?
- (h) State TRUE or FALSE.
- There is no ban on child labour in hazardous occupations.

Answers

- (i) the poor remaining uneducated and powerless
- India's human capital can be enhanced by giving children a better life and elementary education.
- punitive action against employers of child labour
- (iv) All of the above
- The loopholes in the Child Labour Act are as follows:
 - It does not apply to unorganised or Informal sector.
 - Its implementation is lax.
 - Each state has different rules regarding the minimum age of employment.
- (iii) the eradication of child labour in hazardous industries
- Industries prefer child labour because children can work hard at low wages.
- False

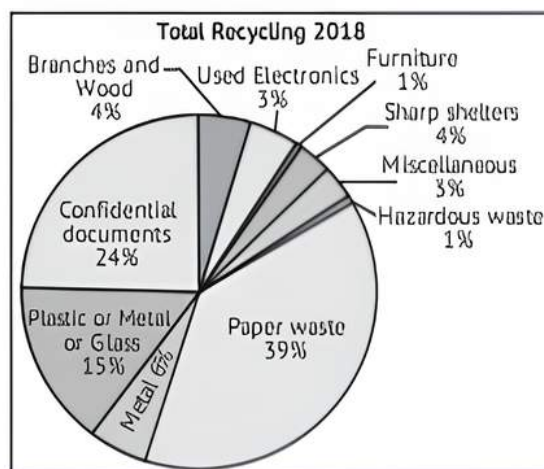
Passage 11

Conference Series LLC Ltd. organises a conference series of 1000+ global events inclusive of 300+ conferences, 900+ upcoming and previous symposiums and workshops in USA, Europe and Asia with support from 1000 more scientific societies and publishes 700+ open access journals which contain over 30,000 eminent personalities and reputed scientists as editorial board members.

Recycling and Waste Management Convention 2018 proudly invites contributors across the globe to the 9th World Convention on Recycling and Waste Management during October 22-23, 2018 in Osaka, Japan, which includes prompt keynote presentations,

oral talks, poster presentations and exhibitions. We are delighted to say that it is the 9th World Convention on Recycling and Waste Management which will be held in the beautiful city of Osaka, Japan and hence we invite you all to attend and register.

The 9th World Convention on Recycling and Waste Management is mainly based on the theme "Advocating Waste Disposal and Recycling Practices for Clean and Green Environment". We warmly welcome all the participants..... leading scientists, researchers and scholars of the world to attend the convention. We provide a platform for young researchers and students to present their research through oral presentations through which they can develop a foundation for collaboration among young researchers. The organising committee aims at setting a platform for all the budding scientists and researchers to present their real-time work and share their views and aspects related to the theme of the conference. The organising committee is gearing up for an exciting and informative conference programme including plenary lecture, symposia and workshops on a variety of topics, poster presentations and various programmes for participants from all over the world.



Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- What theme does the given passage highlight?
- Which notion in the conference has been emphasised to be deployed?
 - Work management
 - Recycling of goods
 - Waste disposal management
 - Reshaping Earth's future
- On observing the pie-chart, which two types of waste have been recycled at the rate of 4%?
 - Furniture and used electronics
 - Branches and wood and sharp shelters
 - Furniture and hazardous waste
 - All of the above

(d) Select the option that displays the correct pair.

Recycled Waste	Degree/Amount
Miscellaneous	8%

Option A

Recycled Waste	Degree/Amount
Metal	9%

Option B

Recycled Waste	Degree/Amount
Used Electronics	3%

Option C

Recycled Waste	Degree/Amount
Furniture	2%

Option D

- (i) Option A (ii) Option B
(iii) Option C (iv) Option D

(e) Which other type of waste is recycled at the same rate as that of used electronics?

(f) session was conducted on recycling and waste management in 2018.

(g) Which two recycled sections contribute collectively towards paper waste recycled percentage?

(h) State TRUE or FALSE.

The organising committee is gearing up for an exciting and informative conference programme.

Answers

- The given passage highlights the efficient ways of waste disposal and various techniques to be employed to recycle goods.
- (iii) Waste disposal management
- (ii) Branches and wood and sharp shelters
- (iii) Option C
- 'Miscellaneous goods' is recycled at the same rate as that of used electronics.
- 9th convention
- 'Confidential documents' and 'plastic or metal or glass' contribute collectively towards paper waste recycled percentage.
- True

Passage 12

- Nuclear capability gives a status to the country in the community of nations. No nation can afford to make destructive use of nuclear energy without risking a World War. That is why America did not make use of nuclear weapons in the Vietnam War though it had become a matter of prestige for it. Similarly, Russia preferred to pull out her missile bases from Cuba instead of coming in direct conflict with a nuclear power, America. But India, since it started adopting nuclear technology, had decided to make only peaceful use of nuclear energy. The fear expressed by Pakistan and the comments made in the

Chinese press are more for the sake of propaganda than the projection of the truth.

- India needs nuclear energy in order to meet her power shortage. It has been depending upon hydroelectric power, which is undependable because of the uncertainty of rainfall. Good quality of coal, which is another source of energy, cannot be extracted commercially because it lies very deep and the cost of extraction is very high. India is not producing much of oil; rather it has to import nearly 74% of her total oil consumption. So, the only alternative with India is to have a cheaper and more dependable source of energy. The known reserves of thorium in India are sufficient to last many hundred years. That is why India has already commissioned two nuclear power stations, one at Tarapur and the other at Rana Pratap Sagar. Each one has an installed capacity of producing 420 MW of electricity. Two other stations, one at Narora and the other at Kalpakkam, are operational. This energy will be able to meet the power shortage throughout the country. If industries work at their full capacity, production will be higher and so per capita income will increase and inflation will be neutralised.
- With the help of controlled nuclear explosions, artificial dams can be made. In fact, for building a dam there should be two huge mountain walls enclosing a deep valley just near the course of a river. These conditions are not available at all the places. So, with the help of controlled nuclear explosions, mountains can be blown up. This can also help in laying roads in mountainous areas. In fact, some of the borders of India have mountainous terrain and the movement of the army is quite difficult. So, even for the sake of national security, it is necessary to have roads in those areas.
- With the help of nuclear radiation, the shelf life of vegetables and fruits can be increased. In tropical countries like India, it is necessary that perishable foodstuffs are preserved for a long time. Radiation can check the sprouting of onions and potatoes, which are much in demand in foreign countries. Similarly, fruits like bananas and mangoes, which have much export potential, can be preserved for a very long time. The texture and taste of the fruit do not undergo any change.
- Nuclear technology can also be harnessed for medical purposes. It is said that radioactive iodine is used for detecting diseases of the thyroid glands. Similarly, India has been able to prepare, with the help of UN experts, radiated vaccine which can immunise sheep from lungworm disease, which used to take a heavy toll on sheep every year.
- Properly processed nuclear fuel is also used for artificial satellites in space. Weather satellites can predict cyclones and rainfall with extreme accuracy. Communication satellites can help in conveying messages over very long distances. In a huge country like India, communication satellites are necessary.
- Radiation is also used for preparing mutant seeds. Many varieties of rice and some cereals have been prepared at Tarapur laboratory. This will increase our agricultural production and help India, to become economically better off. So, for India it is necessary to make peaceful uses of nuclear energy.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

(a) Sheep have been immunised from:

- (i) UN experts (ii) lungworm disease
- (iii) wild animals (iv) organic vaccine

(b) What can be the uses of nuclear technology?

(c) With the help of controlled nuclear explosions:

- (i) nuclear power stations can be installed
- (ii) electricity can be produced
- (iii) wars can be avoided
- (iv) artificial dams can be made

(d) Why can India not depend on coal for meeting power shortage?

(e) India needs nuclear energy

(f) State TRUE or FALSE.

Radioactive iodine is used for detecting diseases of the intestines.

(g) Which of the following can replace the word 'huge' in the passage?

- (i) Colossal (ii) Dwarfed
- (iii) Insignificant (iv) Diminutive

(h) Can nuclear energy help in increasing our agricultural production?

Answers

a. (ii) lungworm disease

b. Nuclear technology can be used to meet power shortages, to create artificial dams, to increase the shelf life of vegetables and fruits, in medical purposes etc.

c. (iv) artificial dams can be made

d. India cannot depend on coal for meeting power shortage because good quality coal lies very deep and the cost of its extraction is high.

e. to meet her power shortage

f. False g. (i) Colossal

h. Yes, nuclear energy can help in increasing our agricultural production. Radiation is also used for preparing mutant seeds. Many varieties of rice and some cereals have been prepared at Tarapur laboratory.

Passage 13

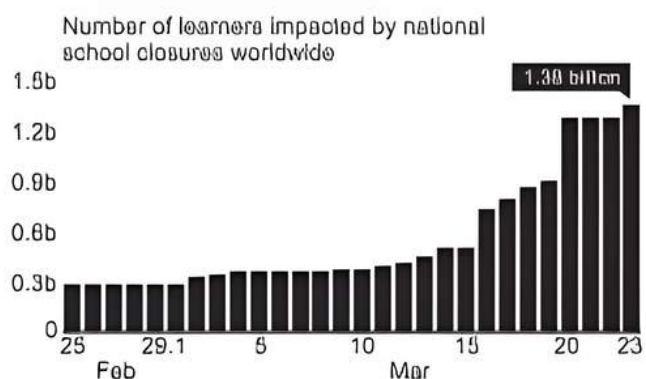
While countries are at different points in their COVID-19 infection rates, worldwide there are currently more than 1.2 billion children in 186 countries affected by school closures due to the pandemic. In Denmark, children up to the age of 11 are returning to nurseries and schools after initially closing on 12th March, but in South Korea students are responding to roll calls from their teachers online.

With this sudden shift away from the classroom in many parts of the globe, some are wondering whether the adoption of online learning will continue to persist post-pandemic, and how such a shift would impact the worldwide education market.

Even before COVID-19, there was already high growth and adoption in education technology, with Global Edtech investments reaching US \$ 18.66 billion in 2019 and the overall market for online education projected to reach \$350 billion by 2025. Whether it is language apps, virtual tutoring, video conferencing tools or online learning software, there has been a significant surge in usage since COVID-19.

Some see online education as an opportunity to include technology, and further digital learning in education. "I believe that the integration of information technology in education will be further accelerated and that online education will eventually become an integral component of school education," says Wang Tao, Vice President of Tencent Cloud and of Tencent Education.

For those who do have access to the right technology, there is evidence that learning online can be more effective in a number of ways. A research shows that on average, students retain 25-60% more material when learning online compared to only 8-10% in a classroom.



Figures refer to learners enrolled at pre-primary, primary lower, secondary, and upper-secondary levels of education, as well as at tertiary education levels.

Source-UNESCO.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

(a) The passage suggests that growth and adoption of online education began the COVID-19 pandemic.

- (i) during (ii) after
- (iii) even before (iv) with

(b) Edtech investments reached US \$18.66 billion

(c) Which date hasn't been included in the graph?

- (i) 28 February (ii) 26 February
- (iii) 24 March (iv) 11 March

(d) What does online education include?

(e) Why is online learning more effective than offline learning?

(f) Which of the following can replace the word 'integration' in the passage?

- (i) Assimilation (ii) Division
- (iii) Bisection (iv) Separation

(g) State TRUE or FALSE.

Some see online education as an opportunity to include technology and further digital learning in education.

(h) In future, what will happen to the use of information technology in education?

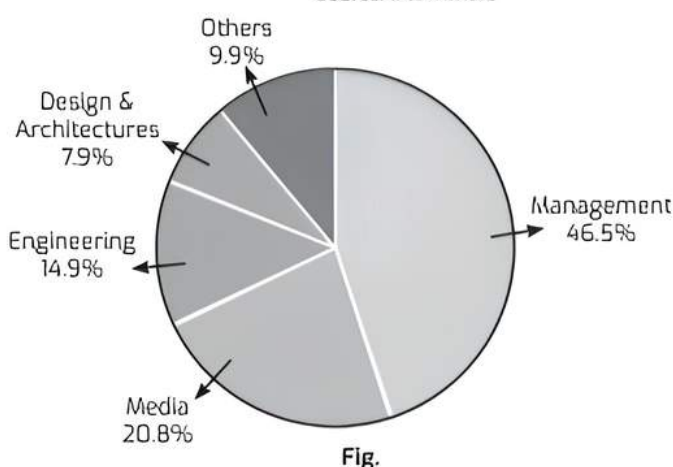
Answers

- a. (iii) even before b. In 2019
c. (iii) 24 March
d. Online education includes language apps, virtual tutoring, video conferencing tools or online learning software.
e. Online learning is more effective than offline learning because students retain 25-60% more material when learning online compared to only 8-10% in a classroom.
f. (i) Assimilation g. True
h. The use of Information technology in education will increase further in future.

Passage 14

- Over the last five years, more companies have been actively looking for intern profiles, according to a 2018-19 survey by an online internship and training platform. This survey reveals that India had 80% more internship applications with 2.2 million applications received in 2018 compared to 1.27 million in the year before. The trend was partly due to more industries looking to have fresh minds and ideas on existing projects for better productivity. What was originally seen as a western concept, getting an internship before plunging into the job market, is fast gaining momentum at Indian workplaces.
- According to the survey data, India's National Capital Region has been the top provider of internships, with a total of 35% internship opportunities, followed by Mumbai and Bengaluru at 20% and 15%, respectively. This includes opportunities in startups, MNCs and even government entities. The survey also revealed popular fields to find internships in Figure. There has been growing awareness among the students about the intern profiles sought by hiring companies that often look for people with real-time experience in management than B-school masters.

Internship Trends 2018
Popular fields to find internships in
Source: Internshala



- The stipend has been an important factor influencing the choice of internships. The survey data reveals that the average stipend offered to interns was recorded as ₹7,000 while the maximum stipend went up to ₹85,000. According to statistics, a greater number of people considered virtual internships than in-office internships. Virtual internships got three times more applications than in-office, since a large chunk of students were the ones already enrolled in various courses, or preferred working from home.
- Internship portals have sprung up in the last three to four years and many of them already report healthy traffic per month. Reports suggest that on an average, an internship portal company has around 2,00,000-plus students and some 8,000 companies registered on it. It gets around two lakh visits online every month. The Managing Director of a leading executive search firm says that though these web platforms are working as an effective bridge between the industry and students, most established companies are still reluctant to take too many interns on board for obvious reasons.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- What can be inferred from the following statement:
Over the last five years, more companies have been actively looking for intern profiles.
- Select the option that displays the true statement with reference to figure.
 - Internships for engineering and management are the top two favourites.
 - Design and architecture internships are significantly more popular than others.
 - Internships for media and others have nearly equal popularity percentage.
 - Management internships' popularity is more than twice that for media.
- Why did virtual internships get more applications than in-office?
- Select the option that displays the correct cause-effect relationship.

	Cause	Effect
(i)	Several students had academic courses to complete	Students applied for online internship
	Cause	Effect
(ii)	A large chunk of students preferred in-office internships	Applications were three times more than for virtual internships
	Cause	Effect
(iii)	A greater number of students wanted to work from home	Several students had courses to complete

	Cause	Effect
(iv)	Students applied for online internship	An equal number of students applied for work-from-home

- (e) The survey statistics mention that the average stipend offered to interns
- (f) What does the phrase 'healthy traffic' mean in the passage?
- (g) State TRUE or FALSE.
Established companies are reluctant to take too many interns on board.
- (h) Which of the following can replace the word 'plunging' in the passage?
(i) Retreating (ii) Abandoning
(iii) Jumping (iv) Escaping

Answers

- a. There were lesser companies searching for intern profiles earlier, as compared to those in the recent five years.
- b. (iv) Management Internships' popularity is more than twice that for media.
- c. Virtual internships got more applications than in-office because a large chunk of students were the ones already enrolled in various courses or preferred working from home.
- d. (i) e. was recorded as ₹ 7,000.
- f. In the passage, the phrase 'healthy traffic' means the sizeable number of visitors to the portal per month.
- g. True h. (iii) Jumping

Passage 15

- Air pollution is an issue which concerns us all alike. One can willingly choose or reject a food, a drink or a life of comfort, but unfortunately there is little choice for the air we breathe. All that is there in the air is inhaled by one and all living in those surroundings.
- Air pollutant is defined as a substance which is present, while normally it is not present, or present in an amount exceeding the normal concentrations. It could either be gaseous or particulate matter.
The main harmful polluting gases are carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, ozone and oxides of sulphur and nitrogen. The common particulate pollutants are dusts of various inorganic or organic origins. Although we often talk of outdoor air pollution caused by industrial and vehicular exhausts, indoor pollution may prove to be as, or even more, important cause of health problems.
- Recognition of air pollution is relatively recent. It is not uncommon to experience a feeling of 'suffocation' in a closed environment. It is often ascribed to the lack of oxygen. Fortunately, however, the composition of air is remarkably constant all over the world. There is about 78% nitrogen and 21% oxygen in the air—the other gases forming a very small fraction. It is true that carbon dioxide exhaled from the lungs may accumulate in a closed and over-crowded place. But such an

increase is usually small and temporary unless the room is really air-tight. Exposure to poisonous gases such as carbon monoxide may occur in a closed room heated by burning coal inside. This may also prove to be fatal.

- What is more common in a poorly ventilated home is a vague constellation of symptoms described as the sick-building syndrome. It is characterised by a general feeling of malaise, headache, dizziness and irritation of the mucous membranes. It may also be accompanied by nausea, itching, aches, pains and depression. Sick-building syndrome is getting commoner in big cities with small houses, which are generally over-furnished. Some of the main pollutants whose indoor concentrations exceed those of the outdoors include gases such as carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, oxides of nitrogen and organic substances like spores, formaldehydes, hydrocarbon, aerosols and allergens. The sources are attributed to a variety of construction materials, insulations, furnishings, adhesives, cosmetics, house dusts, fungi and other indoor products.
- By-products of fuel combustion are important in houses with indoor kitchens. It is not only the burning of dried dung and fuelwood which is responsible, but also kerosene and liquefied petroleum gas. Oxides of both nitrogen and sulphur are released from their combustion.
- Smoking of tobacco in a closed environment is a major source of indoor pollution. It may not be high quantitatively, but significantly hazardous to health. It is because of the fact that there are over 3000 chemical constituents in tobacco smoke which have been identified. These are harmful to human health.
- Micro-organisms and allergens are of special significance in the causation and spread of diseases. Most infectious illnesses may involve more persons of a family living in a common indoor environment. These include viral and bacterial diseases like tuberculosis.
- Besides infections, allergic and hypersensitivity disorders are spreading fast. Although asthma is the most common form of respiratory allergic disorders, pneumonia is not uncommon, but more persistent and serious. These are attributed to exposure to allergens from various fungi, moulds, hay and other organic materials, indoor air ventilation systems, coolers, air-conditioners, dampness, decay or pet animals. Production or handling of the causative items are responsible for these hypersensitivity diseases.
- Obviously, the spectrum of pollution is very wide and our options are limited. Indoor pollution may be handled relatively easily by an individual. Moreover, the good work must start from one's own house.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- (a) What is 'air pollutant'?
- (b) What is released from the combustion of fuel?
(i) Nitrogen and oxygen
(ii) Oxides of nitrogen and sulphur
(iii) Hydrogen and carbon dioxide
(iv) Oxides of iron

- (c) Spreading of asthma and pneumonia is the result of
- (d) Which of the following is the most harmful to human health?
- Sick-building syndrome
 - Combustion of fuel
 - Smoking of tobacco in a closed environment
 - Travelling in a bus
- (e) How is sick-building syndrome characterised?
- (f) One feels suffocated in a closed environment due to:
- excess of nitrogen
 - excess of oxygen
 - lack of sulphides
 - lack of oxygen
- (g) Mention the main harmful polluting gases.
- (h) State TRUE or FALSE.
- The composition of air is remarkably constant all over the world.

- a. 'Air pollutant' is defined as a substance which is present, while normally it is not present or present in an amount exceeding the normal concentrations. It could either be gaseous or particulate matter.
- b. (ii) Oxides of nitrogen and sulphur
- c. exposure to allergens.
- d. (iii) Smoking of tobacco in a closed environment
- e. Sick-building syndrome is characterised by a general feeling of malaise, headache, dizziness and irritation of the mucous membranes. It may also be accompanied by nausea, itching, aches, pains and depression.
- f. (iv) lack of oxygen
- g. The main harmful polluting gases are carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, ozone and oxides of sulphur and nitrogen.
- h. True



Chapter Test

Passage 1

- Mankind's experience of various evolutionary changes from primitive times to the present day has been extensive and varied. However, man's problems were never before as complicated as they seem to be today. Man's economic activity centres primarily around factor of production; its role, therefore, has been given a lot of importance. It should be useful to have an overall view of the economic history of man from the nomadic times to the modern factory system and study its relevance to the various labour problems of today.
- Initially, man passed through 'the hunting and fishing stage'. During this period, his basic needs were adequately met by Nature. Wild animals, birds and fruits satisfied his hunger, and his thirst was quenched by the water of springs and rivers. Caves gave him shelter and barks of trees were used as clothing. During this stage of man's progress labour problems did not exist because of the absence of any economic, political and social system.
- Then came 'the pastoral stage', which was marked by a certain amount of economic activity. The nomadic and migratory nature of man persisted, and together with his goats and cattle, he moved on to fresh pastures and meadows. Some conflicts would sometimes take place among herd owners, for, during this period, the institution of nominal private property ownership was not known.
- This stage paves the way for 'the agricultural stage' during which the class system began to develop. There was a small artisan class mostly self-employed; and there were also landed properties or Zamindars as well as slaves. Thus, arose the feudal system. During the fourth stage of these developments, 'the handicraft

stage', a number of social and economic changes took place which marked the beginning of the labour problem in the world. The self-sufficient economy of the village underwent a drastic change. The community of traders and merchants emerged.

Answer the following questions, based on the above passage.

- What does the passage talk about?
- What did man do in the pastoral stage?
- Choose the right order:
A. The handicraft stage
B. The hunting and fishing stage
C. The pastoral stage
D. The agricultural stage
(i) D, B, C, A (ii) D, B, A, C
(iii) B, C, D, A (iv) B, C, A, D
- During 'the hunting and fishing stage' the basic needs of man were met by
- Choose the synonym of 'emerged'.
(i) Sufficient (ii) Surfaced
(iii) Damaged (iv) Satisfied
- What happened during the handicraft stage?
- The self-sufficient economy of the village
- Choose the statement which is true.
(i) Man's problems are comparatively easy today
(ii) Labour problems existed in the hunting and fishing stage
(iii) Man's problems were more complicated in the earlier times
(iv) Man's economic activity centres primarily around factor of production
- Read the given statements and choose the correct option.
A. Wild animals, birds and fruits satisfied man's hunger.

- (i) A refutes B
- (ii) A is not related to B in any way
- (iii) Both A and B are false
- (iv) Both A and B are related to the hunting and fishing stage

1. While there is no denying that the world loves a winner, it is important that you recognise the signs of stress in your behaviour and be healthy enough to enjoy your success. Stress can strike anytime, in a fashion that may leave you unaware of its presence in your life. While a certain amount of pressure is necessary for performance, it is important to be able to recognise your individual limit. For instance, there are some individuals who accept competition in a healthy fashion. There are others who collapse into weeping wrecks before an exam or on comparing marksheets and finding that their friend has scored better.
2. Stress is a body reaction to any demands or changes in its internal and external environment. Whenever there is a change in the external environment such as temperature, pollutants, humidity and working conditions, it leads to stress. In these days of competition, when a person makes up his mind to surpass what has been achieved by others, leading to an imbalance between demands and resources, it causes psycho-social stress. It is a part and parcel of everyday life.
3. Stress has a different meaning, depending on the stage of life you are in. The loss of a toy or a reprimand from the parents might create a stress shock in a child. An adolescent who fails an examination may feel as if everything has been lost and life has no further meaning. In an adult the loss of his or her companion, job or professional failure may appear as if there is nothing more to be achieved.
4. Such signs appear in the attitude and behaviour of the individual, as muscle tension in various parts of the body, palpitation and high blood pressure, indigestion and hyper-acidity.
Ultimately, the result is self-destructive behaviour such as eating and drinking too much, smoking excessively or relying on tranquillisers. There are other signs of stress such as trembling, shaking, nervous blinking, dryness of throat and mouth and difficulty in swallowing.
5. The professional under stress behaves as if he were a perfectionist. It leads to depression, lethargy and weakness. Periodic mood shifts also indicate the stress status of students, executives and professionals.

6. In a study sponsored by World Health Organisation and carried out by Harvard School of Public Health, the global burden of diseases and injury indicated that stress diseases and accidents are going to be the major killers in 2020.
7. Heart disease and depression- both stress diseases- are going to rank first and second in 2020. Road traffic accidents are going to be the third largest killers. These accidents are also an indicator of psycho-social stress in a fast-moving society. Other stress diseases like ulcers, hypertension and sleeplessness have assumed epidemic proportions in modern societies.
8. Persons under stress react in different ways and the common ones are flight, fight or flee, depending upon the nature of the stress and capabilities of the person. The three responses can be elegantly chosen to cope with 'the stress' so that stress does not damage the system and become distress.
9. When stress crosses the limit peculiar to an individual, it lowers his performance capacity. Frequent crossings of the limit may result in chronic fatigue, in which a person feels lethargic, disinterested and is not easily motivated to achieve anything. This may make the person mentally undecided, confused and accident prone as well. Sudden exposure to unnerving stress may also result in a loss of memory. Diet, massage, food supplements, herbal medicines, hobbies, relaxation techniques and dance movements are excellent stress busters.

(a) What is it that causes psycho-social stress?
(b) Accidents are also an indicator of:
(i) depression (ii) psycho-social stress
(iii) weakness (iv) behaviour disorder
(c) can work as excellent stress busters.
(i) Diet and massage
(ii) Yoga and drinking
(iii) Playing and relaxing
(iv) Healthy competition
(d) Frequent crossings of stress limit may result in
.....
(e) What is stress?
(f) What is the result of stress?
(g) State TRUE or FALSE.
The professional under stress behaves as if he
were a perfectionist.
(h) Which of the following can replace the word
'surpass' in the passage?
(i) Dearth (ii) Exceed
(iii) Paucity (iv) Inadequacy