

10. DERIVING CONCLUSIONS FROM PASSAGES

Directions : Each of the passages given below is followed by some questions. Each question comprises three statements (A), (B) and (C). In the context of the passage, decide which one, two, three or none of the statements is/are true.

Passage 1 (Qs. 1 to 5) (S.B.I.P.O. 1995)

"In the Pandit's complaint he asks why entries could not be made in the savings bank pass book on the strength of the counterfoil of the pay-in-slip. This would save the customer from waiting until the actual voucher passed through various desks/books. The use of the voucher is, in fact the correct procedure. The delay experienced by Mr. Pandit on that day could have been avoided. On our instructions the branch manager concerned has met the complaint and explained the matter. He has also emphasised the great risk to the customer and the bank if entries are made on the basis of the counterfoils."

1. (A) The writer of this paragraph is another dissatisfied customer.
(B) The paragraph emphasises that counterfoils should not be used instead of vouchers.
(C) Use of counterfoils alone may not lead to any risk.
(a) Only A (b) Only B
(c) Only C (d) Only A and B
(e) Only B and C
2. (A) Mr. Pandit complains about a delay in some transaction at his bank.
(B) Mr. Pandit wants banks to make book entries on the basis of counterfoils.
(C) Entries made on the basis of vouchers do not involve risk.
(a) A and B (b) B and C
(c) A and C (d) A, B and C
(e) None is true
3. (A) In following the correct procedure, unreasonable delays are always inevitable.
(B) Mr. Pandit's complaint was based on full knowledge of the banking procedure.
(C) Mr. Pandit's suggestion was appreciated by the bank authorities.
(a) Only A (b) Only B
(c) Only C (d) A and B
(e) None is true
4. (A) The delay experienced by Mr. Pandit was caused by some temporary problem.

- (B) The entries relating to Mr. Pandit's case were not done according to proper procedure.
(C) Mr. Pandit was already aware of the proper procedure.
(a) Only A (b) Only B
(c) Only C (d) A and B
(e) B and C
5. (A) Using counterfoils instead of vouchers is risky not only to the customers but also to the bank.
(B) The bank authorities were not insensitive to Mr. Pandit's complaint.
(C) The branch manager paid no heed to the authorities' instructions.
(a) Only A (b) Only B
(c) Only C (d) A and B
(e) A and C

Passage 2

There are two ways of avoiding fear-one is by persuading ourselves that we are immune from disaster, and the other is by the practice of sheer courage. The latter is difficult, and to everybody becomes impossible at a certain point. The former has, therefore, always been more popular. Primitive magic has the purpose of securing safety, either by injuring enemies, or by protecting oneself by talismans, spells or incantations. Without any essential change, belief in such ways of avoiding danger survived throughout the many centuries of Babylonian civilization, spread from Babylon throughout the Empire of Alexander, and was acquired by the Romans in the course of their absorption of Hellenistic culture. From the Romans it descended to medieval Christendom and Islam. Science has lessened the belief in magic, but many people place more faith in mascots than they are willing to avow, and sorcery, while condemned by the Church, is still officially a possible sin.

1. (A) Superstitious beliefs can help man avoid fear.
(B) The medieval civilisations were also characterised by superstitious beliefs.

- (C) Avoiding fear is difficult for a common man.
(a) Only A (b) Only B
(c) Only C (d) Only A and B
(e) Only A and C
2. (A) The ancient method of avoiding fear has survived the test of time.
(B) Belief in charms and amulets was a salient feature of ancient civilisations.
(C) Science has eradicated man's belief in magic altogether.
(a) A and B (b) B and C
(c) A and C (d) A, B and C
(e) None is true
3. (a) Only A (b) Only B
(c) Only C (d) A and B
(e) None is true
(A) Amar Steels so far could not break Indian flagships
(B) The Vishakhapatnam plant of the company will not be allowed to utilise scrap from foreign ships
(C) The company needs money for its expansion activities
(a) Only A (b) Only B
(c) Only C (d) Only A and B
(e) Only B and C

Passage 4 (Bank P.O. 1995)

The newly introduced non-stop city buses are a good new service, though they are really useful only during the morning and evening rush hours. During most of the day these buses carry few passengers. I request the State Transport Corporation to run these buses as limited-stop services during the non-rush periods of the day.

1. (A) The non-stop buses are small ones that carry only a limited number of passengers.
(B) Non-Stop buses are now available at all times.
(C) The competent authority to govern these buses is the State Transport Corporation.
(a) Only A (b) Only B
(c) Only C (d) Only A and B
(e) Only B and C
2. (A) The writer says that when there is no rush, limited-stop buses will be more useful.
(B) The writer wants all the non-stop buses to be changed to limited-stop buses.
(C) There are not many commuters except during the morning and the evening.
(a) Only A and B (b) Only A and C
(c) A, B and C (d) None is true
(e) Only A

Passage 3 (Bank P.O. 1995)

Amar Steels, an existing profit-making company enters the capital market with a public issue of 80 lakh shares of Rs. 10/- each on 1st December. The company is engaged in ship breaking at ports in Vishakhapatnam and Madras. It operates a steel-rolling mill in Vishakhapatnam which utilises the scrap from ships. The company is expanding its ship-breaking capacity. Its entitlement to break foreign ships has just been extended to cover Indian flagships.

1. (A) Amar Steels had so far not entered the capital market because of its profit-making status.
(B) Amar Steels had so far not entered the capital market because it had no expansion plans.
(C) Amar Steels expects to get Indian ships also for ship-breaking.
(a) Only A and B (b) Only B and C
(c) Only A and C (d) A, B and C
(e) None is true
2. (A) The public can purchase shares from Amar Steels before 1st December.
(B) Amar Steels is expected to start making profits after the expansion programme is carried out
(C) Amar Steels gets scrap from other companies for its steel-rolling mills.

ANSWERS

- Passage 1 : 1. (b) 2. (d) 3. (d) 4. (c) 5. (d)
Passage 2 : 1. (b) 2. (a)
Passage 3 : 1. (c) 2. (d) 3. (a)
Passage 4 : 1. (e) 2. (b)

TEST YOURSELF

Directions : In each of the following questions, choose the word which can be substituted for the given phrase/sentence.

1. A man who has not been married
(a) Solitary (b) Widower
(c) Bachelor (d) Spinster
2. Something that cures any evil or trouble
(a) Panacea (b) Manna
(c) Potion (d) Elixer
3. Person who doubts the truth of a particular claim
(a) Nihilist (b) Cynic
(c) Sceptic (d) Pugnacious
4. One who knows many arts and sciences
(a) Polyglot (b) Plagiarist
(c) Polymath (d) Sophist
5. Continuing fight between parties, families, clans etc
(a) Enmity (b) Feud
(c) Quarrel (d) Skirmish
6. One who breaks into a house at night in order to steal
(a) Dacoit (b) Thief
(c) Burglar (d) Pilferer
7. Remarks which have no order or connection
(a) Incognito (b) Irrelevant
(c) Incoherent (d) Puissant
8. Not to the point
(a) Exaggerated (b) Incorrect
(c) Inadequate (d) Irrelevant
9. A man devoid of kindly feeling and sympathy
(a) Callous (b) Cruel
(c) Brute (d) Egoist
10. One who is easily led
(a) Tenable (b) Usurious
(c) Tractable (d) Subservient
11. Person who practices unnatural sexual intercourse, especially between male persons
(a) Voluptuary (b) Sodomite
(c) Prostitute (d) Masochist
12. To issue a thunderous verbal attack
(a) Animate (b) Invigorate
(c) Fulminate (d) Languish
13. A man who asks many questions
(a) Vociferous (b) Frugal
(c) Prodigious (d) Inquisitive
14. One who prescribes corrective lenses
(a) Optician (b) Optometrist
(c) Oculist (d) Ophthalmologist
15. The firing of a number of guns together as a salute
(a) Jingoism (b) Reception
(c) Salvo (d) Gun Salute
16. Internal telephonic system
(a) Interim (b) Interlocutor
(c) Intercourse (d) Intercom
17. List and explanations of several words
(a) Agendum (b) Appendix
(c) Addendum (d) Glossary
18. One who is very exact in forms of behaviour
(a) Punctilious (b) Corpulent
(c) Puerile (d) Connubila
19. Mental disorder marked by fixed delusions
(a) Monomania (b) Hypermania
(c) Paranoia (d) Nostalgia
20. A person who introduces the performers, speakers etc.
(a) Host (b) Compere
(c) Impostor (d) Presenter
21. Something that relates to everyone in the world
(a) Usual (b) General
(c) Universal (d) Common
22. An expert who calculates rates of insurance
(a) Accountant (b) Statistician
(c) Actuary (d) Calculator
23. A person who attacks first
(a) Invader (b) Aggressor
(c) Initiator (d) Offender
24. A man who attempts to pass for more than he is worth
(a) Senile (b) Pretentious
(c) Extenuating (d) Retentive
25. Figure of speech in which term is transferred to something it does not literally apply to
(a) Metaphor (b) Simile
(c) Epitome (d) Epithet
26. A medicine that induces sleep
(a) Narcotic (b) Psychotherapeutic
(c) Panacea (d) Anodyne
27. An animal with four complete digestive cavities or stomachs
(a) Carnivore (b) Ruminant
(c) Candelabra (d) Proboscis
(e) Matador

ANSWERS

1. (c) 2. (a) 3. (c) 4. (c) 5. (b) 6. (c) 7. (c) 8. (d) 9. (a) 10. (c)
11. (b) 12. (c) 13. (d) 14. (b) 15. (c) 16. (d) 17. (d) 18. (a) 19. (c) 20. (b)
21. (c) 22. (c) 23. (b) 24. (b) 25. (a) 26. (a) 27. (b)

UNIT III

SELECTING WORDS / PHRASES