



ODD MAN OUT SENTENCE NEW PATTERN

PRACTICE SETS

Directions: Five statements are given below, labelled a, b, c, d and e. Among these, **four statements are in logical order** and form a **coherent** paragraph/passage. From the given options, choose the option **that does not fit** into the **theme of the passage**.

Q1.

- (a) Although aging may seem a less pressing problem than global population growth, it is real and has to be tackled.
- (b) Providing contraception to the 215 million women that today want to avoid pregnancy but can't, would cost about \$3.6 billion.
- (c) It would annually result in 640,000 fewer new born deaths, 150,000 fewer maternal deaths and 600,000 fewer children who lose their mother.
- (d) Estimating this misery in economic terms may seem cold, but it makes it possible to compare contraception to other big challenges.
- (e) In total, contraception would avoid about \$145 billion in human misery. That alone means that every dollar spent will do \$40 good.
- (A) (a)
(B) (b)
(C) (c)
(D) (d)
(E) (e)

Q2.

- (a) Thirty years after it began, the South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (Saarc) has made middling progress.
- (b) Power trading and evacuation is continuing despite belligerence on the China-Vietnam border.
- (c) Each time a Saarc summit ends with relative disappointment — as the one in Kathmandu did last month — the same cries emerge, essentially blaming India and Pakistan and their bilateral problems for holding Saarc hostage.
- (d) This is largely true, and Saarc has had to wait for India and Pakistan to sort out their issues.
- (e) The Chinese have exploited a vacuum and moved into many of the Saarc countries, unencumbered by the institutional inertia of the association and happy to do easier, bilateral deals.
- (A) (a)
(B) (b)
(C) (c)
(D) (d)
(E) (e)

Q3.

- (a) It seems that one way or another, sooner or later, the Insurance Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2008 will become a law.

(b) This Bill is often described as critical whose passage is necessary for the whole economic reforms process to move forward.

(c) This means that industry and the regulator measure success by how much money insurers have taken from customers, rather than how much insurance they have delivered and to how many people.

(d) In fact, for many years now, this Bill has been referred to as a litmus test of whether the government of the day was serious about economic reforms.

(e) On the flip side, opposition the insurance Bill has been a given among those against economic reforms.

- (A) (a)
(B) (b)
(C) (c)
(D) (d)
(E) (e)

Q4.

(a) Islamic banking encourages and facilitates investment in real economic activity and societal welfare while prohibiting investment in speculative businesses. It has its roots in religious principles.

(b) So does the concept of the Hindu Undivided Family, which is treated as a distinct class of taxpayer and not taxed as an Association of Persons (AoP).

(c) The tax laws have been specially modified to harmonise the legislation with Hindu customs and social practices.

(d) The goal of trade and enterprise in Islamic finance is equitable generation of wealth and prosperity through acceptable business activities.

(e) The provision blatantly favours only a section of society.

- (A) (a)
(B) (b)
(C) (c)
(D) (d)
(E) (e)

Q5.

(a) The clamour for security, accountability and transparency is leading to unfettered increase in the power of states.

(b) We are enacting law after law, introducing technology after technology, to render citizens transparent to the state.

(c) But at the same time, we are weakening protections and consenting to technologies in a way that makes the state less transparent to us.

(d) Totalitarian states often do this against the wishes of their citizens; in our democracy, our consent is being mobilised to put an imprimatur over more control and arbitrariness.

(e) Clearing ambiguity means "the judiciary should not be allowed to hold the state accountable."

- (A) (a)
(B) (b)
(C) (c)
(D) (d)
(E) (e)



Q6.

(a) It is common knowledge that the auction proceeds are expected to balance the country budget and deferring the entire process to the next fiscal would mean foregoing the receipts estimated in this year's budget.

(b) As the Telecom sector prepares to slip into the New Year 2015, the top of the mind issue for all the sector stakeholders is the upcoming spectrum auctions announced for February 2015.

(c) Availability and quantum of 2100 Mhz spectrum, spectrum trading/sharing guidelines, effectiveness of existing M&A guidelines, technology agnostic spectrum award etc. being some of the foremost issues.

(d) Clarity on one or more of these issues will have a significant bearing on the bidding strategy that each of the Operators will deploy in the upcoming auctions as Operators will have spectrum availability options that will go beyond just buying replacement spectrum in this auction process which has minimal fresh spectrum to offer.

(e) The other benefits of providing clarity on the pending issues before rushing into the auction will be the much needed restoration of trust and policy proactiveness that as country and as a sector we need to demonstrate to both internal and external investors.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q7.

(a) For the last decade-and-a-half, the world has made a few, smart promises with the so-called Millennium Development Goals: halve the proportion of hunger and poverty, get all kids in school and dramatically reduce child mortality.

(b) Most participants discussing the Sustainable Development Goals recognize that we need much, much fewer targets.

(c) We have definitely seen a huge move towards success, although not all promises will be achieved.

(d) What is somewhat surprising, however, is that we have fairly little information about what exactly we achieved.

(e) According to data from the World Health Organization and the World Bank, in 1990 there were 560 maternal deaths out of 100,000 live births in India and this number went down to 190 last year.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q8.

(a) To paraphrase a famous quote, it may have been one small step in launching rockets, but a giant leap for a country's space ambitions.

(b) The debut experimental flight of India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle Mark III (GSLV Mk III) on Thursday must have dispelled whatever doubts that lingered in the minds of India's space scientists about their flagship launcher's capabilities.

(c) Manned space flight capability will enable India to enter an advanced field where there are few competitors, especially given Isro's credentials as a unique organisation where the return on investment is very high.

(d) For, India's most powerful rocket was yet to prove its reliability, having failed in four of its previous seven flights.

(e) The Mk III did not launch any satellite. Instead, the 630-tonne rocket carried aloft the hopes of Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) scientists as they validated its flight parameters and stability during its suborbital hop of the planet at a height of around 126 km.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q9.

(a) According to the International Energy Agency, India is among the highest non-OECD subsidisers of energy consumption, with subsidies of over \$10 billion per year, despite undertaking price reform of fossil fuels in the last decade.

(b) With the rise in crude oil prices since 2005, the cost of subsidies more than doubled. Although subsidy cost to government has been falling as petroleum prices are falling, it still remains high.

(c) Such a subsidy is both inefficient and inequitable. Until 2012, this was completely untargeted: the subsidy was available for all households on as many LPG cylinders as one consumed.

(d) A subsidy was offered to all households for up to nine cylinders per year, and consumption after the ninth cylinder was chargeable at full cost.

(e) There is no reason for middle class and above households not to pay the full cost of production, especially since they consume a much higher number than poor households who rarely consume more than six cylinders a year.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q10.

(a) Ever since the global financial crisis, India has been trying to come to grips with its twin balance sheet (TBS) problem — over-leveraged corporates and the bad-loan encumbered banks.

(b) But a decisive resolution has proved elusive, and the problem has continued to fester.

(c) Perhaps it is time to consider a different approach — a centralised Public Sector Asset Rehabilitation Agency



(PARA) that could take charge of the largest, most difficult cases and make politically tough decisions to reduce debt.

(d) For some years, it seemed possible to regard TBS as a minor problem, which would largely be resolved as economic recovery took hold. But the problem has only worsened.

(e) With balance sheets under such strain, the private corporate sector has been forced to curb its investments, while banks have been reducing credit in real terms.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q11.

(a) Our Parliament is one of a handful which has a wealth of information available on its website.

(b) Our Parliament is the focal point of our democracy.

(c) It shoulders the responsibility of enacting a robust legal framework and holding the government accountable.

(d) The houses of Parliament are also supposed to be at the forefront of thought leadership on policy issues.

(e) To do its job effectively, Parliament needs adequate resources.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q12.

(a) To understand the vehement opposition to 33 per cent women's reservation in urban local bodies (ULBs) in Nagaland by male-dominated/all-male Naga tribal bodies, it is imperative that all illusions about tribal society being simple are dispelled.

(b) So far, only men are privy to the utilisation and sharing of resources allotted by the Central and state governments, as also available resources of clan and tribe land ownership.

(c) In the case of the Nagas, it is even more multi-faceted for historical and political reasons.

(d) Now, with rapidly changing national and global economic eco-systems, in a patriarchal society with one foot still in the subsistence economy, economic apprehensions have impacted political perspectives.

(e) Opposition to women's participation in decision-making bodies and processes is centuries-old in Naga society. Our customary laws are deeply rooted in patriarchy.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q13.

(a) The health budget this year has made special provisions for elimination of five infectious diseases, strengthening of rural sub-centres, recruitment of specialist doctors in government hospitals, increased allocation for programmes for women and children, and free treatment for the elderly poor.

(b) Missing in this list is a mention of increased budgetary support for the prevention, control and care for non-communicable diseases like cancer, diabetes, hypertension and heart diseases — the major causes of ill health, disability and death in the country today.

(c) The goal of tuberculosis elimination highlights another public health issue that has not received mention in the budget.

(d) These diseases do not only afflict urban residents. They are the major cause of death and ill health in rural areas, where incomes are lower, and medical services are more difficult to reach.

(e) A small part of this distress could have been addressed through additional budgetary provisions.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q14.

(a) The Jallikattu protest began in a fashion similar to the anti-Hindi protest.

(b) It was self-led and had no affiliation with any political party.

(c) What's different now is that the protest is even larger in terms of participation from the people of Tamil Nadu.

(d) Moves were made to make it appear like some of the protesters were self-proclaimed leaders and they were painted as traitors who left the protest halfway.

(e) Their slogans echoed loudly and clearly as people thronged to Marina beach, deciding to stay put until the gates were opened for the bulls.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q15.

(a) On January 18, Dawn reported that chief minister Mehbooba Mufti had proposed the opening of a new trade route that would negate regional conflict.

(b) The route would connect diverse communities now suffering under the long-simmering India-Pakistan conflict.

(c) She held up Kashmir as the most game-changing trading nucleus connecting South Asia with Central Asia.

(d) Mufti must have pondered long because her statement contains a lot of detail about the route that is supposed to deliver "regional cooperation, energy transformation, trade and transit" with Kashmir as its central point.

(e) A hostile Pakistan has stood between India and its potential trade partners in Central Asia.



- (A)(a)
- (B)(b)
- (C)(c)
- (D)(d)
- (E)(e)

Q16.

- (a) It is not one's case that election funding makes no difference to cleaning up public life; it does, but it does not really attack the problem of black money generation through corruption.
 - (b) What makes the Indian state more corrupt than most others?
 - (c) This has to do with the state apparatus being "overdeveloped" in relation to the development of classes in society, making the state virtually a "class" by and for itself.
 - (d) When sociologist Hamza Alavi outlined his "overdevelopment" thesis, it was with reference to the state apparatus having developed in response to the needs of the imperial British state, rather than "classes" in Indian society which were underdeveloped at Independence.
 - (e) The state has since grown into a hormonally imbalanced Leviathan, which dominates almost every aspect of the social and economic life of its citizens, expanding corruption opportunities massively.
- (A)(a)
 - (B)(b)
 - (C)(c)
 - (D)(d)
 - (E)(e)

Q17.

- (a) Never since India became an independent nation 60 years ago has national security been more under threat.
 - (b) Until we realise that clerks cannot be put in charge of national security, this is the kind of security we will get.
 - (c) The enemy may only be a bunch of religious fanatics but they are highly motivated and, as we saw in Mumbai, highly trained.
 - (d) To fight them we need to strengthen our defenses. Our soldiers and policemen need better weapons and they need better training.
 - (e) This will not happen if we carry on in our usual fashion.
- (A)(a)
 - (B)(b)
 - (C)(c)
 - (D)(d)
 - (E)(e)

Q18.

- (a) Air quality has improved dramatically in rich countries over the past century.
- (b) Yet air pollution is still a huge problem, especially in the developing world.
- (c) Moreover, more efficient stoves would on average save about 30% fuel, which translates into a saving of up to \$57 per household per year, and at the same time make cooking more efficient and less time consuming.

- (d) It kills about 7 million people each year, accounting for one out of every eight deaths globally.
- (e) In India, it now kills 1.6 million people each year or one of six deaths.

- (A)(a)
- (B)(b)
- (C)(c)
- (D)(d)
- (E)(e)

Q19.

- (a) The World Health Organization says outdoor air, for instance, in Beijing, New Delhi and Karachi is several times more polluted than the outdoor air in Berlin, London and Paris.
 - (b) But the typical indoor air in a developing country house with an open fire is many times more polluted than Beijing, New Delhi or Karachi.
 - (c) Another 1.4 billion are still cooking with traditional, polluting stoves, and even improved stoves cause more pollution than found in most cities.
 - (d) That is why indoor air pollution kills 4.3 million people each year, making it one of the world's leading causes of death.
 - (e) Yet indoor air pollution is rarely among the big issues the world discusses.
- (A)(a)
 - (B)(b)
 - (C)(c)
 - (D)(d)
 - (E)(e)

Q20.

- (a) According to the World Health Organization (WHO), although food-borne illnesses cause many deaths, their disease burden is not known.
 - (b) Consider the soaring cases of cancer. Carcinogenic pesticides that are omnipresent in food are estimated to cause up to 20 deaths a day in Punjab.
 - (c) The incidence of cancer is so widespread that a train emanating out of Bhatinda is tragically spoken of as the 'Cancer Express'.
 - (d) Food safety systems offer an economic opportunity through increased export earnings and higher domestic prices for farmers and manufacturers.
 - (e) From the same fields, the food reaches our plate and feeds all, including children and pregnant women.
- (A)(a)
 - (B)(b)
 - (C)(c)
 - (D)(d)
 - (E)(e)

Q21.

- (a) Technological change means that many routine tasks will soon be done by machines.
- (b) In contrast to previous episodes, the internet will also make many tasks carried out in white-collar jobs redundant.



(c) This puts a premium on different types of skills that automation complements rather than replaces. Education systems have been slow to respond to this challenge.

(d) Furthermore, the pace of change is fast, and the types of skills in demand change quickly.

(e) Internet firms create new business models and change market structure, posing new challenges for regulatory authorities.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q22.

(a) Regulatory reform that improves the business environment is the first priority.

(b) The internet emerged from U.S. government research in the 1970s, but as it grew into a global network of networks, its governance structure has evolved.

(c) Today, the internet is managed by an international coalition of governments, industry, technical experts, and civil society—in what is referred to as the multistakeholder model.

(d) U.S. users are now a small minority of total internet users, given the dramatic growth in the number of users in developing countries, especially in Asia.

(e) Many countries are demanding more meaningful representation in the discussions of how the internet should be governed.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q23.

(a) Several countries have advocated for a multilateral model of governance, which would give national governments greater power in overseeing the internet, much the same way the United Nations, the International Telecommunication Union, or the World Bank are currently governed.

(b) In addition, the lack of trust among nations following the Edward Snowden episode, the surveillance by state agencies, and the increasing conflicts between national policy and regulations and global norms have raised questions about internet governance.

(c) The promoters of “multistakeholderism” argue that state control of the internet would not leave space for the range of players currently involved in internet governance and could pave the path for greater suppression of privacy and restrictions on access to information and on rights of free expression.

(d) The inability of the stakeholders of the internet to reach a consensus on future governance mechanisms can be costly; some have even suggested that the internet is at risk of splitting up into several local or regional internets.

(e) The broad-based, participatory approach involving all stakeholders is seen by many to be best suited to

ensure an efficient and unrestricted global flow of information essential for economic development.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q24.

(a) Digital technology creates opportunities to accelerate growth, but these are often missed because firms in sectors where technology’s impact is greatest are frequently protected from innovative competitors.

(b) Firms that face more competition use digital technology more intensively and effectively—it enables them to reduce their costs to outperform their competitors.

(c) The impact of digital technology on economic growth is mediated through three mechanisms—inclusion, efficiency, and innovation.

(d) But firms in developing countries do not necessarily have the incentive to adopt new technologies to increase their cost effectiveness because they are often protected from domestic or foreign competition.

(e) And it is precisely in protected sectors such as retail and wholesale trade, finance, transport, or public utilities where digital technology can increase productivity the most.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q25.

(a) Assessing the growth opportunities of the internet warrants more detailed analysis of the mechanisms for it to affect growth.

(b) Against this background, it is instructive to draw insights from the economics of the internet as well as from the past industrial revolutions.

(c) The internet reduces transaction costs, allowing firms to enter new markets, enhance their efficiency, and exploit economies of scale, leading to innovation.

(d) Digital technologies accounted for a higher share of aggregate growth in high-income countries, pointing to greater digital use.

(e) It does this by reducing information frictions, search costs, and the costs to communicate.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q26.

(a) The rise of online marketplaces can accelerate the integration of developing countries into world markets, opening substantial opportunities for trade and future growth.



(b) In China, Alibaba already enables smaller and younger firms to sell more products and reach more new consumers or businesses in foreign countries.

(c) Online marketplaces also emerged in other developing regions, but so far only on a (much) smaller scale or for market niches.

(d) For example, the Moroccan online platform Anou enables artisans in rural areas to directly export their products online, cutting out traditional middlemen.

(e) A 10-percent increase in the internet use of a country pair increases the average bilateral trade value per product by 0.6 percent.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q27.

(a) Better communication technologies have facilitated the unbundling of tasks, the “second unbundling” of international trade.

(b) The rollout of broadband infrastructure boosted exports and labor productivity in China even in the era before Alibaba, from 1999 to 2007.

(c) The number of internet users increased across all provinces between 1997 and 2007, though it was stronger in coastal areas in the earlier years and in several inland provinces in later years.

(d) The value of real exports seems to have followed a similar pattern. The increase in internet domains and users per capita had a positive impact on firms’ manufacturing exports in ICT-intensive sectors.

(e) It raised the number of firms that export, the firms’ share of export in total sales, and the real value of firms’ exports.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q28.

(a) Price comparator websites enhance transparency in prices and result in lower and less dispersed prices for consumers.

(b) Online registration systems can lower the cost of entry for new players, increasing competitive pressure for incumbents.

(c) Consider term-life insurance, where average prices have fallen up to 15 percent in the United States after the introduction of comparator sites.

(d) These websites emerged in 1996 and eliminated the previously high markups.

(e) The potential customer fills out a medical questionnaire online, and the sites report quotes from companies that offer a suitable policy.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q29.

(a) Cloud computing can reduce the costs of entry in developing countries, implying substantial opportunities for innovation and competition and thus future growth.

(b) It provides computing infrastructure (processing, memory, and storage of data), platform applications, and software services for firms with access to the internet.

(c) Despite the opportunities, firms’ use of digital technologies differs substantially across sectors and countries.

(d) Firms can use these services, for a fee, without investing in the underlying hardware or software infrastructure.

(e) Cloud computing has significantly reduced the fixed costs of starting a business in the last decade.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q30.

(a) Economic activities with a high potential growth impact from digital technologies are often protected from foreign or domestic competition in developing countries.

(b) The potential impact of the internet on firm productivity is often highest for economic activities that typically have higher barriers to competition.

(c) These sectors include utilities that are often natural monopolies, which are more difficult to regulate.

(d) Overall, countries that pursue procompetitive regulations in most sectors grow faster, as firms in these countries invest in digital technologies and use them more effectively.

(e) But they also include banking, insurance, transport, retail trade, and some professional services, which are often protected by regulations from more foreign or domestic competition in developing countries.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q31.

(a) Agricultural productivity varies dramatically around the world.

(b) While credit constraints, missing insurance markets, and poor infrastructure account for some of this disparity, suboptimal agricultural practices and poor management are also to blame.

(c) New production technologies such as improved seed varieties, nutrient management, and pest control methods are not necessarily reaching farmers.

(d) Public extension agents can overcome information barriers related to new agricultural practices and technologies, but such extension programs have been burdened by limited scale, sustainability, and impact



(e) technology-enabled interventions are no panacea in themselves, and need to be backed by complementary investments in physical infrastructure, including electricity and literacy.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q32.

(a) Overhaul the Union Public Service Commission (UPSC), and the state public service commissions, from selection to retirement without hurting their independence or neutrality.

(b) The apex of the bureaucracy is the Indian Administrative Service, the successor of the Imperial Civil Service with many vestiges of the British Raj.

(c) Look at the way these 'service members' have inveigled their way into colonial clubs and you'll know.

(d) This is not to say that all officers are corrupt or incompetent, or both. But it is a fact that there is a serious deficit of technical expertise in the civil service.

(e) Too many generalists, too little exposure to the real world and too much pride are the undoing of the bulk of India's bureaucracy.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q33.

(a) In a defined contribution plan, the employer and the employee make regular contributions to the fund.

(b) When there is a change in the economic growth, investment returns or demographic expectations on which the benefit payouts are based, the quantum of payout is threatened.

(c) There is a promise to contribute a fixed amount, usually a percentage of the employee's income, during his working years.

(d) There is no obligation to pay a fixed amount during retirement years.

(e) The employee can choose the investment vehicle and the amount he accrues depends on his and the employer's contribution to the fund and how long the money has grown.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q34.

(a) It is common knowledge that the MSME sector is often the most vulnerable of sectors in India because the sector is squeezed from all ends.

(b) The list of difficulties faced by MSMEs is long, including low financial reserves to weather economic downturns, limited access to capital markets, low scale,

cost and quality of power, complexities of labour laws and antiquated laws.

(c) Armed with such a favourable tax regime for small entrepreneurs, the government can then launch an aggressive educational campaign explaining how paying their taxes makes them eligible for bank credit, for which they otherwise become ineligible.

(d) While larger reforms are being worked upon for ease of doing business, the finance minister has the power to provide a significant breakthrough to MSMEs through a progressive tax code with a simple stroke of a pen!

(e) This government is desirous of making credit available to MSMEs and the finest way to achieve this is to make them bankable, and getting them to correctly report their income is the first step.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q35.

(a) In part, this economic resurgence can be traced to energy prices.

(b) As a major consumer of imported oil, India's economy has benefited from plummeting global oil prices.

(c) But it is also part of the bigger story in India today.

(d) Demand is still to pick up, even as concrete steps are sought to ease doing business and improving infrastructure.

(e) The unfurling of the second generation of reforms by the new government is central to this story.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q36.

(a) RBI has often commented on the policy transmission mechanism being weak.

(b) Therefore, when the RBI lowers or increases rates by 50 bps, the response in bank deposit and lending rates is not proportional.

(c) The repo rate affects them to the extent of say 1% of NDTL which is around `80-85,000 crore, which is accessed through the daily LAF and term repo facilities.

(d) Would this then mean the RBI has to lower the (liquidity adjustment facility) LAF facility in case it realises banks are not increasing rates when the repo rate is increased?

(e) Principal among the measures to accelerate growth is the significant outlay for infrastructure spending.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q37.



(a) Ensuring that the investment company is populated with senior bankers of repute and, therefore, not captured by the government would be a necessary step in this direction.

(b) The P J Nayak Committee had made far-reaching recommendations for improving governance in public sector banks (PSBs).

(c) The Budget suggests that the government is moving towards implementing majority of the committee's recommendations.

(d) The finance minister announced the intention to set up an autonomous Bank Board Bureau for searching and select heads of the PSBs.

(e) The bureau will also help the PSBs in developing differentiated strategies and capital-raising plans through innovative financial methods and instruments.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q38.

(a) A unicorn is a tech startup worth at least \$1 billion.

(b) For the average Indian startup, things haven't really changed in any perceptible sense yet.

(c) It used to be so rare it was considered mythical, especially so here in India. But of late, India has seen a number of unicorns emerging.

(d) How have these companies achieved unicorn valuations seemingly overnight? The primary driver of these valuations is the entry of a new breed of investors - international hedge funds that operate under a vastly different set of rules and imperatives compared to the local Indian investors.

(e) These funds are much larger and have a far longer tenure - they are far less sensitive to entry prices relative to their Indian peers and are not averse to putting in hundreds of millions of dollars into a single company

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q39.

(a) A team of economists from the World Bank has estimated that providing sanitation for 3 billion more people will cost about \$31 billion annually.

(b) This is the cost of providing such low-cost solutions as pour-flush and dry pit latrines in rural areas and flush toilets to a septic tank in urban areas, shared by less than 30 people.

(c) One stop on the way to better sanitation is simply avoiding open defecation in rural areas with shared latrine or communal toilets.

(d) Yet, the benefits will amount to \$92 billion annually, about three-quarters of which are time benefits, and the remaining one-quarter is health benefits (it omits environmental benefits).

(e) This means that every dollar spent on sanitation will help the world's most vulnerable about \$3, measured in better health and less time wasted.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q40.

(a) There is an additional burden on banks to ensure that any customer overpayment in excess of an amount equivalent to \$50,000 is refunded within 60 days.

(b) Ever since the Foreign Account Tax Compliance Act (FATCA) was enacted in 2010 by the US Congress to target non-compliance by taxpayers using foreign accounts, the hallucination effect has come into force.

(c) Banks and financial intuitions are related with US treasury accounts in some way or the other just like banks in India have USD Nostro accounts in the US.

(d) There is no choice except signing the Inter-Governmental Agreement for sharing of information with the US, or else it could have a negative impact on the economy.

(e) Under the pact, exchange of information between countries will be subject to a confidentiality clause.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q41.

(a) Generally Indian branch of the foreign bank borrow funds from its head office on which it pays interest.

(b) Certain amendments have also been proposed under the withholding tax provisions such as the banks that have adopted core banking solutions are now required to withhold tax on interest at the entity level as against the branch level

(c) Whether interest paid by a branch in India to its head office abroad should be included while calculating the profits of the branch for tax purposes has long been a subject matter of controversy.

(d) Likewise, it is also debatable as to whether interest paid by an Indian branch to its head office is taxable in India or not.

(e) The Special Bench of the Income-tax Appellate Tribunal in case of Sumotomo Mitsui Banking Corporation had held that interest payable by branch to head office is payment to self and the same therefore does not give rise to income in India.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q42.

(a) Spectrum is finite, which does not mean that spectrum is short.



(b) When India opened telephony to the private sector in the mid-1990s, spectrum shortage was not a factor influencing policy.

(c) If a country first invites investments with the implicit promise of spectrum for the life of the business, and when such businesses become large, it yanks away their spectrum and places it on 'auction'

(d) The reason was simple. Twenty years ago, no one could imagine that a sector considered a natural monopoly could ever attract more than two, at a stretch, three, operators.

(e) So, policy consideration was not spectrum shortage, it was spectrum squatting — how to avoid locking long-term rights with an operator who may squat on spectrum but not roll out.

(A)(a)

(B)(b)

(C)(c)

(D)(d)

(E)(e)

Q43.

(a) Self and personality refer to the characteristic ways in which we define our existence.

(b) They also refer to the ways in which our experiences are organised and show up in our behaviour.

(c) From common observation we know that different people hold different ideas about themselves.

(d) Our interaction with other people, our experiences, and the meaning we give to them, serve as the basis of our self.

(e) These ideas represent the self of a person. We also know that different people behave in different ways in a given situation, but the behaviour of a particular person from one situation to another generally remains fairly stable.

(A)(a)

(B)(b)

(C)(c)

(D)(d)

(E)(e)

Q44.

(a) A distinction is made between 'personal' and 'social' self.

(b) The personal self leads to an orientation in which one feels primarily concerned with oneself.

(c) We have talked above how our biological needs lead to the development of a 'biological self'.

(d) But, soon a child's psychological and social needs in the context of her/his environment lead other components of personal self to emerge.

(e) Some people have high self-esteem, whereas others may have low self-esteem.

(A)(a)

(B)(b)

(C)(c)

(D)(d)

(E)(e)

Q45.

(a) children with high academic self-esteem perform better in schools than those with low academic self-esteem, and children with high social self-esteem are more liked by their peers than those with low social self-esteem.

(b) The notion of self-efficacy is based on Bandura's social learning theory.

(c) Bandura's initial studies showed that children and adults learned behaviour by observing and imitating others.

(d) People's expectations of mastery or achievement and their convictions about their own effectiveness also determine the types of behaviour in which they would engage, as also the amount of risk they would undertake.

(e) A strong sense of self-efficacy allows people to select, influence, and even construct the circumstances of their own life.

(A)(a)

(B)(b)

(C)(c)

(D)(d)

(E)(e)

Q46.

(a) Many situations of life require resistance to situational pressures and control over ourselves.

(b) People differ in the extent to which they believe they themselves control their life outcomes or the outcomes are controlled by luck or fate or other situational factors

(c) This becomes possible through what is commonly known as 'will power'.

(d) As human beings we can control our behaviour the way we want.

(e) We often decide to delay or defer the satisfaction of certain needs.

(A)(a)

(B)(b)

(C)(c)

(D)(d)

(E)(e)

Q47.

(a) The most important distinction between the Indian and the Western views is the way the boundary is drawn between the self and the other.

(b) In the Western view, this boundary appears to be relatively fixed.

(c) For a layperson, personality generally refers to the physical or external appearance of an individual.

(d) The Indian view of self, on the other hand, is characterised by the shifting nature of this boundary.

(e) Thus, our self at one moment of time expands to fuse with the cosmos or include the others.

(A)(a)

(B)(b)

(C)(c)

(D)(d)

(E)(e)

Q48.



- (a) Once we are able to characterise someone's personality, we can predict how that person will probably behave in a variety of circumstances.
- (b) An understanding of personality allows us to deal with people in realistic and acceptable ways.
- (c) For example, if you find a child who does not like orders, the most effective way to deal with that child will be not to give orders, but to present a set of acceptable alternatives from which the child may choose.
- (d) Several aspects of self seem to be linked to the characteristic features of the culture in which an individual lives.
- (e) Similarly, a child who has feelings of inferiority needs to be treated differently from a child who is self-confident
- (A)(a)
(B)(b)
(C)(c)
(D)(d)
(E)(e)

Q49.

- (a) Gordon Allport is considered the pioneer of trait approach.
- (b) He proposed that individuals possess a number of traits, which are dynamic in nature.
- (c) They determine behaviour in such a manner that an individual approaches different situations with similar plans.
- (d) The traits integrate stimuli and responses which otherwise look dissimilar.
- (e) introverts are people who prefer to be alone, tend to avoid others, withdraw themselves in the face of emotional conflicts, and are shy.
- (A)(a)
(B)(b)
(C)(c)
(D)(d)
(E)(e)

Q50.

- (a) The most important is repression, in which anxiety provoking behaviours or thoughts are totally dismissed by the unconscious.
- (b) The best way to characterise the superego is to think of it as the moral branch of mental functioning.
- (c) The superego tells the id and the ego whether gratification in a particular instance is ethical.
- (d) It helps control the id by internalising the parental authority through the process of socialisation.
- (e) For example, if a boy sees and wants an ice-cream cone and asks his mother for it, his superego will indicate that his behaviour is morally correct.
- (A)(a)
(B)(b)
(C)(c)
(D)(d)
(E)(e)

Q51.

- (a) Behavioural approach does not give importance to the internal dynamics of behaviour.
- (b) The climatic conditions, the nature of terrain of the habitat and the availability of food (flora and fauna) in it determine not only people's economic activities, but also their settlement patterns, social structures, division of labour, and other features such as childrearing practices.
- (c) The behaviourists believe in data, which they feel are definable, observable, and measurable.
- (d) Thus, they focus on learning of stimulus-response connections and their reinforcement.
- (e) According to them, personality can be best understood as the response of an individual to the environment.
- (A)(a)
(B)(b)
(C)(c)
(D)(d)
(E)(e)

Q52.

- (a) In agricultural societies, children are socialised to be obedient to elders, nurturant to youngsters, and responsible to their duties.
- (b) Since these behavioural qualities make people more functional in agricultural societies, they become dominant features of people's personality
- (c) People try to express their capabilities, potentials and talents to the fullest extent possible.
- (d) In contrast to independence, autonomy and achievement, which are more functional (and thus highly valued) in hunting-gathering societies.
- (e) Because of different economic pursuits and cultural demands, children in hunting-gathering and agricultural societies develop and display different personality patterns.
- (A)(a)
(B)(b)
(C)(c)
(D)(d)
(E)(e)

Q53.

- (a) Assessment refers to the procedures used to evaluate or differentiate people on the basis of certain characteristics.
- (b) The goal of assessment is to understand and predict behaviour with minimum error and maximum accuracy.
- (c) In assessment, we try to study what a person generally does, or how s/he behaves, in a given situation.
- (d) Self-actualisation becomes possible by analysing the motivations that govern our life.
- (e) Besides promoting our understanding, assessment is also useful for diagnosis, training, placement, counselling, and other purposes.
- (A)(a)
(B)(b)
(C)(c)
(D)(d)
(E)(e)



Q54.

- (a) The psychoanalytic theory tells us that a large part of human behaviour is governed by unconscious motives.
(b) Direct methods of personality assessment cannot uncover the unconscious part of our behaviour.
(c) Hence, they fail to provide us with a real picture of an individual's personality.
(d) These problems can be overcome by using indirect methods of assessment.
(e) Social desirability is a tendency on the part of the respondent to endorse items in a socially desirable manner.

- (A) (a)
(B) (b)
(C) (c)
(D) (d)
(E) (e)

Q55.

- (a) At one level, colonialism simply means the establishment of rule by one country over another.
(b) In the modern period western colonialism has had the greatest impact.
(c) India's past has been marked by the entry of numerous groups of people at different times who have established their rule over different parts of what constitutes modern India today.
(d) The impact of colonial rule is distinguishable from all other earlier rules because the changes it brought in were far-reaching and deep.
(e) Colonialism led to movement of people from one part to another within India.

- (A) (a)
(B) (b)
(C) (c)
(D) (d)
(E) (e)

Q56.

- (a) Capitalism in the west emerged out of a complex process of European exploration of the rest of the world, its plunder of wealth and resources, an unprecedented growth of science and technology, its harnessing to industries and agriculture.
(b) To facilitate the smooth functioning of its rule, colonialism introduced a wide array of changes in every sphere, be it legal or cultural or architectural.
(c) Colonialism was a story apart in the very scale and intensity of the changes that it brought about.
(d) Some of these changes were deliberate while some took place in an unintended fashion.
(e) For example we saw how western education was introduced to create Indians who would manage British colonialism.

- (A) (a)
(B) (b)
(C) (c)
(D) (d)
(E) (e)

Q57.

- (a) This magnitude and depth of the structural changes that colonialism unleashed can be better grasped if we try and understand some basic features of capitalism.
(b) Industrialisation refers to the emergence of machine production, based on the use of inanimate power resources like steam or electricity.
(c) Capitalism is an economic system in which the means of production are privately owned and organised to accumulate profits within a market system.
(d) Capitalism in the west emerged out of a complex process of European exploration of the rest of the world, its plunder of wealth and resources, an unprecedented growth of science and technology, its harnessing to industries and agriculture.
(e) What marked capitalism from the very beginning was its dynamism, its potential to grow, expand, innovate, use technology and labour in a way best assured to ensure greatest profit.

- (A) (a)
(B) (b)
(C) (c)
(D) (d)
(E) (e)

Q58.

- (a) The idea of female education was debated intensely.
(b) Significantly, it was the social reformer Jotiba Phule who opened the first school for women in Pune.
(c) For others caste and gender oppression was intrinsic to the religion.
(d) Reformers argued that for a society to progress women have to be educated. Some of them believed that in pre-modern India, women were educated.
(e) Others contested this on the grounds that this was so only of a privileged few.

- (A) (a)
(B) (b)
(C) (c)
(D) (d)
(E) (e)

Q59.

- (a) Sanskritisation as a concept has been critiqued at different levels. One, it has been criticised for exaggerating social mobility or the scope of 'lower castes' to move up the social ladder.
(b) For it leads to no structural change but only positional change of some individuals.
(c) In other words inequality continues to persist though some individuals may be able to improve their positions within the unequal structure. Two, it has been pointed out that the ideology of sanskritisation accepts the ways of the 'upper caste' as superior and that of the 'lower caste' as inferior.
(d) Reformers argued that for a society to progress women have to be educated.
(e) Therefore, the desire to imitate the 'upper caste' is seen as natural and desirable.

- (A) (a)
(B) (b)
(C) (c)



- (D)(d)
- (E)(e)

Q60.

- (a) In the modern west, secularisation has usually meant a process of decline in the influence of religion.
 - (b) It has been an assumption of all theorists of modernisation that modern societies become increasingly secular.
 - (c) Indicators of secularisation have referred to levels of involvement with religious organisations (such as rates of church attendance), the social and material influence of religious organisations, and the degree to which people hold religious beliefs.
 - (d) Recent years have, however, seen an unprecedented growth of religious consciousness and conflict world over.
 - (e) It would be simplistic, however, to term the complex combinations just as a mix of tradition and modernity as though tradition and modernity themselves are fixed entities.
- (A)(a)
 - (B)(b)
 - (C)(c)
 - (D)(d)
 - (E)(e)

Q61.

- (a) Challenge appraisals are associated with more confident expectations of the ability to cope with the stressful event, the potential to overcome and even profit from the event.
 - (b) The word stress has its origin in the Latin words 'strictus', meaning tight or narrow and 'stringere', the verb meaning to tighten.
 - (c) These root words reflect the internal feelings of tightness and constriction of the muscles and breathing reported by many people under stress.
 - (d) Stress is often explained in terms of characteristics of the environment that are disruptive to the individual.
 - (e) Stressors are events that cause our body to give the stress response.
- (A)(a)
 - (B)(b)
 - (C)(c)
 - (D)(d)
 - (E)(e)

Q62.

- (a) When the human body is placed under physical or psychological stress, it increases the production of certain hormones, such as adrenaline and cortisol.
- (b) Frustration results from the blocking of needs and motives by something or someone that hinders us from achieving a desired goal.
- (c) These hormones produce marked changes in heart rate, blood pressure levels, metabolism and physical activity.
- (d) Although, this physical reaction will help us to function more effectively when we are under pressure

- for short periods of time, it can be extremely damaging to the body in the long-term effects.
 - (e) Examples of physiological effects are release of epinephrine and norepinephrine, slowing down of the digestive system, expansion of air passages in the lungs, increased heart rate, and constriction of blood vessels.
- (A)(a)
 - (B)(b)
 - (C)(c)
 - (D)(d)
 - (E)(e)

Q63.

- (a) Stress can affect natural killer cell cytotoxicity, which is of major importance in the defence against various infections and cancer.
 - (b) Reduced levels of natural killer cell cytotoxicity have been found in people who are highly stressed, including students facing important examinations, bereaved persons, and those who are severely depressed.
 - (c) Lifestyle is the overall pattern of decisions and behaviours that determine a person's health and quality of life.
 - (d) Studies reveal that immune functioning is better in individuals receiving social support.
 - (e) Also, changes in the immune system will have more effect on health among those whose immune systems are already weakened.
- (A)(a)
 - (B)(b)
 - (C)(c)
 - (D)(d)
 - (E)(e)

Q64.

- (a) In recent years the conviction has grown that it is how we cope with stress and not the stress one experiences that influences our psychological well-being, social functioning and health.
 - (b) Coping is a dynamic situation-specific reaction to stress.
 - (c) It is a set of concrete responses to stressful situations or events that are intended to resolve the problem and reduce stress.
 - (d) Studies have revealed that health promoting behaviour like balanced diet, regular exercise, family support, etc. play an important role in good health.
 - (e) The way we cope with stress often depends on rigid deep-seated beliefs, based on experience.
- (A)(a)
 - (B)(b)
 - (C)(c)
 - (D)(d)
 - (E)(e)

Q65.

- (a) Many stress-related problems occur as a result of distorted thinking.
- (b) The way you think and the way you feel are closely connected.



(c) When we are stressed, we have an inbuilt selective bias to attend to negative thoughts and images from the past, which affect our perception of the present and the future.

(d) Some of the principles of rational thinking are: challenging your distorted thinking and irrational beliefs, driving out potentially intrusive negative anxiety-provoking thoughts, and making positive statements.

(e) The central principle of time management is to spend your time doing the things that you value, or that help you to achieve your goals

(A)(a)

(B)(b)

(C)(c)

(D)(d)

(E)(e)

Q66.

(a) A large number of studies confirm a consistently positive relationship between physical fitness and health.

(b) A balanced diet can lift one's mood, give more energy, feed muscles, improve circulation, prevent illness, strengthen the immune system and make one feel better to cope with stresses of life.

(c) The key to healthy living is to eat three main meals a day, and eat a varied well-balanced diet.

(d) How much nutrition one needs depends on one's activity level, genetic make-up, climate, and health history.

(e) What people eat, and how much do they weigh involve behavioural processes

(A)(a)

(B)(b)

(C)(c)

(D)(d)

(E)(e)

Q67.

(a) Freedom is said to exist when external constraints on the individual are absent.

(b) Some form of government may be inevitable but if the government is a democratic one, the members of a state could retain some control over their rulers.

(c) In terms of this definition an individual could be considered free if he/she is not subject to external controls or coercion and is able to make independent decisions and act in an autonomous way.

(d) However, absence of constraints is only one dimension of freedom. Freedom is also about expanding the ability of people to freely express themselves and develop their potential.

(e) Freedom in this sense is the condition in which people can develop their creativity and capabilities.

(A)(a)

(B)(b)

(C)(c)

(D)(d)

(E)(e)

Q68.

(a) No individual living in society can hope to enjoy total absence of any kind of constraints or restrictions.

(b) It becomes necessary then to determine which social constraints are justified and which are not, which are acceptable and which should be removed.

(c) There are numerous reasons why disagreements may develop in a society which may express themselves through open conflict.

(d) To understand which social constraints are necessary, discussions on freedom need to look at the core relationship between the individual and the society (or group, community, or state) within which she/he is placed.

(e) That is, we need to examine the relationship between individual and society.

(A)(a)

(B)(b)

(C)(c)

(D)(d)

(E)(e)

Q69.

(a) Negative liberty' seeks to define and defend an area in which the individual would be inviolable, in which he or she could 'do, be or become' whatever he or she wished to 'do, be or become'.

(b) This is an area in which no external authority can interfere. It is a minimum area that is sacred and in which whatever the individual does, is not to be interfered with.

(c) The existence of the 'minimum area of non-interference' is the recognition that human nature and human dignity need an area where the person can act unobstructed by others.

(d) In the constitutional discussions in India, the term used for such justifiable constraints is 'reasonable restrictions'.

(e) How big should this area be, or what should it contain, are matters of discussion, and will continue to be matters of debate since the bigger the area of non-interference the more the freedom.

(A)(a)

(B)(b)

(C)(c)

(D)(d)

(E)(e)

Q70.

(a) The individual to develop his or her capability must get the benefit of enabling positive conditions in material, political and social domains.

(b) That is, the person must not be constrained by poverty or unemployment; they must have adequate material resources to pursue their wants and needs.

(c) They must also have the opportunity to participate in the decision making process so that the laws made reflect their choices, or at least take those preferences into account.

(d) Above all, to develop their mind and intellect, individuals must have access to education and other



associated opportunities necessary to lead a reasonably good life

(e) Hate campaigns cause serious harm to the freedom of others and actions that cause 'serious harm' are actions on which constraints can be imposed.

- (A)(a)
- (B)(b)
- (C)(c)
- (D)(d)
- (E)(e)

Q71.

(a) The smooth functioning of society requires division of work and functions and people often enjoy different status and rewards on account of it.

(b) The concept of equality implies that all people, as human beings, are entitled to the same rights and opportunities to develop their skills and talents, and to pursue their goals and ambitions.

(c) This means that in a society people may differ with regard to their choices and preferences.

(d) They may also have different talents and skills which results in some being more successful in their chosen careers than others.

(e) But just because only some become ace cricketers or successful lawyers, it does not follow that the society should be considered unequal.

- (A)(a)
- (B)(b)
- (C)(c)
- (D)(d)
- (E)(e)

Q72.

(a) Natural inequalities are considered to be the result of the different characteristics and abilities with which people are born. It is generally assumed that natural differences cannot be altered.

(b) 'Negative liberty' seeks to define and defend an area in which the individual would be inviolable, in which he or she could 'do, be or become' whatever he or she wished to 'do, be or become'.

(c) Social inequalities on the other hand are those created by society.

(d) Certain societies may, for instance, value those who perform intellectual work over those who do manual work and reward them differently. They may treat differently people of different race, or colour, or gender, or caste.

(e) Differences of this kind reflect the values of a society and some of these may certainly appear to us to be unjust.

- (A)(a)
- (B)(b)
- (C)(c)
- (D)(d)
- (E)(e)

Q73.

(a) At the simplest level, we would say that economic inequality exists in a society if there are significant

differences in wealth, property or income between individuals or classes.

(b) One way of measuring the degree of economic inequality in a society would be to measure the relative difference between the richest and poorest groups.

(c) Political equality or equality before the law is an important first step in the pursuit of equality but it often needs to be supplemented by equality of opportunities.

(d) Another way could be to estimate the number of people who live below the poverty line. Of course absolute equality of wealth or income has probably never existed in a society.

(e) Most democracies today try to make equal opportunities available to people in the belief that this would at least give those who have talent and determination the chance to improve their condition.

- (A)(a)
- (B)(b)
- (C)(c)
- (D)(d)
- (E)(e)

Q74.

(a) Inequalities which are entrenched, that is, which remain relatively untouched over generations, are more dangerous for a society.

(b) If in a society certain classes of people have enjoyed considerable wealth, and the power which goes with it, over generations, the society would become divided between those classes and others who have remained poor over generations.

(c) Over time such class differences can give rise to resentment and violence.

(d) A large number of studies confirm a consistently positive relationship between physical fitness and health.

(e) Because of the power of the wealthy classes it might prove difficult to reform such a society to make it more open and egalitarian.

- (A)(a)
- (B)(b)
- (C)(c)
- (D)(d)
- (E)(e)

Q75.

(a) Affirmative action can however take many forms, from preferential spending on facilities for disadvantaged communities, such as, scholarships and hostels to special consideration for admissions to educational institutions and jobs.

(b) In our country we have adopted a policy of quotas or reserved seats in education and jobs to provide equality of opportunity to deprived groups, and this has been the subject of considerable debate and disagreement.

(c) The policy has been defended on the ground that certain groups have been victims of social prejudice and discrimination in the form of exclusion and segregation.

(d) These communities who have suffered in the past and been denied equal opportunities cannot be



immediately expected to compete with others on equal terms.

(e) The central principle of time management is to spend your time doing the things that you value, or that help you to achieve your goals

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q76.

(a) According to feminists, inequality between men and women in society is the result of patriarchy.

(b) While reflecting on the issue of equality a distinction must also be made between treating everyone in an identical manner and treating everyone as equals.

(c) The latter may on occasions need different treatment but in all such cases the primary consideration is to promote equality.

(d) Different or special treatment may be considered to realise the goal of equality but it requires justification and careful reflection.

(e) Since different treatment for different communities was part and parcel of the caste system and practices like apartheid, liberals are usually very wary of deviations from the norm of identical treatment.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q77.

(a) It is important to appreciate how the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) policy repo rate under the Liquidity Adjustment Facility works.

(b) The real sector will also be able to risk manage interest rate risks by using derivatives including interest rate futures, without running the risk of hedge disconnect.

(c) It is not a window for banks to borrow clean funds from the RBI, to lend to their customers.

(d) Rather, it is a window through which excess government securities held by banks, beyond statutory requirements, can be funded by the RBI.

(e) It frees up banks' deposits to be deployed towards lending.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q78.

(a) In theory, there is an indirect way through which a policy repo rate reduction should bring down deposit and lending rates.

(b) Lower repo rates should mean lower government security yields, since it reduces their cost of funding.

(c) Here in India, the much-awaited consultation paper on net neutrality is yet to move from the regulator's table.

(d) Lower risk-free government yields should mean other corporate bond yields should come down as well.

(e) With cheaper funds available through wholesale debt markets, banks should then be able to lower deposit, and therefore lending rates.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q79.

(a) Instead of making a big hue and cry over net neutrality rules, what we need from carriers is smart data pricing that can be personalised based on users' needs.

(b) Carriers should consider themselves as two-sided: with users on one side and content providers on the other.

(c) They can levy reasonable access charges on either side so that both of them are happy to be on board.

(d) The new regulation also empowers the regulator to audit and monitor 'interconnect' arrangements between service providers and content providers for any possible collusion.

(e) If users see value in the content, they will be willing to pay.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q80.

(a) In 2000, the international community agreed on a set of important targets to improve the lot of the world's poorest by 2015, the Millennium Development Goals.

(b) Many of these goals were extremely successful in vital areas such as reducing poverty and hunger, but there is still much to be done.

(c) Through the UN, world leaders are now working on the next set of targets for 2016-2030.

(d) As the world will spend \$2.5 trillion just on development aid over that period and countless trillions in national budgets, there are lots of contenders for these targets.

(e) The jobs that are lost from free trade are obvious and concentrated— witness western farmers protesting losing their subsidies.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q81.



- (a) History is witness to the fact that the Indian Ocean Rim Countries missed the benefits of the entire Industrial Revolution
- (b) In many ways, India has benefited the most in the post Cold – War era.
- (c) As one of the most vibrant liberal democracies of the world it can to-day look forward to a convergence of interest with most of the power centers of the world.
- (d) For enhancing her global image and leadership ambitions, her foray into the world stage should be well graduated.
- (e) The idea should be to first build a positive regional environment in south Asia and Indian Ocean Region (IOR) by resolving the disputes / rivalries in her immediate neighborhood.
- (A)(a)
(B)(b)
(C)(c)
(D)(d)
(E)(e)

Q82.

- (a) Given the RBI's move, it's worth looking at Brazil's recent experience where targeting at first worked but recently has turned out to be a double-edged sword.
- (b) Most countries that grow to the middle-income levels of \$5,000-10,000 tend to slow down, while some even stop growing.
- (c) Brazil is now in a precarious position of having continuously missed its midpoint inflation target of 4.5 per cent for 24 months.
- (d) It has been operating in a high inflation zone — currently running at 7.7%
- (e) During this period, the output growth in Brazil has slumped and the most recent quarter for GDP growth rates came in at 0.1%
- (A)(a)
(B)(b)
(C)(c)
(D)(d)
(E)(e)

Q83.

- (a) Lee rejected the idea of a common market plan with Malaysia and he crystallised his thoughts to settle on a two-pronged strategy to overcome disadvantages.
- (b) The first was to leapfrog the region, as Israel had done vis-à-vis the Arab world.
- (c) Most countries that grow to the middle-income levels of \$5,000-10,000 tend to slow down, while some even stop growing.
- (d) Since Malaysia and Indonesia were out to reduce their ties with Singapore, Lee linked up with the US, Japan and Europe to attract their manufacturers to Singapore.
- (e) Singapore ended up becoming an export hub as Lee went all out to attract American MNCs.
- (A)(a)
(B)(b)
(C)(c)
(D)(d)

- (E)(e)

Q84.

- (a) During the process of attitude formation, and also after this process, attitudes may be changed and modified through various influences.
- (b) Some attitudes change more than others do.
- (c) Attitudes that are still in the formative stage, and are more like opinions, are much more likely to change compared to attitudes that have become firmly established, and have become a part of the individual's values.
- (d) Prejudices can exist without being shown in the form of discrimination.
- (e) From a practical point of view, bringing about a change in people's attitudes is of interest to community leaders, politicians, producers of consumer goods, advertisers, and others.
- (A)(a)
(B)(b)
(C)(c)
(D)(d)
(E)(e)

Q85.

- (a) A schema is defined as a mental structure that provides a framework, set of rules or guidelines for processing information about any object.
- (b) Schemas (or 'schemata') are the basic units stored in our memory, and function as shorthand ways of processing information, thus reducing the time and mental effort required in cognition.
- (c) In the case of social cognition, the basic units are social schemas. Some attitudes may also function like social schemas.
- (d) We use many different schemas, and come to know about them through analysis and examples.
- (e) The perceiver gathers information, or responds to a given information, about the qualities of the target, organises this information, and draws inferences about the target.
- (A)(a)
(B)(b)
(C)(c)
(D)(d)
(E)(e)

Q86.

- (a) The Republic Day parade in Delhi is a striking symbol of Indian nationalism and it brings out the sense of power, strength, as well as diversity which many associate with the Indian nation.
- (b) The process of redrawing state boundaries continues to take place.
- (c) Since 1960, even apparently stable nation-states have been confronted by nationalist demands put forward by groups or regions and these may include demands for separate statehood.
- (d) Today, in many parts of the world we witness nationalist struggles that threaten to divide existing states.



(e) Such separatist movements have developed among the Quebecois in Canada, the Basques in northern Spain, the Kurds in Turkey and Iraq, and the Tamils in Sri Lanka, among others.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q87.

(a) Sharing a common past and living together on a particular territory over a long period of time gives people a sense of their collective identity.

(b) In a democracy, it is shared commitment to a set of political values and ideals that is the most desirable basis of a political community or a nation-state.

(c) It helps them to imagine themselves as one people.

(d) It is therefore not surprising that people who see themselves as a nation speak of a homeland.

(e) The territory they occupied and the land on which they have lived has a special significance for them, and they claim it as their own.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q88.

(a) Nations, unlike other social groups, seek the right to govern themselves and determine their future development.

(b) They seek, in other words, the right to self-determination.

(c) Humanity paid a heavy price for re-organising boundaries in a way that culturally distinct communities could form separate nation-states.

(d) In making this claim a nation seeks recognition and acceptance by the international community of its status as a distinct political entity or state.

(e) Most often these claims come from people who have lived together on a given land for a long period of time and who have a sense of common identity.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q89.

(a) The right to national self-determination has also asserted by national liberation movements in Asia and Africa when they were struggling against colonial domination.

(b) Nationalist movements maintained that political independence would provide dignity and recognition to the colonised people and also help them to protect the collective interests of their people.

(c) Most national liberation movements were inspired by the goal of bringing justice and rights and prosperity to the nation.

(d) The kinds of group rights which have been granted in different countries include constitutional protection for the language, cultures and religion, of minority groups and their members.

(e) However, here also, it proved almost impossible to ensure that each cultural group, some of whom claimed to be distinct nations, could achieve political independence and statehood.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q90.

(a) What makes Indian secularism distinctive? For a start it arose in the context of deep religious diversity that predated the advent of Western modern ideas and nationalism.

(b) There was already a culture of inter-religious 'tolerance' in India.

(c) However, we must not forget that tolerance is compatible with religious domination.

(d) It may allow some space to everyone but such freedom is usually limited.

(e) State cannot give financial support to educational institutions run by religious communities.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q91.

(a) Status refers to the relative social position given to group members by others.

(b) Cohesiveness refers to togetherness, binding, or mutual attraction among group members.

(c) As the group becomes more cohesive, group members start to think, feel and act as a social unit, and less like isolated individuals.

(d) Members of a highly cohesive group have a greater desire to remain in the group in comparison to those who belong to low cohesive groups.

(e) Cohesiveness refers to the team spirit or 'we feeling' or a sense of belongingness to the group.

- (A) (a)
- (B) (b)
- (C) (c)
- (D) (d)
- (E) (e)

Q92.

(a) We can see that there are some similarities between conformity, compliance, and obedience, but there are also some differences.



(b) Behaving in a way that differs from the expected form of behaviour may lead to disapproval or dislike by others, which is a form of social punishment.

(c) All three indicate the influence of others on an individual's behaviour.

(d) Obedience is the most direct and explicit form of social influence, whereas compliance is less direct than obedience because someone has requested and thus you comply (here, the probability of refusal is there).

(e) Conformity is the most indirect form (you are conforming because you do not want to deviate from the norm).

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q93.

(a) Caste may be a prominent and distinguishing factor for 'easy determination of backwardness', but the judgment observes that the Supreme Court "has been discouraging the identification of a group as backward solely on the basis of caste" and calls for "new practices, methods and yardsticks" to be continuously evolved.

(b) What's interesting is the observation that class may be "an identifiable section of society". It may be both homogenous (a caste group) or heterogeneous (transgender).

(c) The use of caste as its definitive yardstick is premised on an understanding that requires the state to redress historical injustice against a social group by offering material entitlements: education and employment in public institutions

(d) In this context, the judgment refers to the identification of the third gender by an earlier decision of the Supreme Court as a "pathfinder".

(e) The practice of identifying caste as a definitive marker of social backwardness is here understood as premised on seeking to help citizens recover 'lost grounds' on account of 'historical prejudice'.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q94.

(a) For businesses this new state of mind has put nearly every industry in a corner, vulnerable to what Accenture calls "Big Bang Disruption".

(b) In a Big Bang disruption, innovation translates to the creation of new product lines that impact markets overnight.

(c) Typically the disrupters are from outside the industry.

(d) Banc assurance banks can only pair up with one principal each for life, non-life, and standalone health, which means insurers that entered the India market late to the game didn't have access to the banks that already had partnerships.

(e) The industries most at risk to these disruptions are those that sell information-based services that can be delivered digitally.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q95.

(a) The first issue is lack of sufficient spectrum.

(b) Compared to most other countries, India has made only about half the spectrum available for commercial use.

(c) And that needs to be shared by more than double the number of operators.

(d) Most countries have maximum 3 to 4 operators; India has gone up to 12 a few years ago and seems to be settling for 9 now.

(e) The mobile telecoms infrastructure is today probably the most reliable and always available infrastructure in India.

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q96.

(a) The mobile telecoms infrastructure is today probably the most reliable and always available infrastructure in India.

(b) In Section 79, there is no need to worry as by reading down by making a court order mandatory, the court has injected much needed safeguards.

(c) Now, only after application of a judicial mind can content be taken down.

(d) This is great relief to those who were being constantly harassed by corrupt real estate developers, crooks running educational institutions who wanted all negative content about them taken down.

(e) The legal process will filter out the non-serious complainants

(A) (a)

(B) (b)

(C) (c)

(D) (d)

(E) (e)

Q97.

(a) The court clearly explained why Section 66A cannot continue as law in a democracy in which the freedom of expression is a cardinal value.

(b) Nongovernmental actors will now have to obtain court orders to remove content, and won't be able to force intermediaries to remove content by sending them legal notices.

(c) Its reasoning is logical and well-constructed.

(d) But its real value lies in making clear that the right to free expression under Article 19(1)(a) applies to the



internet just as it does to speech that is conveyed through other media.
(e) While there was its affirmation of freedom of speech online in equal terms to offline, the court importantly acknowledged that the nature of the digital environment could justify the application of laws specific to the internet.

- (A)**(a)
- (B)**(b)
- (C)**(c)
- (D)**(d)
- (E)**(e)

Q98.

(a) Notwithstanding the several positives, oil prices continue to be weak and a sustained price recovery is not expected till late 2015-early 2016, when output from existing fracked wells in the US will start to fall and is not offset by enough new ones.
(b) The beneficial impact on our external account from lower oil prices is enormous.
(c) Over the last decade in India, good demand and price conditions, and public and private expenditure on rural roads and farm infrastructure made rural India a success story, both economic and social.
(d) The current account hovers close to balance and even if net capital inflows are low, the overall balance of payments is set to run a large surplus in 2015-16.
(e) To that extent, the economy is much better equipped to deal as US monetary policy shifts towards a more normal stance than it was in 2013 when we had gaping wounds from large trade deficits on account of high-priced oil and large gold imports.

- (A)**(a)
- (B)**(b)
- (C)**(c)
- (D)**(d)
- (E)**(e)

Q99.

(a) The framework agreement announced by Iran and the permanent members of the UN Security Council plus Germany (P5 + 1) outlines the basics of a comprehensive deal to be signed at the end of June.
(b) It is a stepping stone in marathon diplomacy to limit Iran's nuclear programme that started one-and-a-half years ago and to lift the corresponding sanctions imposed by the US and the EU on Iran.
(c) The latest "political understanding", arrived after hard bargaining and all-nighters in Lausanne, Switzerland, elides technical minutiae of exact international monitoring mechanisms for Iran's nuclear facilities and specific timelines for the removal of the economic sanctions on the country.
(d) Instead, we appreciate Tehran for countering Sunni jihadist fundamentalism that threatens India in its extended neighbourhood.
(e) But it is a useful reminder that the key ingredient for eventual success — political will to persist with a negotiated settlement — is intact and that slow, incremental progress is occurring.

- (A)**(a)
- (B)**(b)
- (C)**(c)
- (D)**(d)
- (E)**(e)

Q100.

(a) State development loans (SDLs) are bonds issued by state governments to meet their long-term financing requirements.
(b) Many states in India have been cribbing about the higher coupon they have to pay on their SDLs over government of India bonds (G Secs) of similar maturities.
(c) Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is the merchant banker for state governments as well and there has not been even a single default in terms of SDLs in the past, they argue.
(d) Though the arguments appear to be sound and acceptable, a deeper study of the issue brings out the difference in risk perception in respect of these two securities.
(e) The liquidity risk can be reduced by increasing the issue size and traded volume.

- (A)**(a)
- (B)**(b)
- (C)**(c)
- (D)**(d)
- (E)**(e)

ANSWERS :

1 A	2 B	3 C	4 D	5 E	6 A
7 B	8 C	9 D	10 E	11 A	12 B
13 C	14 D	15 E	16 A	17 B	18 C
19 C	20 D	21 E	22 A	23 B	24 C
25 D	26 E	27 A	28 B	29 C	30 D
31 E	32 A	33 B	34 C	35 D	36 E
37 A	38 B	39 C	40 A	41 B	42 C
43 D	44 E	45 A	46 B	47 C	48 D
49 E	50 A	51 B	52 C	53 D	54 E
55 E	56 A	57 B	58 C	59 D	60 E
61 A	62 B	63 C	64 D	65 E	66 A
67 B	68 C	69 D	70 E	71 A	72 B
73 C	74 D	75 E	76 A	77 B	78 C
79 D	80 E	81 A	82 B	83 C	84 D
85 E	86 A	87 B	88 C	89 D	90 E
91 A	92 B	93 C	94 D	95 E	96 A
97 B	98 C	99 D	100 E		