

Comprehension

Comprehension are of several types. We will discuss them one by one, according to their types and level.

Type 1, Level-1

Type 1 or level-1 comprehensions are very easy. To save time, we see the questions first because answer of the first question is at the starting of the passage. As you proceed further, you will get all the answers of the question. Many times, after reading the whole passage, we are not able to solve the questions properly and then we have to read the passage again which means wasting our time. So, reading the question first instead of the passage is a better way of answering the questions. See the passages given below.

Direction : You have some brief passages with some questions following each passage. Read the passages carefully and choose the best answer to each question out of the four alternatives.

Note: All answers have been underlined.

PASSAGE - 1

¹Earthquake is a shaking of the ground caused by the sudden breaking and shifting of large sections of the earth's rocky outer shell. ²Rock movements during an earthquake can make rivers change their course. Earthquakes can trigger landslides that cause great damage and loss of life. Large ³earthquakes beneath the ocean can create a series of huge destructive waves called tsunamis. Earthquakes usually never kill people directly. Instead, many ⁴deaths and injuries result from falling objects and the collapse of structures. ⁵The force of an

earthquake depends on how much rock breaks and how far it shifts.

1. What causes an earthquake?
(A) Floods
(B) Deforestation
(C) Construction activities
(D) Movement of the earth's rocky outer shell
2. What changes the direction of rivers?
(A) Use of explosives
(B) Movement of rocks
(C) Landslides
(D) Soil erosion
3. What do earthquakes beneath the ocean create?
(A) Tsunamis (B) Eruptions
(C) Shifting of the earth's tectonic plates
(D) Cracks in the ground
4. What causes the deaths of people during earthquakes?
(A) Stampede
(B) Lack of health
(C) Falling objects and collapse of structures
(D) Panic
5. The force of an earthquake depends on what?
(A) Shaking of the ground
(B) Shifting and breaking of rocks
(C) Gravity
(D) Magnitude

PASSAGE - 2

Blame it on broken hearts and bereavement, to mere shyness and busy routines, ¹millions of us suffer from some form of loneliness. ²Like a disease, it cuts across class, age groups and gender, leaving

very few of us immune. And it's not ²Robinson Crusoe's loneliness, where a person is cut-off from society, but it's loneliness despite living amid dear ones and neighbours, despite the Internet and social networking, crowded towns and shopping malls.³"People can be alone without being lonely, or lonely in a crowd", says one research paper on the subject.

Those affected by loneliness are generally not keen to talk about it. ⁴"They feel ashamed or embarrassed or simply do not have anyone to discuss the problem with." Globally, modern urban living has become more and more individualistic and loneliness is a by-product of it, " says a psychologist. "Relationships in present times have become transient, the concept of extended family has weakened and our circle of friends has narrowed."

- Who according to the author, suffers from loneliness ?
 (A) Only shy people
 (B) Bereaved people
 (C) Many people
 (D) A few people
- Loneliness is like
 (A) a disease
 (B) shyness
 (C) an immunity
 (D) a broken heart
- "Robinson Crusoe's loneliness" means
 (A) living on an island.
 (B) being cut-off from society.
 (C) being hated by society.
 (D) having no family.
- Why wouldn't those affected by loneliness want to talk about it ?
 (A) They feel ashamed or have no one to discuss with.
 (B) They are too busy.
 (C) No one is interested.
 (D) They are immune to it.
- The author writes that _____
 (A) people feel lonely only when they are alone.
 (B) people can be alone and not feel lonely.

- (C) loneliness is caused by Robinson Crusoe.
 (D) the concept of extended family is still strong.

PASSAGE - 3

¹Global warming is a very serious issue that is concerning every rational being on earth. Changes in rainfall and plant distribution as a result of global warming affect the migratory routes, feeding behaviour and mating habits of many birds. ²The rise in temperature might also lead to a change in ocean currents which might change their direction. The result will be the disruption of the entire marine ecosystem. ³Due to the warming of the Arctic region, huge amount of methane which is now frozen under the ocean shall escape into the air with the continuous melting of the region. This will cause a vicious cycle as methane is a green house gas that traps heat in the atmosphere and the added emissions might increase the warming process. The damage done can only be negated now by making every individual environment conscious. This might help in making us hope to gift a ⁴"green earth" to our future generation which now appears to face the threat of extinction.

- What is a very serious issue according to the author?
 (A) Global warming
 (B) Changes in rainfall
 (C) Feeding behaviour
 (D) Changes in rainfall and feeding behaviour
- What is the antonym of 'rational' ?
 (A) stupid
 (B) foolish
 (C) irrational
 (D) irrational
- What might lead to a change in ocean currents?
 (A) Disruption of marine ecosystem
 (B) Rise in temperature
 (C) Disruption of marine ecosystem and rise in temperature
 (D) Regulation of temperature

4. According to the author,
 (A) melting of the Arctic region will preserve methane
 (B) melting of the Arctic region was long foreseen
 (C) Warming of the Arctic region will release methane into the atmosphere
 (D) warming of the Arctic region will preserve methane
5. What appears to face a threat of extinction today?
 (A) The migratory birds
 (B) The green house gases
 (C) Marine ecosystem
 (D) Our green earth

PASSAGE - 4

Street theatre in India is a well established ancient art form. 'Despite the proliferation of modern means of entertainment and communication, street theatre continues to flourish in India.'

Street theatre as a channel of communication has for centuries been propagating reforms by highlighting social, economic and political issues present in the society. 'Unlike in the olden days, its performance is no longer restricted to villages or small localities of the city.' Today small groups of performers including students, would stage performances to mobilize public opinion or to help create or raise awareness over a particular issue of public importance. Themes on substance abuse, AIDS awareness, and domestic violence are some of the areas highlighted by contemporary street theatre troupe. Unlike in regular drama street drama employ very little props and images. The human body becomes the main tool in which choreography, mime, dialogues, songs and slogans are extensively used.

Street theatre is one of the most intimate media. 'Its appeal is to the emotions leading to quick psychological impact on audiences.' By being local and live they also are able to establish not only direct contact with the

audience but by 'being cost-effective and flexible they are popular among all age groups.'

1. Modern means of entertainment and communication _____ street theatre.
 (A) does affect
 (B) does not affect
 (C) helps popularise
 (D) helps establish
2. In the olden days street theatre _____ to villages or small localities of the city.
 (A) was restricted
 (B) was not restricted
 (C) was opened (D) was entertained
3. Street theatre usually _____ with issues of public importance.
 (A) is distanced (B) is performed
 (C) deals (D) does not deal
4. Street theatre is _____ to stage.
 (A) nothing (B) costly
 (C) reasonable (D) affordable
5. Street theatre creates an/a _____ impact on audiences.
 (A) intimate (B) emotional
 (C) mystical (D) physical

Type 1, Level-2

In this level of type-1, questions are not arranged according to the passage i.e. answer of the first question may be in the last paragraph of the passage. For solving this type of passage, we should pick the keywords from the questions and then try to find them in the paragraph while answering the questions. See the given passages below:

PASSAGE - 1

At first sight, silence would 'seem to be the essence of non communication.' Yet we know that in some circumstances silence can speak volumes. It is also a potent tool in the communication tool-box, for the speaker, as it adds emphasis to point, allowing time for its full significance to sink in. Handled skillfully, it can 'build up anticipation for what is to come-the pregnant pause.' It gives opportunity to make eye contact with the

audience and gauge their reactions. It is an essential component of the timing of one's delivery. 'For the listener, silence can buy time, either to digest what has been said or to consider a response, or both. Silence will often lure the speaker into saying more than he or she may have intended.

1. For the listener, silence can
(A) Lure him to say more
(B) Buy time
(C) Emphasise a point
(D) Be a potent tool
2. According to the author, the pregnant pause
(A) Builds up anticipation
(B) Leads to confusion
(C) Breaks up communication
(D) Helps communication
3. The opposite of 'Potent' is
(A) Weak (B) Inherent
(C) Latent (D) Patent
4. Given the synonym of 'Gauge',
(A) Gather knowledge
(B) Share information
(C) Measure
(D) Make statement
5. Silence seems to be the essence of
(A) Communication tool-box
(B) Non communication
(C) Communication
(D) Volumes

PASSAGE - 2

Some of us are so afraid of imagination that we shut our mental door against it and turn the key in the lock. 'We think it is a sign of weakness to be a dreamer — to see the far vision of what might be and do. 'Men who have done most for humanity, and for themselves, have been imaginative men. — dreamers with the power and determination to make their dream come true.

The most successful in any line of endeavour — business, science, arts, politics — will tell you that 'you must have vision before you can grasp reality. You must be able to see the growth of future years, plan for it and work for it, before you can materialise it.

It pays to cultivate imagination. 'If one is to accomplish anything in life, one must have a purpose, an ideal and ideas.

The man who does the world the most good, the man who helps mankind onward and upward, is the man who dreams of helpfulness, usefulness, progress and improvement and then gets them materialised.

1. Imagination enables one to have _____ before plans can be materialised.
(A) power (B) determination
(C) vision (D) gifts
2. In order to accomplish anything in life it helps to have a/an _____.
(A) endeavour (B) progress
(C) material (D) purpose
3. Many people _____ their power of imagination.
(A) seldom use
(B) at times would use
(C) abstain from using
(D) prefer not to use
4. Many see the ability to _____ as a sign of weakness.
(A) shut mental door
(B) imagine the future
(C) recall the past
(D) live in the present
5. The greatest contributors to humanity are _____ people.
(A) imaginative (B) educative
(C) compulsive (D) repulsive

Note: In Q.3 answer may be C or D.

PASSAGE-3

Self-directed learning, in its broadest meaning, describes a process in which 'individuals take the initiative with or without the help of others, in 'diagnosing their learning needs formulating learning goals, identifying resources for learning, choosing and implementing learning strategies and evaluating learning outcomes. Thus it is important to attain new knowledge easily and skillfully for the rest of his or her life.

What is the need for self-directed learning ? One reason is that there is convincing evidence that 'people, who take the initiative in learning, learn more things and learn better than people who sit at the feet of teachers passively waiting to be taught. The second reason is that self-directed learning is more in tune with our natural

processes of psychological development; an essential aspect of maturing is developing the ability to take increasing responsibility of our own lives to become increasingly self-directed. The third reason is that many of the new developments in education put a heavy responsibility on the learners to take a good deal of initiative in their own learning. To meet the 'challenges in today's instructive environment', self-directed learning is most essential.

1. In self-directed learning, an individual
 - (A) Takes initiative with or without the help of others
 - (B) Is passive and waits for directions
 - (C) Is helpless and dependent
 - (D) Takes initiative, without an objective
2. There is need for self-directed learning because
 - (A) it is less challenging
 - (B) it helps people to learn more things and learn better
 - (C) it is a more cost-effective method
 - (D) it is a modern method of learning
3. Which word best describes self-directed learning?
 - (A) Active learning
 - (B) Passive learning
 - (C) Compulsory learning
 - (D) Repulsive learning
4. The modern environment according to the author is
 - (A) Restrictive
 - (B) Instructive
 - (C) Less developed
 - (D) Impracticable
5. The synonym of the word "diagnosing" is
 - (A) Searching
 - (B) Examining
 - (C) Identifying
 - (D) Complying

PASSAGE-4

'One of the main reasons of corruption in elections today is the lure of power which haunts the politicians so much that they feel no qualms of conscience in adopting any underhand method to come out successful.'
'Corruption thrives in elections because those in the field play on the psychology of the electorate.' The voters are swayed by the

tall promises of the candidates to whose machinations they fall an easy prey. They are also susceptible to fall an easy prey to the adulations of the politicians 'due to their illiteracy.' Besides 'anti-corruption laws are honoured more in their breach than in their observance.' Moreover, 'some constituencies are so big that it becomes difficult to discover and check corrupt practices.'

1. The politicians indulge in corruption in elections now-a-days because
 - (A) of the lure of power
 - (B) of the lure of money
 - (C) elections can be won only by corrupt means
 - (D) corrupt practices in elections go unnoticed
2. How does corruption thrive in elections?
 - (A) The people themselves are corrupt
 - (B) A sizeable part of the society is corrupt
 - (C) The politicians exploit the electorate psychologically
 - (D) The politicians cheat the electorate economically
3. According to the writer, why do the voters fall an easy prey to the machinations of the politicians?
 - (A) They want to sell their votes due to poverty
 - (B) They are illiterate and do not understand what designs the politicians have on them
 - (C) They are indifferent to what happens on the political horizon
 - (D) They have no political knowledge
4. Why do the corrupt practices indulged in during elections go unnoticed?
 - (A) Because nobody is interested in discovering corrupt practices.
 - (B) Because vested interests shield those who indulge in corrupt practices
 - (C) Because the law enforcing authorities themselves are in collusion with the politicians.
 - (D) Because the constituencies are so big that it becomes difficult to discover the corrupt practices.

5. What happens to the anti-corruption laws?
 (A) There is actually no such thing as anti-corruption laws
 (B) Anti-corruption laws are certainly honoured but in a limited way
 (C) The government does not want to enforce anti-corruption laws
 (D) Anti-corruption laws are honoured more in their breach than in their observance.
2. What is the antonym of "monotonous"?
 (A) Dangerous (B) Enterprising
 (C) Interesting (D) Adventurous
 3. The term "see-saw" means
 (A) moving to and for
 (B) moving in circles
 (C) fluctuating (D) changing
 4. Money-minded people undertake serious work only if
 (A) it is well paid
 (B) it is pleasurable
 (C) it involves hard work
 (D) they can study
 5. They regard intellectual development as
 (A) of no great worth.
 (B) a means of misery
 (C) the key to prosperity
 (D) the key to personal development

Type 2

In some of the passages 2 or 3 options are given in the answers that seem quite similar. So, tendency of making mistakes increases. See the question 1 and 3 in the passages given below.

PASSAGE - 1

Many men and women are so money-minded that they do not undertake any serious work that does not pay. They believe that it is foolish to exert themselves for such study and brain work as cannot be converted into cash. Hard work only for money, and then plenty of play and pleasure, this seems to be their rule of life. They value intellect only as the key to material prosperity and regard personal development as a fad. This miserable materialistic psychology is very deep rooted in all classes of society. Rich and poor, all suffer from it. An old working woman complained to me of her son's habit of occasionally buying some cheap books and said, "he wastes his money on books". We meet many people whose lives are spent in a monotonous see-saw between their trade and their frivolous amusement.

1. The statement : "He wastes his money on books" demonstrates clearly
 (A) how materialistic she is
 (B) the she considers reading frivolous
 (C) that she is poor
 (D) how unimportant she thinks money is

Note: See the immediate reason in Q.1. The answer is 'B'. Instead of seeing the immediate reason, if we see the final reason, the answer will be 'A'. Also the answers of Q.2 and Q.3 depend on our word power.

Type - 3

In many passages, an aspirant is expected to understand the hidden meaning of the passage apart from answering certain questions accurately. Only after reading the whole passage, do we understand the tone of the passage or the mood of the author. See the passage given below.

PASSAGE - 1

Fleas are perfectly designed by nature to feast on anything containing blood. Like a shark in the water, fleas are ideally equipped to do what they do, making them very difficult to defeat. The body of "a flea is covered by a tough, tile-like plate called Sclerite, therefore making it impossible to squish it." Its body is also waterproof and shock resistant thus making it highly resistant to sprays and chemicals. Fleas are best jumpers and can reproduce rapidly. Fleas are intimidating opponents. The best way to control fleas is to take steps to prevent an prevent an infestation from ever occurring.

1. The primary purpose of this passage is to
 - (A) educate the readers about the physical characteristics of fleas
 - (B) compare fleas to other members of the animal kingdom
 - (C) relate the problems that can result from a flea infestation
 - (D) explain why a flea infestation is hard to control
2. The author's tone in the passage is
 - (A) concerned (B) passionate
 - (C) informative (D) opinionated
3. Fleas are difficult to squish because they
 - (A) have sclerite covering their body
 - (B) are shock resistant
 - (C) are best jumpers
 - (D) are difficult to defeat
4. According to the passage, fleas are resistant to sprays and chemicals because they
 - (A) have waterproof bodies
 - (B) are excellent jumpers
 - (C) reproduce very rapidly
 - (D) cannot be squished
5. Using the information in the passage as a guide, it can be concluded that
 - (A) humans do not possess the physical characteristics of the flea
 - (B) fleas have certain physical advantages in life
 - (C) humans do not pay much attention to the fleas
 - (D) fleas have many physical disadvantages

Note: 1 Q.1 and Q.5 can be answered only after reading the whole passage.

2. The author is giving information in the passage. So the tone of the passage is informative.

Type - 4

While solving this type of passage, it is better to form table.

PASSAGE - I

Some people believe that they are masters of their own fate. Other people see

themselves as pawns of fate, believing that what happens to them in their lives is due to luck or chance. The first type, those who believe that they control their destinies, have been labelled internals, whereas the latter, who see their lives as being controlled by outside forces, have been called externals. Internals search more actively for information before making a decision, are more motivated to achieve, and make a greater attempt to control their environment. Externals, however, are more compliant and willing to follow directions. Therefore, internals do well on sophisticated tasks - which include most managerial and professional jobs - that require complex information processing and learning. In addition, internals are more suited to jobs that require initiative and independence of action. Almost all successful salespeople, for instance are internals. In contrast, externals should do well on jobs that are well structured and routine and in which success depends heavily on complying with the directions of others.

1. Which one of the following is not correct? Internals-
 - (A) Have more confidence in their ability,
 - (B) Are more enterprising,
 - (C) Go in for more routine jobs,
 - (D) Are more inquisitive.
2. Which one of these is correct?
 - (A) Internals believe in destiny.
 - (B) Internals seek jobs which are full of fun of fun and enjoyment.
 - (C) Internals believe in receiving guidance and directions from superiors only.
 - (D) Internals seek jobs which call for more initiative.
3. Externals perceive themselves:
 - (A) as those who search frantically for more information.
 - (B) as critical to the success of the organization.
 - (C) as those who can influence sales volumes.
 - (D) as having little control over organizational outcome.

4. Externals:
 (A) Opt for acquiring new skill-sets.
 (B) Believe that initiative and drive are important for career-building.
 (C) Believe that destiny controls their lives.
 (D) Relish handling complex information processing.

It is better to make a table first in this type of passage.

Internals	Externals
1. Master of their fate.	1. Pawns in the hands of fate.
2. Control their destiny.	2. Controlled by outside force.
3. Search for information before taking decision.	3. Nothing given.
4. Motivated to achieve	4. Nothing given.
5. Attempt to control their environment	5. Compliant and follow instructions
6. Do sophisticated jobs where initiative is required.	6. Do well structured & routine jobs

Note: The best and most appropriate way to master this section is by becoming a voracious reader. You need to go through the passage first, get an idea of what has been discussed and then go to the questions. On reading the question, you will feel you have somewhere seen the answer in the passage. A crosscheck will confirm your answer.

Answer-key

Type 1, Level-1

Passage -1

1. (D) 2. (B) 3. (A) 4. (C) 5. (B)

Passage - 2

1. (C) 2. (A) 3. (B) 4. (A) 5. (B)

Passage - 3

1. (A) 2. (D) 3. (B) 4. (C) 5. (D)

Passage - 4

1. (B) 2. (A) 3. (C) 4. (D) 5. (B)

Type 1, Level-2

Passage -1

1. (B) 2. (A) 3. (A) 4. (C) 5. (B)

Passage - 2

1. (C) 2. (D) 3. (D) 4. (B) 5. (A)

Passage - 3

1. (A) 2. (B) 3. (A) 4. (B) 5. (C)

Passage - 4

1. (A) 2. (C) 3. (B) 4. (D) 5. (D)

Type 2

Passage - 1

1. (B) 2. (C) 3. (A) 4. (A) 5. (C)

Type 3

Passage -1

1. (D) 2. (C) 3. (A) 4. (A) 5. (B)

Type 4

Passage -1

1. (C) 2. (D) 3. (D) 4. (C)

Solved Practice Set

Directions: Read the passage carefully and choose the best answer to each question out of the four alternatives, and mark it by blackening the appropriate circle in the Answer Sheet.

PASSAGE - 1

My lodge is nothing but a dark, tiny hut made of palm fronds, with a bunch of damp branches and a swarm of flies through a whole in the wall of leaves. I see a patch of cleared earth in the rainforest: the stage 'of Cicinnurus magnificus, the magnificent bird of paradise'. The bird's loud call, 'Kyeng, Kyeng' has been ringing since dawn, announcing the male's imminent performance. But his feathered female spectators² have not shown yet. Perhaps they are out window-shopping, taking a good look around until they find the most resplendent specimen³.

I hear a fluttering and look up. A magnificent is enthroned on a branch about 2m above the stage: an iridescent-green breast shield, bright orange-red wings³ and a lemon-yellow cape with a furry brown collar. The feet and bill are a sparkling sky-blue, which also covers the eyelids and extends down to the neck. He plucks off a few leaves to let in more light and optimize eye-contact with¹ his audience. Finally, he drags the freshly fallen leaves away from catwalk.

1. The synonym for 'optimize' is
(A) to make best use of
(B) to improve vision
(C) to see clearly
(D) to enlarge
2. The bird performs for:
(A) the author
(B) no one
(C) female birds
(D) sheer enjoyment
3. An 'iridescent-green breast shield' means
(A) a piece of twig used by the bird in its performance.

- (B) the bright, colourful feathers of the bird.
(C) a shield worn by the bird to protect itself.
(D) a description of the surroundings.
4. The cicinnurus magnificus is:
(A) the magnificent bird of paradise.
(B) a place where his hut is located.
(C) a patch of cleared earth in the rainforest.
(D) the stage in the rainforest.
 5. The most 'resplendent specimen' means
(A) beautiful and gentle
(B) extravagant and gaudy
(C) bright and colourful
(D) appalling and ugly

PASSAGE - 2

A small band of biologists share a dream - to find species of sea or land animals hitherto completely unknown or to discover living examples of animals thought to have died out ages ago². Finds made in this century encourage these³ dreamers, whose field is aptly named cryptozoology - literally, the science of hidden animals.

Size and habitat are often¹ responsible for an animal's having been overlooked. Not surprisingly, a bumblebee-size bat that lives in caves in Thailand eluded detection until 1973¹. But larger animals in less remote sites have also remained hidden. Herds of a species of peccary supposedly extinct since the last ice age, for instance, were found in Paraguay in 1975².

Native people sometimes offer scientists⁶ useful clues. An unusual feather in a local's hat sparked the discovery of a showy African peacock in 1936¹, and accounts of giant lizards on the Indonesian island of Komodo proved not to be mere myth when naturalist P.A. Ouwens identified four of the creatures captured in 1912². As cryptozoologists follow such

leads into little-explored areas, they remain optimistic that it is not too late to uncover sensational surprises.

1. An unusual feather in a local's hat sparked the discovery of a showy African peacock in _____.
(A) 1912 (B) 1975
(C) 1936 (D) 1973
2. The dream of the cryptozoologist is to find _____.
(A) Species of sea or land animals hitherto completely unknown.
(B) Living examples of animals thought to have died out ages ago.
(C) All of the given options.
(D) Hidden, supposedly extinct animals.
3. It is the _____ of the cryptozoologists that keep their dream active.
(A) curiosity (B) spirit
(C) love for adventure
(D) finding
4. A bumblebee-size bat that lives in caves in Thailand was discovered in _____.
(A) 1912 (B) 1936
(C) 1973 (D) 1975
5. Myths refer to _____.
(A) legends.
(B) historical stories.
(C) traditional stories involving supernatural beings or events.
(D) love stories.
6. Often the cryptozoologists get a lot of leads from _____.
(A) legends.
(B) myths.
(C) native people.
(D) the animal's size and habitat.
7. Herds of a species of peccary supposedly extinct since the last ice age were discovered in _____.
(A) 1912 (B) 1973
(C) 1936 (D) 1975
8. Often _____ responsible for an animal having been overlooked.
(A) the uniqueness of the animals themselves is
(B) unexplored areas remain
(C) the resigning nature of the scientists themselves is
(D) size and habitat are

9. Giant lizards on the Indonesian island of Komodo were discovered in _____.
(A) 1912 (B) 1973
(C) 1936 (D) 1975
10. _____ still look forward to discovering sensational surprises.
(A) The natives
(B) The naturalists
(C) A small band of biologists
(D) P.A. Ouwens

PASSAGE - 3

One conspicuous question in the modern journals is: How can I develop personality? **Ursula Bloom gives this noteworthy advice to young people: Please do not do as I did, at your age, and waste years copying other people.** Of old; to the same question asked by Greek youth, **Socrates replied: Know yourself.**³ That was excellent advice; but it did not satisfy, because it did not go far enough. When Roman youth questioned **Marcus Aurelius he said: Be yourself!**⁴ To the youth of our atomic age, the psychologist says: **Develop yourself! That is the answer to the question.**⁴ What is personality? Personality is the development of oneself.

1. The question on personality development has _____.
(A) no answers
(B) correct answers
(C) no definitive answers
(D) a definitive answer
2. The development of oneself _____ the question on, what is personality?
(A) partly answers
(B) does not give a satisfactory answer to
(C) given an unsatisfactory answer to
(D) satisfactory answers
3. The Greek philosopher Socrates promoted _____.
(A) tested-knowledge
(B) borrowed-knowledge
(C) referred-knowledge
(D) self-knowledge
4. Marcus Aurelius preached to the Roman youth of his day to _____.
(A) be themselves
(B) express themselves

- (C) understand themselves
(D) know themselves
5. Ursula Bloom propagated that young people should ____.
- (A) copy others
(B) give advice
(C) not copy others
(D) not waste years

PASS AGE - 4

The recent change to all-volunteer¹ armed forces in the United States will eventually produce a gradual increase in the proportion of women in the armed forces² and in the variety of women's assignments, but probably not the dramatic gains for women that might be expected. This is so even though the armed forces operate in an ethos of institutional change oriented toward occupational equality and under the federal sanction of equal pay for equal work³. The difficulty is that women are unlikely to be trained for any direct combat operations⁴. A significant portion of the larger society remains uncomfortable as yet with extending equality in this direction. Therefore, for women in the military⁵, the search for equality will still be based on functional equivalence, not identity or even similarity of task⁶. Opportunities seem certain to arise. The growing emphasis on deterrence is bound to offer increasing scope for women to become involved in novel types of⁷ noncombat military assignments.

1. The passage implies which of the following is a factor conducive to a more equitable representation of women in the United States armed forces than has existed in the past?
- (A) The all-volunteer character of the present armed forces.
(B) The level of awareness on the part of the larger society of military issues.
(C) The past service records of women who had assignments functionally equivalent to men's assignments.
(D) An increased decline in the proportion of deterrence oriented non-combat assignments.

2. A suitable title for the passage might be
- (A) Current status of women in US military.
(B) Current status of women in US airforce.
(C) Current status of women in US teaching service.
(D) Current status of women in US navy.
3. According to the passage, despite the United States armed forces' commitment to occupational equality for women in the military, certain other factors preclude women.
- (A) having access to positions of responsibility
(B) drawing assignments from a wider range of assignments than before
(C) being assigned all of the military tasks that are assigned to men.
(D) receiving equal pay for equal work
4. Which of the following is closest in sense to the world novel used in the passage?
- (A) new (B) prosaic
(C) dull (D) boring
5. The word 'opportunities' used in the passage may be replaced by all except.
- (A) failures (B) prospects
(C) openings (D) scope
6. Which sentence is an incorrect one?
- (A) The difficulty is that women are likely to be trained for any direct combat operation.
(B) The recent change to all voluntary armed forces in US will produce a gradual increase in the proportion of women.
(C) Opportunities seem certain to arise
(D) The difficulty is that women are unlikely to be trained for any direct combat operation.
7. It can be inferred from the passage that after the recent change
- (A) Some join willingly, some are forced.
(B) Men are forced, women join willingly.

- (C) Everyone joins the military willingly.
 (D) Everyone joins the military under compulsion.
8. It can be inferred from the passage that
 (A) Opportunities for women in military are certain to decline.
 (B) The society encourages increased participation of women in direct combat.
 (C) The Government sanctions equal pay for equal work.
 (D) The change to all-volunteer armed forces took place many years ago.
9. The "dramatic gains for women" and change in the attitude of a 'significant portion of the larger society' are logically related to each other in as much as the author puts forward the latter as
 (A) a public response to achievement of the former.
 (B) a pre condition for any prospect of achieving the former.
 (C) a reason for some of the former being lost again.
 (D) the major reason for absence of the former.
10. The primary purpose of the passage is to
 (A) present a reasoned prognosis of the status of women in the new United States all-volunteer armed forces.
 (B) present an overview of the different types of assignments available to women.
 (C) present the new United States all-volunteer armed forces as a model case of equal employment policies in action.
 (D) analyse reforms in the new United States all-volunteer armed forces necessitated by the increasing number of women in the military.

Answer-key

PASSAGE - 1

1. (A*) 2. (C) 3. (D) 4. (A) 5. (C)

Note:

* SSC went as per the literal meaning of the word optimise and has given answer (A) but according to the passage, optimise means maximise and hence option (D) is nearest to the meaning as per the passage.

PASSAGE - 2

1. (C) 2. (C) 3. (D) 4. (C) 5. (A) 6. (C) 7. (D) 8. (D) 9. (A) 10. (C)
 (D) by SSC

PASSAGE - 3

1. (C) 2. (D) 3. (D) 4. (A) 5. (C)

PASSAGE - 4

1. (A) 2. (A) 3. (C) 4. (A) 5. (A) 6. (A) 7. (C) 8. (C) 9. (B) 10. (A)

Practice Set

PASSAGE - 1

In 776 BC the First Olympic Games were held at the foot of Mount Olympus to honour the Greek's chief God, Zeus. The Greeks emphasised, physical fitness and strength in their education of youth. Therefore contests in running, boxing, jumping, discus and javelin throwing, horse and **chariot**¹ racing were held in individual cities and the winners **competed**² every four years at Mount Olympus. Winners were greatly **honoured**³ by having poems sung about their deeds. Originally these were held as games of friendship and any wars in progress were halted to allow the games to take place. The Greeks attached so much importance to these games that they calculated time in four year cycles called 'Olympiads' dating from 776 BC.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. रथ 2. प्रतिस्पर्धा करना, प्रतियोगिता में भाग लेना (Contest, contend) 3. सम्मानित करना

- Where were the First Olympic Games held?
At the foot of
(a) Mount Olympus.
(b) Mount Olympiad.
(c) Mount Orels.
(d) Mount of Greeks.
- Why were the Olympic Games held?
(a) To stop wars.
(b) To crown the best athletes.
(c) To honour Zeus.
(d) To sing songs about athletes.

- Approximately how many years ago did these games originate?
(a) 776 years. (b) 2279 years.
(c) 1207 years. (d) 2786 years.
- Which of the following contest was not held?
(a) Discus throwing.
(b) Skating
(c) Boxing
(d) Running.
- The values connected with Olympic Games were:
(a) physical fitness, education of youth and friendship.
(b) health, contests and singing.
(c) running, jumping, throwing and boxing.
(d) four-year cycles, war-time, young age and friendship.

PASSAGE-2

Faith in progress is deep within our culture. We have been taught to believe that our lives are better than the lives of those who came before us. The **ideology**¹ of modern economics suggests that material progress has **yielded**² **enhanced**³ satisfaction and well being. But much of our confidence about our own well being comes from the **assumption**⁴ that our lives are easier than those of earlier generations.

The lives of the so called primitive people are thought to be harsh, their existence dominated by the 'incessant quest for food'. In fact, **primitives**⁵ did very little work. By contemporary standard we'd have to judge them very lazy. The key to

understanding why these 'stone-age people' failed to act like us, increasing their work effort to get more things, is that they had limited desires. In the race between wanting and having, they had kept their wanting low and in this way **ensured**⁶ their own kind of satisfaction. They were materially poor by contemporary standards, but in at least one **dimension**⁷, we have to count them richer.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. विचारधारा, सिद्धांत 2. प्रदान करना/देना (to provide, to produce) 3. बढ़ाना, वृद्धि करना 4. कल्पना/धारणा (supposition) 5. आदिमकालीन (of the earliest time) 6. सुनिश्चित करना (to make sure) 7. आयाम/माप

- What is the basis of faith for progress and growth according to the writer?
 - Faith in progress is deep-rooted in our culture.
 - We have been taught that progress is necessary.
 - Material progress has given us strength.
 - We have assumed progress.
- What does the writer attribute to modern economics?
 - That our lives are easier than before.
 - That progress is a natural process.
 - That material progress leads to satisfaction and well-being.
 - That it forces us to assume progress.
- What is the writer's image of the primitive people?
 - Their life was harsh.
 - They did not work.
 - They were lazy.
 - Search for food was their primary focus in life.

- What is the key to understanding the primitive people's behaviour according to the passage?
 - They had no desires.
 - They had everything they needed.
 - They had limited desires.
 - They kept their wants high.
- How does the writer appreciate the primitives?
 - They had a low degree of wants.
 - They were the masters of their fate owing to their contentedness.
 - They were materially poor.
 - They were highly satisfied.

PASSAGE-3

In the past 50 years, doctors across the world have accepted the practice of **prescribing**¹ antibiotics at the first sign of a **trivial**² infection or treat patients with a handful of antibiotics. These days it is not uncommon to see practitioners prescribing multiple antibiotics without any real indication or **relevance**³ for such a combination of drugs. Antibiotics have traditionally been known as miracle drugs but there is growing **evidence**⁴ that they are overworked **miracles**⁵, especially in countries like ours where there is easy **access**⁶ to drugs across the counter, including antibiotics. We cannot think of a return to pre-antibiotic days. Yet the **unbridled**⁸ use of these agents is **inexorably**⁹ **propelling**¹⁰ us in that direction.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. औषधि-का सलाह 2. सूक्ष्म/मामूली सा 3. प्रासंगिकता 4. साक्ष्य/प्रमाण 5. चमत्कार 6. पहुँच 7. अनियंत्रित, जिसे रोका ना जा सके 9. जिसे रोका/ या परिवर्तित ना किया जा सके 10. संचालन करते हुए/आगे बढ़ते हुए (Drive forward)

1. 'We cannot think of a return to pre-antibiotic days' means-
 - (a) Antibiotics became indispensable.
 - (b) We must go back to pre-antibiotic days.
 - (c) We cannot stop using antibiotics.
 - (d) We can stop using antibiotics.
2. The passage tells us that
 - (a) The antibiotics work miracles.
 - (b) The antibiotics are available at the counters.
 - (c) The use of antibiotics is uncontrollable.
 - (d) Antibiotics are used indiscriminately.
3. 'These days it is not uncommon to prescribe antibiotics' means-
 - (a) It is rare to prescribe antibiotics.
 - (b) It is a common practice to prescribe antibiotics.
 - (c) It is not a common practice to prescribe antibiotics.
 - (d) It is compulsory to prescribe antibiotics.
4. Antibiotics are called 'overworked miracles' because-
 - (a) They performed miracles.
 - (b) They are hardly used.
 - (c) They are over-used.
 - (d) They exhausted their miracles.
5. The Passage discusses the use of-
 - (a) Drugs in general.
 - (b) Miracle drugs.
 - (c) Antibiotics.
 - (d) Combination of different drugs.

PASSAGE-4

Among nature's most **intriguing**¹ **phenomena**² are the partnerships formed by different species. The name used for

these relationships, **symbiosis**³, comes from Greek meaning "living together". Not all symbiotic relationships are the same. There are some called **commensal relationship**⁴, in which one partner gains a benefit while the other gains little or none but is not harmed. One example is the relationship between two types of fish, remoras and shark. The remora, which is long and often **striped**⁵, attaches itself to a shark (sometimes to another type of fish or a whale), using a **sucker**⁶ on its head. When the shark makes a kill, the **hitchhiker**⁷ briefly **detaches**⁸ itself to feed on the **scraps**⁹. Another type of symbiotic relationship is **parasitism**¹⁰, in which one partner benefits **at the expense**¹¹ of other. **Ticks**¹² and tapeworms are among familiar parasites.

The third type of symbiotic relationship, called **mutualism**¹³, is a true partnership in which both partners benefit. The relationship may be limited as when zebras and wildbeast graze together on the vast African grasslands. Each species can survive on its own, but together their chances for detecting predators are improved because each contribute a specially keen sense. (Zebras have the better eyesight, wildbeast hearing and sense of smell). In few cases partners are so **interdependent**¹⁴ that one cannot survive without the other. Most mutualistic relationships probably lie somewhere in between.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. पैंचिदा, जटिल 2. घटना, तथ्य 3. सहजीविता 4. सहभोजी संबंध 5. धारीदार 6. चूषक, नली 7. दूसरे की वाहन पर मुफ्त सैर करने वाला 8. अलग होना 9. जूटन 10. परजीविता 11. दूसरे की कोमल पर 12. किलनी (Small parasitic insects) 13. सहजीविता 14. एक दूसरे पर आश्रित

1. Remora feeds-
 - (a) On the shark it travels with.
 - (b) On the left-over parts of the shark's prey.
 - (c) By detaching itself to attack the prey.
 - (d) On a whale or another type of fish.
2. Parasites-
 - (a) Are neither beneficial nor harmful to animals they are with.
 - (b) Benefit at the expense of the animals they live with.
 - (c) Are beneficial to the animals they live with.
 - (d) Harm the animals they live with.
3. Commensal relationship is a type of symbiosis in which the relationship is beneficial-
 - (a) To one and harmless to other.
 - (b) To one and harmful to other.
 - (c) To both.
 - (d) To both for a very short time.
4. The passage talks about how animals-
 - (a) Help each other.
 - (b) Live together.
 - (c) Take advantage of the weaker ones.
 - (d) Are related to each other.
5. Remora attaches itself to the shark or whale-
 - (a) By entwining its long body around the bigger fish.
 - (b) By biting into the fish's body with its teeth.
 - (c) With an adhesive organ found on its head.
 - (d) With a hook like structure on its head.

PASSAGE-5

Ah ! whatever could be said was said. All held him **guilty**¹. Even his own mother who **claimed**² to understand him the best. All had **betrayed** him in his hour of need. Yet, there he was, still with a **sparkling**

hope⁴ and knew that the truth must **prevail**⁵. In the cold, dark and **damp**⁶ cell he never for a moment lost faith in God and goodness and was waiting anxiously for an **angel**⁷ to come, plead non guilty for him and free him of his **miseries**⁸.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. दंडी 2. दावा करना (Assert)/दृढ़ता से कहना
 3. धोखा देना 4. उम्मीद की किरण 5. विजय पाना, काबू पाना (to win out) 6. गीला, नम (Wet, having some moisture) 7. देवदूत फरिश्ता 8. कष्ट, दुख
1. Three of the following statements indicate that he had a sparkling hope. Which statement does not?
 - (a) He had never lost faith in God.
 - (b) He was sure there was goodness.
 - (c) He could have evidence in his favour.
 - (d) He knew that the truth must prevail.
 2. Whatever others said about him, he:
 - (a) betrayed no one.
 - (b) thought over the problem.
 - (c) never lost faith in goodness.
 - (d) raised his voice against injustice.
 3. In the dark dungeon he always waited for:
 - (a) his mother.
 - (b) the jailer.
 - (c) the verdict freeing him of his miseries.
 - (d) the angel to come and plead for him.
 4. The truth must prevail means:
 - (a) he was true.
 - (b) angel will reveal truth.
 - (c) truth always wins in the end.
 - (d) we must plead for the truth.

PASSAGE-6

Once while travelling by the local bus, I got a seat beside a very strange man. He seemed interested in every passenger aboard. He would stare at a person, **scribble**¹ some odd mathematical **notations**² on his long notebook and then move on to the next. Being quite interested in what he was doing, I asked him what all those notations meant and then came the **startling**³ reply. He saw a man's face not as a single unit but as thousand of squares put together. He was in fact a statistical expert and a **budding**⁴ artist learning the art of graphics.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. लापखाही से लिखना 2. संकेतन, अंकन, चिह्नकन
3. भौचक्का करने वाला, आश्चर्यजनक 4. उभरता हुआ उदीयमान

- The man was scribbling down:
(a) the figures of co-passengers.
(b) the details of thousands of squares put together.
(c) some mathematical formulae and calculations.
(d) some mathematical signs.
- The man caught author's attention because:
(a) he was sitting next to him.
(b) he was staring at every person in the bus.
(c) he would stare at every person and then scribble down some mathematical notation.
(d) he was a budding artist learning the art of graphics.
- The author found that man's reply quite startling because
(a) a statistical expert cannot be a budding scientist.
(b) a budding artist cannot be a statistical expert.

(c) graphics is still a rare art form and he was learning it while travelling in a bus.

(d) the fact that "a man's face can be analysed as thousands of squares" was a strange concept.

4. From the passage we gather that:
- the author is very inquisitive.
 - the author tries to poke his nose in other people's business.
 - the author is interested in mathematical notations.
 - the author wants to talk to fellow passengers in the bus.

PASSAGE-7

With the **inevitable**¹ growth of specialization, I see the universities facing two great dangers. First, it is very easy to get so involved in the technical details of education that the object of education is lost. And secondly, in an effort to condition a university to the needs of its students and to the needs of the State it may lose its power to make or **mould**² those students into responsible men, capable of thinking for themselves and capable of expressing the results of their thoughts to others.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. अनिवार्य, अपरिहार्य 2. ढालना

- The author calls growth of specialisation 'inevitable'. Which one of the following statements is likely to be the most correct reason for this inevitability?
(a) Universities give grants only to do specialised work in different disciplines.
(b) The professors and researchers in universities are competent only for specialised work.

(c) Specialization helps economic growth of the nation.

(d) In an age of science and technology specialization becomes necessary.

2. Which one of the following statements most correctly suggests the central theme of the passage?

(a) The aim of education is specialization.

(b) The aim of education is to enable the youth to work for the State.

(c) The aim of education is to make the youth capable of independent thought and expression.

(d) The aim of education is to enable the youth to earn a comfortable living.

3. Which one of the following statements most correctly suggests the warning implied in the passage?

(a) University education should not be concerned with technical details.

(b) University should not subordinate themselves to the interests of the State.

(c) University should be concerned only with the needs of students.

(d) University should not go in for any specialization.

PASSAGE-8

One December night, a family had gathered around their **fireside**¹ and **piled**² it high with wood gathered from mountain streams and ruins of great trees that had come falling down the mountain sides. The fire **roared**³ and brightened the room with its light. The faces of the father and mother had a quiet gladness; the children laughed; the oldest daughter was the picture of happiness at seventeen; and the **aged**⁴ grandmother who sat **sewing**⁵ in the warmest place was the picture of happiness grown old.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. अंगीठी 2. ढेर लगाना 3. धधकना 4. उम्रदराज
5. सिलाई करते हुए

1. The firewood had been:

- (a) brought (b) stolen
(c) collected (d) found

2. The parents looked

- (a) serene (b) cheerful
(c) gloomy (d) dull

3. The oldest daughter looked:

- (a) morose (b) jubilant
(c) inquisitive (d) mournful

PASSAGE-9

The unpleasant feeling passed and she **glanced**¹ **guardedly**² up³ at him. He was walking unmarked in moonlight, innocent of her reaction to him. She felt that this thought had come to her before and there might be more to him than she had imagined. She felt ashamed she had never thanked him for the help he had given to her father.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. निगाह डाला/शीघ्रता से देखा
2. सावधानी से

1. She glanced at him when:

- (a) he walked alone and unnoticed in moonlight.
(b) she was sure that she was not being noticed.
(c) her reactions did not have any effect on him.
(d) the unpleasant feeling passed

2. Her unpleasant feeling passed when:

- (a) he did not take any notice of her.
(b) the moonlight was beautiful.
(c) she realized her sense of shame.
(d) she looked carefully at him.

3. She was ashamed because:

- (a) she was spying on him.
(b) there was more to him than she had imagined.

- (c) a recurring thought came back to her.
 (d) she had never thanked him for his help to her father.

PASSAGE-10

As I **slung**¹ my pack onto my shoulders, a big mosquito **thudded**² against my cheek. There had been a few through the day, but it was early in the season-the ice had **gone out**³ just two weeks before and I had scarcely noticed them. But now as I would get down the **ridge**⁴, the last breeze **faded**⁵, and they were on me. Rising in clouds from the soggy tundra, they **pelted**⁶ against my face. I reached in my pocket for the **repellent**⁷, and came out empty.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. लटकाना 2. धमाके के साथ नीचे गिरना (To fall hit something with a low dull sound, धम्म से टकराना 4. लंबी संकरी पहाड़ी 5. बीत जाना, मंद होना 6. मार करना, टकराना 7. निरोधक

- The traveller could not feel the breeze because:
 - the mosquito had bitten him.
 - he was at the foot of the ridge.
 - there was no ice in the mountain.
 - there was no breeze on the tundra mountain.
- The traveller carried with him:
 - mosquito repellent.
 - a pack of food.
 - a sling.
 - a back-pack.
- When he was in the arctic, the time of the year was:
 - middle of winter.
 - early autumn.
 - early spring.
 - middle of summer.

PASSAGE-11

Journalism¹ means several things. First of all, it means the ability to write and convey thoughts in a way that people will understand things quickly. It means being able to turn long articles into shape. It means knowing your grammar and composition rules inside out and upside down². It also means a nose for news and feel for words, respect for truth and a sense of mission. A journalist should be able to **size up**³ a situation on the spot. He should also develop a deep insight into human conditions. Nobody can teach you the finer **aspects**³ of journalism. No plastic surgeon can give you a nose for news. No teacher can give you a feel for words.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. पत्रकारिता 2. बारीकी से निरीक्षण करना 3. पहलू/ पूर्णतः/ दृष्टिकोण

- The passage is on.
 - the journalists, surgeons and teachers.
 - the merits of journalism.
 - what journalism is about.
 - the journalists' feel for words.
- A journalist should be thorough with.
 - all the rules of writing.
 - the news.
 - grammar and composition.
 - the insight into human conditions.
- One of the main requirements for a journalist is to.
 - edit articles.
 - have a good nose for news.
 - respect everyone.
 - exploit a situation.
- The ethics of journalism is.
 - respect for truth.
 - understanding people.
 - ability to write.
 - search for news.

5. Which of the following statements is not true?
- A plastic surgeon can help a journalist.
 - A teacher can hardly assist a journalist.
 - Everyone cannot be a journalist.
 - A journalist should be able to convey his thoughts to his readers.

PASSAGE-12

The Indians as a group are not **cohesive**¹. There is a lack of 'coordination' among individuals, groups, institutions and states. This lack of '**coordination**'² may be traced to selfishness, lack of trust and the inability to find joy in working together as a team for a common goal. This leads to **divisiveness**³ asking for criticism, with the result images are tarnished and the main purpose is defeated. This phenomenon is visible among the bureaucrats, the politicians, the intellectuals, the business community and the sports **fraternity**⁴, all those who matter and who give a poor account of themselves as a group despite individual brilliance. This contrast in human behaviour can perhaps be traced to age-old beliefs, religious **tolerance**⁵, poverty and the **diversity**⁶ in **day-to-day**⁷ living conditions.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. संसृजक (Tending to unite closely) 2. समन्वय का आभाव 3. पृथक्ता 4. विरादरी 5. सहिष्णुता 6. विविधता 7. रोजमर्रा की

1. Why are the Indians not cohesive as a group?
- There is a lack of coordination between individuals.
 - There is a lack of coordination among individuals, groups and states.

- There is a lack of coordination between individuals and states.
 - There is a lack of coordination among individuals, groups, institutions and states.
2. What does lack of coordination leads to?
- Divisiveness.
 - Divisiveness and asking for criticism.
 - Asking for criticism.
 - Nothing in particular.
3. Which word in the passage means loss of brightness or dull?
- Brilliance
 - Phenomenon
 - Visible
 - Tarnish
4. To what can the contrast in human behaviour be traced to?
- Age-old beliefs and diversity in day-to-day living.
 - Age-old beliefs and religious tolerance.
 - Age-old beliefs, religious tolerance, poverty and diversity in day-to-day living.
 - Nothing in particular.
5. What does 'goal' in this passage mean?
- The place where the ball has to pass in a football match.
 - An object of ambition.
 - A point scored by a particular team in a football match.
 - The poles fitted at the end of a football field.

PASSAGE-13

"The beauty of the Japanese **landscape**¹ is that it **conveys**² philosophical messages through each feature. The use of curving pathways rather than straight lines, for instance. This feature springs from the belief that only evil travels in straight lines, good

forces tend to wander. Then, odd numbers of plants on trees are used in these gardens because these numbers are considered **auspicious**³. Even the plants used are symbolic. For example, the Cyprus represents longevity and the bamboo symbolises abundance," says Sadhana Roy Choudhary.

In Japan nature is said to be so closely **intertwined**⁴ with human life that parents actually **plant a sapling**⁵ in their garden when a child is born in the family, letting the growth of the child **coincide**⁶ with the growth of the plant.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. परिदृश्य 2. व्यक्त करना 3. शुभ 4. जुड़ा हुआ 5. पौधा लगाना 6. घटनाओं का एक ही समय में होना

1. 'Abundance' means.
(a) long life (b) happiness
(c) plenty (d) permanent
2. The Japanese parents plant a sapling at the time of birth of a child because
(a) it is auspicious to plant a sapling.
(b) it is closely associated with the growth of the child.
(c) it gives longevity of the child.
(d) it gives happiness to the child.
3. According to the passage the Japanese are
(a) superstitious.
(b) philosophical.
(c) lovers of nature.
(d) lovers of numerology.
4. The Japanese pathways tend to be
(a) symbolic (b) beautiful
(c) curved (d) straight
5. They prefer curving pathways because
(a) they are inauspicious.
(b) they can walk easily.
(c) they stumble over straight ones.

(d) good spirits walk on them.

PASSAGE-14

A recent **investigation**¹ by scientists at the USA Geological Survey shows that strange animal behaviour might help **predict**² future earthquakes. Investigators found such **occurrences**³ in a ten kilometre radius of the epicentre of a fairly recent **quake**⁴. Some birds **screeched**⁵ and flew about wildly, dogs **yelped**⁶ and ran uncontrollably.

Scientists believe that animals can **perceive**⁷ these environmental changes as early as several days before the **mishap**⁸.

In 1976, after observing the animal behaviour, the Chinese were able to predict a **devastating quake**⁹. Although hundreds of thousands of people were killed, the government was able to **evacuate**¹⁰ millions of others and thus keep the death **toll**¹¹ at a lower level.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. तहकीकात 2. पूर्वानुमान करना 3. घटनाओं का होना 4. कम्पन/भूकम्प 5. चीत्कार करना 6. तीखी आवाज में भौंकना 7. महसूस करना 8. विपत्ति 9. विनाशकारी भूकम्प 10. खाली कराना 11. संख्या

1. What prediction may be made by observing animal behaviour?
(a) An impending earthquake.
(b) The number of people who will die.
(c) The ten kilometre radius of epicentre.
(d) Ecological conditions.
2. Which of the following is **not** true?
(a) Some animals may be able to sense an approaching earthquake.
(b) By observing animal behaviour scientists perhaps can predict earthquakes.

- (c) The Chinese failed to predict the earthquake.
 (d) All birds and dogs in a ten kilometre range went wild before the quake.
3. In this passage the word 'evacuate' means
 (a) remove (b) exile
 (c) destroy (d) expel
4. If scientists can accurately predict earthquakes there will be
 (a) fewer animals going crazy.
 (b) a lower death rate.
 (c) fewer people evacuated.
 (d) fewer environmental changes.
5. How can animals perceive these changes when human beings cannot?
 (a) Animals are smarter than human beings.
 (b) Animals have certain instincts that human beings don't possess.
 (c) By running round the house, they can feel the vibrations.
 (d) Human beings don't know where to look.

PASSAGE-15

A 23 year old British woman was yesterday sentenced to six months in jail for leaving her two year-old daughter home alone eight hours a day, five days a week for a year while she went to work. The young mother from the central town of warwick initially hired a babysitter, when she landed a job in a travel agency but eventually reached the point when she could no longer afford the facility, **prosecutors**¹ said. The woman then started leaving the child home by herself, providing it with food and toys and removing all **potentially**² dangerous objects from its reach. At first the mother came home at lunch time but had to stop because her daughter threw **tantrums**³ every time she left to go back to work.

The mother, who was not identified, told the court, "If I had money I would not have done it. It was a case of that or not keeping my job and living on benefit".

The judge, Mr. Harrison Hall, however said "Having had a child, the absolute priority is to look after it. There must be an alternative to leaving a child alone all day, a thing you would not do even to a dog".

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. अभियोक्ता (one who institutes criminal case) 2. सम्भावित 3. नखरें

1. The young mother had to work in the office
 (a) 40 hours a week.
 (b) 8 hours a week.
 (c) 48 hours a week.
 (d) all the seven days a week.
2. The word 'Facility' in sentence refers to
 (a) her job in the travel agency.
 (b) living in a well furnished apartment.
 (c) getting adequate salary.
 (d) employing someone to look after the child.
3. The mother stopped coming home for lunch because
 (a) her house was far away from the office.
 (b) she was not able to control her angry baby.
 (c) she had to work extra hours to earn more.
 (d) she was not interested in looking after the baby.
4. The sentence "If I had money, I would not have done it" means
 (a) I had money and so I did not leave the baby alone.
 (b) I had money and so I left the baby alone.

- (c) I had no money and so I left the baby alone.
 (d) I had no money and so I did not leave the baby alone.
5. Which one of the following statements about the judge Mr. Harrison Hall is correct?
- (a) He can tolerate cruelty to children but not to animals.
 (b) He can tolerate cruelty to animals but not to children.
 (c) He can tolerate cruelty both to children and animals.
 (d) He can tolerate cruelty neither to children nor to animals.
1. Hypnosis means
 (a) auto-suggestion.
 (b) suggestion made in trance.
 (c) anaesthesia.
 (d) hocus-pocus.
2. 'Nobody is laughing' at hypnotherapy now, because they are
 (a) sad (b) angry
 (c) taking it seriously (d) annoyed
3. The purpose of hypnotherapy is to
 (a) cure patients.
 (b) make life easier.
 (c) carry out research.
 (d) check out the success rate.
4. German and British doctors used hypnosis as
 (a) anaesthesia was not available.
 (b) anaesthesia was not needed.
 (c) it was a substitute for anaesthesia.
 (d) it was fashionable during the war period.
5. Treating war neurosis means
 (a) curing madness.
 (b) curing brain fever.
 (c) dealing with war problems.
 (d) curing war anxiety.

PASSAGE-16

From the world of magic, **hypnosis**¹ is moving into the world of medicine. From **hocus-pocus**² performed by men in black capes³, to **hypnotherapy**⁴ practised by doctors in white coats. The purpose is to help people stop smoking, lose weight, overcome phobias, and control pain in a variety of medical situations, from childbirth to cancer. Research laboratories are currently checking out the success rate of therapy under hypnosis, while medical journals stand by to publish the results. And the important thing is, nobody is laughing.

In the 1840's, a British doctor in Calcutta created a controversy by performing over 1000 operations with hypnosis as the only **anaesthesia**⁵. During the World Wars, German and British doctors used hypnosis to treat war **neuroses**⁶.

PASSAGE-17

Read not to **contradict**¹ and confuse, nor to believe and **take for granted**², nor to find talk and **discourse**³, but to **weigh**⁴ and consider. Some books are to be tasted, others to be **swallowed**⁵, and some few to be **chewed**⁶ and digested. That is some books are to be read only in parts; others to be read, but not curiously; and some few to be read wholly, and **with diligence**⁷ and attention. Some books may also be read by **deputy**⁸, and extracts made of them by others but that would be only in the less important arguments and the **meaner**⁹ **sort**¹⁰ of books; else distilled books are like common **distilled**¹¹ waters, **flashy**¹² things. Reading maketh a full man, conference a ready man, and writing an exact man.

महत्त्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. सम्मोहन विद्या 2. तंत्र-मंत्र/जादू-टोना 3. लबादा
 4. सम्मोहन विकल्पा 5. प्रेक्षण करने वाली औषधि द्वारा
 उत्पन्न अचेतन अवस्था 6. मानसिक रोगी

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. खंडन करना 2. महत्व नहीं जानना इसके रूप में लेना
3. प्रवचन 4. मूल्यांकन करना 5. ग्रहण करना 6. मनन करना, चिंतन करना 7. लगन से 8. सहायक 9. औसत दर्जे का 10. प्रकार/ ढंग 11. शुद्ध 12. दिखावटी, भड़कदार

1. What should be the purpose of reading a book?
(a) To contradict.
(b) To weigh and consider.
(c) To take it for granted.
(d) To understand the contents.
2. Why are some books to be tasted?
(a) To be read with great care.
(b) To be read with great attention.
(c) To be read only in parts.
(d) To be read for fun.
3. How is man's character influenced by the art of writing?
(a) It makes him a great writer.
(b) It makes him a ready man.
(c) It makes him a full man.
(d) It makes him an exact man.
4. What kind of books is to be read by the deputy?
(a) Extraordinary books.
(b) Ordinary books.
(c) Interesting books.
(d) Meaner sort of books.
5. What is meant by 'chewed and digested'?
(a) Thoroughly read and understood.
(b) Partly read and understood.
(c) Understood without any effort.
(d) None of the above.

PASSAGE-18

The Printing Press has made knowledge available to the vast multitude of people – **Pray**¹, what kind of knowledge is it? Is it of any permanent character? Books have become common and, when we say that books like the Sexton Blake series

sell like hot cakes², we have an index of the nature of knowledge which a typical person in a vast multitude seeks. Let me tell you of an incident that took place in America a few years ago. An American publisher printed a million copies of the work of Charles Dickens in the hope that he could easily sell them on the name of the author. But to his **disappointment**³, not even the widest publicity and advertisement could enable him to sell the books. Being sorely tired, he hit on a plan. He **tore off**⁴ the cover pages, **substituted**⁵ covers containing **sensational**⁶ love headings for the titles and again advertised the new books. In a week, all the books were sold out. We are not concerned here with the moral of the bookseller's action. What we have to note is that only books of a sensational type are really sought for by the ordinary folk who have a great **aversion**⁷ to serious study. So, you will see that the grand argument that the Printing Press has made knowledge available even to the masses is certainly **fallacious**⁸ and quite misleading. To put it correctly, it has created a taste for a low order of books.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. प्रार्थना/आराधना 2. बड़ी संख्या में सुगमता से विक्री
3. निराशा 4. फाड़कर हटाना 5. बदलना 6. सनसनीखेज
7. विमुखता, विरक्ति 8. भ्रमजनक

1. Sexton Blake series are big seller's because they
(a) disseminate knowledge.
(b) are informative.
(c) satisfy a typically serious reader.
(d) are sensational.
2. The American publisher had chosen the works of Charles Dickens to
(a) give wide publicity to Dickens' works.
(b) offer the readers what best he could.

- (c) counter the trash.
(d) make money easily.
3. What is the main contention of the passage?
(a) To stress the popularity of the printing press.
(b) To point out the disappointment of serious readers.
(c) To shed light on the morale of the publishers.
(d) To bring out the evil impacts of the printing press.
4. The author's contention makes us feel that he
(a) is unilateral in his argument.
(b) is balanced.
(c) is a typical critic.
(d) argues convincingly.
5. Who is Charles Dickens?
(a) A playwright.
(b) An epic poet.
(c) A short story writer.
(d) A novelist.

PASSAGE-19

Our **awareness**¹ of time has reached such a pitch of **intensity**² that we suffer **acutely**³ whenever our travels take us into some corner of the world where people are not interested in minutes and seconds. The unpunctuality of the orient, for example is **appalling**⁴ to those who come freshly from a land of fixed meal-times and regular train services. For a modern American or Englishman, waiting is a psychological torture. An Indian accepts the blank hours with resignation, even with satisfaction. He has not lost the fine art of doing nothing. Our notion of time as a collection of minutes, each of which must be filled with some business or **amusement**⁵, is all greek to them. For the man who lives in a pre-industrial world, time moves at a slow and easy pace; he

does not care about each minute, for the good reason that he has not been made conscious of the **existence**⁶ of minutes.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. जागरूकता 2. गहनता 3. बहुत अधिक 4. भयावह
5. मनोरंजन 6. अस्तित्व

1. What is the main theme of the passage?
(a) Concept of time in pre-industrial world.
(b) The Greek concept of time.
(c) Awareness of time in the modern industrial world.
(d) The orientals and their awareness of time.
2. The orientals are alien to
(a) the business of amusement.
(b) the notion of time as a collection of minutes.
(c) industrialization.
(d) the fine art of doing nothing.
3. A person who belongs to pre-industrial world
(a) knows the utility of time.
(b) known how to derive happiness by making use of time carefully.
(c) does not care about each minute.
(d) cares much for every minute.
4. According to the author
(a) the orientals are very punctual.
(b) the Americans or the Englishmen are punctual.
(c) the Greek and the orientals are very punctual.
(d) the Indians are very punctual.
5. The 'orient' in the passage refers to
(a) China and Japan.
(b) Japan and England.
(c) England and America.
(d) America alone.

PASSAGE-20

As civilization **proceeds**¹ in the direction of technology, it passes the point of supplying all the basic **essentials**² of life, food, shelter, clothes and **warmth**³. Then we are faced with a choice between using technology to provide and fulfil needs which have **hitherto**⁴ been regarded as unnecessary or, on the other hand, using technology to reduce the number of hours of work which a man must do in order to earn a given standard of living. In other words, we either raise our standard of living above that necessary for comfort and happiness or we leave it at this level and work shorter hours. I shall take it as **axiomatic**⁵ that mankind has, by that time, chosen the latter alternative. Men will be working shorter and shorter hours in their paid employment.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. अग्रसर होना 2. आवश्यकताएँ 3. सौहार्द 4. अभी तक
5. स्वयंसिद्ध/प्रमाणिक (Self-proved)

1. "Then we are faced with a choice...." what does "then" refer to?
(a) When automation takes over many aspects of human life.
(b) The present state of civilization.
(c) The past stage of civilization.
(d) After having provided the basic essentials of life.
2. What does the passage suggest about the use of technology?
(a) It creates new and essential needs for mankind.
(b) It is opposed to the basic essentials of life.
(c) It is complementary to a raised standard of living.
(d) It is responsible for man's love of comfort and happiness.

3. What does increased use of technology imply?
(a) An advanced stage in human civilization.
(b) A backward step in human culture.
(c) Unnecessary comfort and happiness for mankind.
(d) Man's zest for more and more work.
4. What does the author suggest?
(a) Man will gradually rise above his present stage in civilization.
(b) Man will gradually settle down to the same stage with fewer hours of work.
(c) Man will gradually raise his standard of living by working longer hours.
(d) Man will gradually earn a given standard of living with the help of technology.

PASSAGE-21

It is said that ideas are **explosive**¹ and dangerous. To allow them **unfettered**² freedom is, in fact, to invite disorder. But, to this position, there are at least two final answers. It is impossible to draw a line around dangerous ideas, and any attempt at their definition involves **monstrous**³ folly. If views, moreover, which **imply**⁴ disorder are able to disturb the foundations of the State, there is something supremely wrong with the governance of the State. For disorder is not a habit of mankind. We cling so eagerly to our accustomed ways that, as even Burke insisted; popular violence is always the outcome of a deep popular sense of wrong.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. विस्फोट/विध्वंसक 2. निरंकुश 3. भयानक 4. तात्पर्य होना
1. What does the central point the passage emphasize?

- (a) It is unnecessary to define dangerous ideas.
- (b) Dangerous ideas are born out of the enjoyment of freedom.
- (c) A well-governed State is unaffected by dangerous ideas.
- (d) Dangerous ideas originate from man's pre-occupation with politics.
2. From a close study of the passage, which one of the following statements emerges most clearly?
- (a) The author is against the exercise of political freedom.
- (b) He is indifferent to dangerous and explosive ideas.
- (c) He welcomes violence as a method to change governments.
- (d) He warns that violence is the outcome of popular dissatisfaction with the government.
3. The author says, 'we cling eagerly to our accustomed ways'. Which one of the following statements may be considered as the assumption of the author?
- (a) We are afraid of social changes.
- (b) Mankind is averse to any disorder.
- (c) We have developed inertia that makes us incapable of social action.
- (d) There is an all-round lack of initiative on the society.
4. Which of the following statements may most correctly bring out the significance of the opinion of Burke quoted in the passage?
- (a) Burke advocated violence against injustice.
- (b) Burke's opinion coincides with the author's opinion on explosive and dangerous ideas.
- (c) Burke hated any popular uprising.
- (d) Burke had no belief in political liberty.

PASSAGE-22

The psychological causes of unhappiness, it is clear, are many and various. But all have something in common. The typical unhappy man, is one who, having deprived in youth of some normal satisfaction, has come to value this one kind of satisfaction more than any other, and has therefore given to his life a one-sided direction, together with a quite undue emphasis upon the achievement as opposed to the activities connected with it. There is, however, a further development which is very common in the present day life. A man may feel so completely **thwarted**¹ that he seeks no form of satisfaction, but only **distraction**² and **oblivion**³. He then becomes a devotee of "pleasure". This is to say, he seeks to make life **bearable**⁴ by becoming less alive. **Drunkenness**⁵, for example, is temporary suicide-the happiness that it brings is merely negative, a momentary sensation of happiness.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. कुनित (Thwarted) 2. ध्यान भटकने वाला 3. (a) 3. विस्मृति 4. सहन करने योग्य 5. शराब पीने की लत

1. Who is a typical unhappy man?
- (a) One who has been deprived of normal satisfaction in youth.
- (b) One who finds life unbearable and attempts suicide.
- (c) One who does not mind momentary unhappiness.
- (d) One who seeks every form of satisfaction.
2. "One sided direction" refers to the pursuit of which one of the following?
- (a) Drinking and forgetfulness.

- (b) The satisfaction one had been deprived of.
 - (c) Activities leading to happiness.
 - (d) Every form of psychological satisfaction.
3. Which one of the following is the correct statement?
Drinking helps the unhappy only to
- (a) forget their dissatisfaction.
 - (b) get sublime happiness.
 - (c) get the motivational needs fulfilled.
 - (d) concentrate harder.
4. What does "becoming less alive" imply?
- (a) Neglect of health.
 - (b) Decline in moral values.
 - (c) Living in a make-believe world.
 - (d) Leading a sedentary way to living.

PASSAGE-23

What is to be the limit of **forgiveness**¹? It would probably have been allowed by many of the ancients that an unforgiving temper was not to be **commended**.² They would have said, we are not to **execute**³ a penalty for every nice **offence**;⁴ we are to overlook somethings; we are to be blind sometimes. But they would have said at the same time, we must be careful to keep our self-respect, and to be on a level with the world. On the whole, they would have said, it is the part of a man fully to **requite**⁵ to his friends their benefits and to his enemies their injuries.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. क्षमा (Forgiveness) 2. प्रशंसा करना 3. कार्यान्वित/ लागू करना 4. अपराध 5. वापस देना/ बदले में देना

1. Which one of the following is the correct statements?
According to the passage, writer must
- (a) ignore an offence if it is nice.

- (b) forgive people if they bring us nice presents.
 - (c) forgive pretty offenders.
 - (d) not punish each and every offence.
2. Which one of the following is the correct statement?
We must
- (a) be blind if we want to forgive others.
 - (b) be blind to the faults of our friends.
 - (c) be indifferent to what others do.
 - (d) overlook certain things.
3. Which one of the following is the correct statement?
In ancient times, people were.
- (a) ordered to lose their tempers.
 - (b) permitted to lose their tempers and not forgive their enemies.
 - (c) told that it was not good to have an unforgiving temper.
 - (d) advised to forgive each and every offence committed by both friends and foes.
4. What is the underlying tone of the passage?
- (a) We must be forgiving in general.
 - (b) We must forgive our friends.
 - (c) There is no limit whatsoever to on duty to forgive.
 - (d) We must always punish the wrong doer.

PASSAGE-24

Once upon a time, I went for a week's holiday in the Continent with an Indian friend. We both enjoyed ourselves and were sorry when the week was over, but on parting our behaviour was absolutely different. He was plunged in **despair**¹. He felt that because the holiday was over all happiness was over until the world ended. He could not express his sorrow too much. But in me, the Englishman came out strong. I could not see what there was to make a fuss about. It wasn't as if we were

parting forever or dying. 'Buck up'², I said, 'I said, 'do buck up'. He refuse to buck up and I left him plunged in gloom.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. निराशा, विषाद 2. उत्साह बढ़ाना, मनोबल बढ़ाना

- What is the Continent in the context of the passage?
(a) An island. (b) The countryside.
(c) Africa. (d) Europe.
- What does the author mean by 'buck up'?
(a) Buckle yourself up.
(b) Stand up. (c) Cheer up.
(d) Shut up.
- Why was the Indian friend plunged in despair?
(a) He was hopeless.
(b) He experienced racial discrimination.
(c) He would never be so happy again.
(d) He had spent lot of money.
- What does 'But in me the Englishman came out strong' imply?
(a) He was a strong Englishman.
(b) He had the typical English character.
(c) The Englishman went out of him.
(d) He started following Indian traditions.
- What is the author's intention in the passage?
(a) To compare the Indian character with the English character.
(b) To show that an Indian is sorrowful.
(c) To ridicule the Indian traditions.
(d) To praise the Englishman.

each other. Most of these people one doesn't know and some of them one doesn't like. Well, what has one to do? There are two solutions. One of them is the Nazi solution. If you don't like people, kill them, **banish**³ them, and **segregate**⁴ them. The other way is much less **thrilling**⁵, but it is on the whole the way of the democracies. And I prefer it. If you don't like people, put up with them as well as you can. Don't try to love them; you can't, you'll only **strain**⁶ yourself. But try to tolerate them.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. भयावह रूप से 2. गिरना पड़ना 3. देश निकाला देना
4. पृथक् करना/अलग करना 5. रोमांचकारी 6. थकाना

- What does the author mean by 'appallingly'?
(a) He is making an appeal to the leaders of the masses.
(b) In disconcertingly large numbers.
(c) Very interesting.
(d) Unpredictably.
- Which one of the following is the correct statement?
According to the writer Nazi solution is
(a) the earliest solution.
(b) the readiest solution.
(c) the national solution.
(d) the Hitlerian solution.
- Which one of the following is the correct statement?
The author thinks that the other solution is much less thrilling because it is
(a) dull.
(b) based on tolerance.
(c) not based on love.
(d) lacking adventure.
- Which one of the following is the correct statement?

PASSAGE-25

The world is very full of people – **appallingly**¹ full; it has never been so full before, and they are all **tumbling over**²

The author prefers the seconds solution because

- (a) he likes it.
- (b) he is not a Nazi.
- (c) he is essentially being a democrat.
- (d) there is no other way.

PASSAGE-26

We should **preserve**¹ Nature to preserve life and beauty. A beautiful **landscape**², full of green **vegetation**³, will not just attract our attention but will fill us with infinite satisfaction. Unfortunately, because of modernization, much of nature is now yielding to towns, roads and industrial areas. In a few places, some natural reserves are now being **carved out**⁴ to avert the danger of destroying Nature completely. Man will **perish**⁵ without Nature, so modern man should continue this struggle to save plants, which give us oxygen, from **extinction**⁶. Moreover, nature is essential to man's health.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. सुरक्षित रखना 2. प्राकृतिक दृश्य 3. वनस्पति 4. तराशना
5. नष्ट हो जाना, खत्म हो जाना 6. विलोपन

1. What does "Nature" in the passage mean?
 - (a) Countryside covered with plants and trees.
 - (b) Physical power that created the world.
 - (c) Inherent things that determine character.
 - (d) Practical study of plants and animals.
2. Which one of the following is the correct statement?
According to the passage

- (a) beauty is only skin-deep.
- (b) everything is beautiful in its natural state.
- (c) there is beauty in nature.
- (d) Nature is a moral teacher.

3. What does the writer suggest?
 - (a) We should not modernize, so that Nature can be preserved.
 - (b) While modernizing, we should be careful not to destroy nature completely.
 - (c) All nature has been destroyed by modern living.
 - (d) Carving out natural reserves will hamper the growth of industries.
4. What does "struggle" in the passage mean?
 - (a) Man's struggle to exist in the world.
 - (b) Man's struggle to save Nature.
 - (c) Man's struggle to catch up with modern trends.
 - (d) Man's struggle to conserve oxygen.
5. Why a beautiful landscape 'will fill with infinite satisfaction'?
 - (a) We love beauty.
 - (b) It is full of green vegetation.
 - (c) It will ensure our future existence.
 - (d) It will show our command over Nature.

PASSAGE-27

In the technological systems of tomorrow fast – fluid and self – regulating – machines will deal with the flow of physical materials; men with the flow of information and **insight**¹. Machines will increasingly perform tasks. Machines and men both, instead of being concentrated in gigantic factories and factory cities, will be scattered across the globe, linked together by amazingly sensitive, **near-instantaneous**²

communication. Human work will **move out**³ of the factory and mass office into the community and the home. Machines will be synchronised, as some already are, to the billionth of a second; men will be **desynchronised**⁴. The factory whistle will **vanish**⁵. Even the clock, "the key machine of the modern industrial age" as Lewis Mumford called it a generation ago, will lose some of its power over humans, as distinct from purely technological affairs. Simultaneously, the organisation needed to control technology will shift from bureaucracy to **Adhocracy**⁶, from **permanence**⁷ to **transience**⁸, and from a concern with the present to a focus on the future.

In such a world, the most valued **attributes**⁹ of the industrial age become handicaps. The technology of tomorrow requires not millions of lightly lettered men, ready to work in unison at endlessly repetitive jobs, it requires not men who take orders in unblinking fashion, aware that the price of bread is mechanical **submission**¹⁰ to authority, but men who can make critical judgements, who can **weave**¹¹ their way through novel environments, who are quick to spot new relationships in the rapidly changing reality. It requires men who, in C.P. Snow's, compelling terms, "have the future in their bones".

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. पूर्ण ज्ञान 2. तात्कालिक/क्षणिक 3. बाहर निकल जाना
4. लयबद्ध न होना 5. नष्ट होना 6. अनौपचारिक संगठनात्मक संरचना
7. स्थायित्व 8. अस्थायित्व 9. गुण विशेषता
10. आत्मसमर्पण/प्रस्तुतीकरण 11. जोड़ना

1. The technological system of tomorrow will be marked by:
 - (a) dehumanisation.
 - (b) perfection.
 - (c) automation.
 - (d) unpredictability.
2. The future man, according to this passage, must be:
 - (a) most adaptative and intelligent.
 - (b) most capable of dealing with the changing reality.
 - (c) more concerned with the present than the future.
 - (d) trained and obedient.
3. 'Near-instantaneous communications' may be regarded as a symbol of:
 - (a) anachronisation.
 - (b) mischronisation.
 - (c) desynchronisation.
 - (d) synchronisation.
4. If a person believes that 'the price of is mechanical submission to authority', is:
 - (a) a believer in devotion to duty.
 - (b) a believer in taking things for granted.
 - (c) a believer in doing what he is told, right or wrong.
 - (d) a believer in the honesty of machines.
5. The type of society which the author has mentioned makes a plea for:
 - (a) a mind assimilative of modern scientific ideas.
 - (b) a critical mind having insight into future.
 - (c) a mind well-versed in cultural heritage.
 - (d) a mind with firm principles of life.

PASSAGE-28

A reason why children at school read books is to please their teacher. If the teacher has said that his, or the other is a

good book, and that it is a sign of good taste to enjoy it, a number of boys and girls, **anxious**¹ to please their teacher, get the book and read it. Two or three of them may genuinely like it, for its own sake, and be grateful to the teacher for putting it in their way. But many will not honestly like it, or will **persuade**² themselves that they like it. And that does a great deal of harm. The people who cannot like the book run the risk of two things happening to them; either they are **put off**³ the idea of the book-let us suppose the book was David Copperfield-either they are put off the idea of classical novels, or they take a dislike to Dickens, and decide firmly never to waste their time on anything of the sort again; or they get a **guilty**⁴ **conscience**⁵ about the whole thing, they feel that they do not like what they ought to like and therefore there is something wrong with them.

They are quite mistaken, of course. There is nothing wrong with them. The mistake has all been on the teacher's side. What has happened is that they have been **shoved up**⁶ against a book before they were ready for it. It is like stomach-ache, and a rooted dislike of that article of food evermore.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. व्याकुल/उद्विग्न 2. विश्वास दिलाता/फुसलाना 3. विरक्ति होना मन से ठहर जाना 4. आत्मलानि 5. जमीर 6. धकेलना

- The passage is about what:
 - we should do to make children read.
 - we should not ask children to read.
 - teachers should teach in the classroom.
 - treatment is to be given for indigestion.

- The writer says that teacher should:
 - prevent children from reading any book.
 - compel children to read moral stories.
 - stop compelling children to read books recommended by them.
 - carefully supervise what children read.
- According to the author many boys and girls read books to:
 - win the favour of their teachers.
 - spend money in a useful way.
 - express their gratitude to their teachers.
 - show others that they are lovers of books.
- "The mistake has been on the teacher's side". Hence, the 'mistake' refers to:
 - making the children please the teacher.
 - asking the children to read books which teachers do not like.
 - discouraging children from reading more books.
 - recommending them the books intended for adults.
- Indigestion and violent stomach-ache will be the result if the child:
 - reads books not suitable for his age.
 - does not read any book.
 - is forced to eat food meant for adults.
 - is not taken to doctor regularly.

PASSAGE-29

He **dropped off**¹ to sleep. The cigarette **slipped out**² of his mouth and burnt a great black hole in his only shirt. The smart of the burn awoke him, and he got up, cursing under his breath and **stumble**³, about to fall in the dark for a

needle in order to sew up the hole. Otherwise his wife would see it is the morning and would **nag away**⁴ at him for a couple of hours. But he could not find a needle. He fell asleep again.

1. The cigarette fell out of the man's mouth because
 - (a) he fell off his stool.
 - (b) he was surprised to see that it had made a hole in his shirt.
 - (c) he fell asleep while smoking.
 - (d) he fumbled in the dark for a needle.
2. The man woke up in the dark because
 - (a) the cigarette has burnt his favourite shirt.
 - (b) the cigarette had burnt his only shirt.
 - (c) the cigarette had to be lit again.
 - (d) the cigarette had burnt him.
3. The man got up to search for a needle because
 - (a) his wife would be very upset.
 - (b) the cigarette had damaged his only shirt.
 - (c) he wanted to mend the shirt.
 - (d) the burn-hole was huge and black.
4. The man wanted to sew the hole because
 - (a) he wanted to avoid being scolded by his wife.
 - (b) he had nothing else to do.
 - (c) he had no other shirt.
 - (d) he wanted to sleep again.
5. Which one of the following statements best sums up the man's reaction to his problem?
 - (a) The man is extremely upset to find the shirt burnt and frantically tries to repair the damage.

- (b) The hole in the shirt and the wife's anticipated nagging are minor problems, the greater one is that the man cannot find a needle.
- (c) Neither the shirt-hole nor the nagging nor the lack of a needle is of great consequence.
- (d) The man is terrified of his wife and dreads her discovering the burnt shirt.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. चले जाना, आगोश में होना
2. बाहर निकलना
3. लड़खड़ाना/ लुढ़कना
4. दोष ढूँढ़ना

PASSAGE-30

Deriving your authority from the government, your position would **secure**¹ the respect and consideration of everyone, especially in a service where official rank carries so much weight. This would secure you every attention and comfort on your way and there, together with a complete submission to your orders. I know these things are a matter of **indifference**² to you except so far as they may further, the great objects you have in view, but they are of importance in themselves, and of every importance to those who have a right to take an interest in your personal position and comfort.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. प्राप्त कर लेना
2. विरक्ति/उदासीनता

1. The great objects in the passage means
 - (a) Significant items
 - (b) Noble goals.
 - (c) Precious merchandise.
 - (d) Objects of praise.

2. The writer is asking his reader to accept
 - (a) great objects.
 - (b) a respected position.
 - (c) an official rank.
 - (d) a significant assignment.
3. The person addressed is most likely a
 - (a) social worker.
 - (b) government servant.
 - (c) commercial agent.
 - (d) foreign dignitary.
4. The writer's attitude towards the person addressed is characterised by
 - (a) Officiousness.
 - (b) Flattery.
 - (c) Humility.
 - (d) Arrogance.
5. The above passage most probably is a part of a
 - (a) Speech.
 - (b) Official communication.
 - (c) Written report.
 - (d) Personal letter.

PASSAGE-31

The New Year is a time for **resolutions**¹. Mentally at least, most of us could **compile**² **formidable**³ lists of do's and don'ts. The same old favourites recur year in and year out with monotonous regularity. Past experience has taught us that certain accomplishments are beyond attainment. If we remain **inveterate**⁴ smokers, it is only because we have so often experienced frustration that results from failure. Most of us fail in our efforts at self improvement because our schemes are too ambitious and we never have time to carry them out. We also make the fundamental error of announcing our resolutions to everybody so that we look even more foolish when we slip back into our old bad ways.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. संकल्प 2. इकट्ठा करना 3. डराने वाले 4. जिद्दी

1. The phrase 'formidable lists of do's and don'ts' means that
 - (a) the bad points of our character are formidable.
 - (b) the list is so long that it is frightening.
 - (c) the things that need to be included is frightening.
 - (d) the realisation that we are so imperfect is frightening.
2. 'The same old favourites recur with monotonous regularity' implies that
 - (a) we want to be so perfect that we include some items regularly.
 - (b) we have been so regularly doing certain things that they have become monotonous.
 - (c) in spite of repeated failures, we still would like to try one more time.
 - (d) some favourite actions if repeated often could become monotonous.
3. The author seems to imply that many are inveterate smokers because
 - (a) they have not really tried to give up smoking.
 - (b) they know from past experience that they can never succeed in their attempt to give up smoking.
 - (c) they want to forget the frustration of not smoking.
 - (d) they do not have the will power to stop smoking.
4. The author says that most of us fail in our attempts at self improvement because
 - (a) we set too high goals for ourselves.
 - (b) we do not have the persistence of mind.

- (c) our nature is such that we cannot become perfect.
- (d) certain imperfections have become a part and parcel of our lives.
5. The author seems to think that others
- (a) feel happy when we slip back to our old ways.
- (b) do not really want us to improve ourselves.
- (c) are ready to tease and laugh at our attempts.
- (d) might embarrass us by praising our attempts.

PASSAGE-32

As a farmer, I was **determined**¹ that we should get on the computer bandwagon, says Krishnappa Jagannath, the 40-year old head of the Gram computer-savvy² brother in the US, Jagannath drew up a plan and convinced others of its merit. **Within no time**³, he was able to raise Rs. 65,000 from the public, enough for the purchase of two assembled Pentium II computers.

That was easy enough. But who would operate these machines? Jagannath decided that it had to be the villagers themselves. He got in touch with a software company, which agreed to train the villagers. Although **wary**⁴ initially, the people knew it was worth a try. As they realized it was not so difficult, more and more villagers joined in. Those like T.S. Shobha who showed a greater **aptitude**⁵ were sent for extensive training.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. दृढ़-संकल्पी 2. समझना/जानना 3. अतिशीघ्र
4. सावधान/चौकन्ना/सर्तक 5. अभिरुचि

1. Initially Krishnappa Jagannath raised Rs. 65,000:

- (a) As a loan from bank.
- (b) As a loan from Gram Panchayat.
- (c) From the public.
- (d) As a borrowing from his brother in the US.
2. Krishnappa Jagannath is a:
- (a) Computer engineer trained in the US.
- (b) Head of the Gram Panchayat.
- (c) District Magistrate of Belandur.
- (d) Senior Secondary School teacher in Belandur.
3. Initially the major problem which confronted the villagers was:
- (a) Whether branded or assembled computers should be purchased.
- (b) Arranging finance for purchase of computers.
- (c) As to who would operate the machines.
- (d) Getting clearance from the Government authorities.
4. T.S. Shobha was sent for extensive training because she
- (a) Was a graduate.
- (b) Showed a great aptitude for computers.
- (c) Had a computer-savvy brother in the US.
- (d) Was very influential.
5. Computer training for the villagers was arranged through:
- (a) Computer Society of India.
- (b) A software company.
- (c) Government of Karnataka.
- (d) A Non-Government Organization.

PASSAGE-33

Engineers India Limited (EIL), a public sector undertaking was set up in 1965. It is the leading design and engineering company in the field of petroleum refineries, petrochemicals, oil and gas processing **offshore**¹ structures and platforms, fertilizers, metallurgy, and

power. The services provided by EIL include design, engineering, **procurement**², construction anagement, commissioning assistance and project management besides specialist services in the areas of environmental engineering, heat and mass transfer equipment, information technology materials and maintenance, risk analysis, energy conservation and advance control and optimization. It has to its credit over 4000 assignment including 250 major projects. EIL has exported its services to a number of countries in Asia and Africa.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

1. समुद्रतट से दूर 2. प्रबंध, इंतजाम

- Engineers India Limited is:
 - A petroleum company.
 - A leading design and engineering company.
 - An engineering training organization.
 - An IT company.
- Engineers India Limited handles:
 - Only government contracts.
 - Projects only within the country.
 - Projects both within India and abroad.
 - Projects only in the private sector within India.
- Engineers India Limited does not deal in which of the following areas?
 - Construction management.
 - Environment management.
 - Heat and mass transfer equipment.
 - Cement manufacture.
- The services provided by Engineers India Limited include:
 - Commissioning assistance.
 - Financial help.
 - Water-harvesting.

(d) Export duty clearance.

- Engineers India Limited provides specialist services in:

- Procurement.
- Construction management.
- Risk analysis.
- Project management.

PASSAGE-34

Some people believe that they are masters of their own fate. Other people see themselves as **pawns of fate**¹, believing that what happens to them in their lives is due to luck or chance. The first type, those who believe that they control their **destinies**², have been **labelled**³ internals, whereas the latter, who see their lives as being controlled by outside forces, have been called externals. Internals search more actively for information before making a decision, are more motivated to achieve, and make a greater attempt to control their environment. Externals, however, are more compliant and willing to follow directions. Therefore, internals do well on **sophisticated tasks**⁴ - which include most **managerial**⁵ and professional jobs - that require complex information processing and learning. In addition, internals are more suited to jobs that require initiative and independence of action. Almost all successful salespeople, for instance are internals. In contrast, externals should do well on jobs that are well structured and routine and in which success depends heavily on **complying**⁶ with the directions of others.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

- किस्मत के हाथों की कठपुतली 2. भाग्य/किस्मत 3. उपनाम दिया हुआ, वर्गीकृत किया हुआ 4. जटिल गुढ़ कार्य 5. प्रबंधकीय, शासकीय 6. पालन करना

- Which one of the following is not correct?
Internals-
(a) Have more confidence in their ability.
(b) Are more enterprising.
(c) Go in for more routine jobs.
(d) Are more inquisitive.
- Which one of these is correct?
(a) Internals believe in destiny.
(b) Internals seek jobs which are full of fun of fun and enjoyment.
(c) Internals believe in receiving guidance and directions from superiors only.
(d) Internals seek jobs which call for more initiative.
- Externals perceive themselves:
(a) as those who search frantically for more information.
(b) as critical to the success of the organization.
(c) as those who can influence sales volumes.
(d) as having little control over organizational outcome.
- Externals:
(a) Opt for acquiring new skill-sets.
(b) Believe that initiative and drive are important for career-building.
(c) Believe that destiny controls their lives.
(d) Relish handling complex information processing.

PASSAGE-35

The **prisoner**¹ awaited his chance. For three solid years he had schemed for this opportunity. Now that escape seemed so near at hand, those three years lost some of their **monotony**². But he would never forget the **lashes**³, the close **confinement**⁴, low diet, and worse still the **mental strain**⁵ of those black days. Suddenly the warden did what he had hoped. He stopped to unlock the lower **padlock**⁶. With a dull thud he

slumped forward with keys in his hands. Swiftly the prisoner seized his keys, unlocked the hall, and ran into the **courtyard**⁷. It took him four seconds to reach the rope-ladder secretly placed there by his accomplices, five more to **clamber**⁸ over the wall, and three more to jump into the waiting car to be **whisked away**⁹ to freedom. Even though he was guilty, the **prisoner**¹⁰ felt he had paid for his crime, for the man he had robbed three years ago was still a **millionaire**¹¹.

महत्वपूर्ण शब्दार्थ:-

- कैदी 2. नीरसता 3. चाबुको की मार 4. कारावास 5. मानसिक परेशानी 6. एक प्रकार का बाहर लटकने वाला ताला 7. प्रकोष्ठ, प्रांगण 8. हाथ-पैर के बल चढ़ना 9. फुर्ती से लेकर भागना 10. कैदी 11. लखपति
- For what crime had the prisoner been punished?
(a) Murder (b) Arson
(c) Robbery (d) Kidnapping
- When had the crime been committed?
(a) Just before the escape.
(b) Three years earlier.
(c) Long ago.
(d) Day earlier.
- Who slumped forward with a dull thud?
(a) The millionaire.
(b) The warden.
(c) The prisoner.
(d) Prisoner's accomplice.
- How many seconds did it take for the prisoner to regain his freedom?
(a) Four (b) Eight
(c) Twelve (d) Ten.
- What did the prisoner suffer the most during imprisonment?
(a) Loss of freedom.
(b) Mental strain.
(c) Physical torture.
(d) Absence from his family.

Answer key

Passage-1

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

Passage-2

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

Passage-3

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

Passage-4

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

Passage-5

1. (c)
2. (c)
3. (d)
4. (c)

Passage-6

1. (d)
2. (c)
3. (d)
4. (a)

Passage-7

1. (a)
2. (c)
3. (a)

Passage-8

1. (c)
2. (a)
3. (b)

Passage-9

1. (d)
2. (c)
3. (d)

Passage-10

1. (b)
2. (c)
3. (c)

Passage-11

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

Passage-12

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

Passage-13

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

Passage-14

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

Passage-15

1. (a)

2. (d)
3. (b)
4. (c)
5. (d)

Passage-16

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

Passage-17

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

Passage-18

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

Passage-19

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

Passage-20

1. (b)
2. (d)
3. (c)
4. (b)

Passage-21

1. (a)
2. (d)
3. (b)
4. (b)

Passage-22

1. (a)

2. (c)
3. (b)
4. (b)

Passage-23

1. (d)
2. (d)
3. (c)
4. (a)

Passage-24

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

Passage-25

1. (b)
2. (d)
3. (b)
4. (c)

Passage-26

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

Passage-27

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

Passage-28

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

Passage-29

1. (c)
2. (d)

3. (c)
4. (a)
5. (c)

Passage-30

1. (b)
2. (b)
3. (b)
4. (b)
5. (a)

Passage-31

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

Passage-32

1. (c)
2. (b)
3. (c)
4. (b)
5. (b)

Passage-33

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

Passage-34

1. (c)
2. (d)
3. (d)
4. (c)

Passage-35

1. (c)
2. (b)
3. (b)
4. (c)
5. (b)