



Paragraph Completion Questions for XAT

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Questions

Instructions

Which of the phrases (a) (b) (c) (d) given below each statement should be placed in the blank space provided so as to make a meaningful and grammatically correct sentence ? If none of the sentence is appropriate mark (e) as the answer

Question 1

As allegation of crores of rupees changing hands to permit illegal mining began to fly thick and fast

- A** government ordered an enquiry which exposed a nexus between mine operators and bureaucrats
- B** it caused great damage to the surroundings ecosystem and the environment in general
- C** the officials have been irresponsible in failing to bring it to the notice of the court in time
- D** the powerful mining lobby had bribed the officials to obtain permit for mining on ecologically sensitive land
- E** None of these

Answer: A

Explanation:

Except option A statement, all other statements are either grammatically incorrect or don't suit the context of sentence.

The government will order probe into the allegations of corruption. Option A correctly matches the context and is most suitable for the context of given sentence.

Question 2

.....the soil today is nowhere as rich in native minerals as it used to be centuries ago

- A** As there is a growing concern among farmers regarding limiting the use of chemical fertilizers
- B** As the chemical inputs in agriculture improved the yield many folds
- C** Owing to the uninhibited use of chemical inputs in agriculture
- D** Awareness among farmers regarding the side effects of chemical farming grew
- E** None of these

Answer: C

Explanation:

Excessive use of chemical fertilizers has reduced nutritive value of soil.

Only statement corresponding to option C puts this in correct perspective and is grammatically correct.

Hence, the correct option is C.

Question 3

..... experts proposed the idea of a common school system

- A** Overlooking the fundamental right of quality education of every child in India
- B** Since the curricular requirement of a rural child different from urban child
- C** Based on the fact that difference in the quality of schools acts as a ground for discrimination
- D** Since a large percentage of Indian children are getting free education
- E** None of these

Answer: C

Explanation:

There might be discrimination based on the quality of education received during formative years. In order to eradicate this discrimination, the experts suggested to have a common school system.

Hence, the correct option is C.

Question 4

While the environment friendly Nuclear energy could make a large addition to the energy resources.....

- A** experts have a lot of expectations from this cleaner method of producing energy
- B** the government is determined to extract maximum out of this technology in the near future
- C** international lobby has been pressurising the developing nations to shift their energy production from coal to nuclear power
- D** the problem of locating adequate number of Uranium reserves to run the reactors is yet to be sorted out
- E** None of these

Answer: D

Explanation:

The sentence starts in such a way that there is bound to be contradiction of the idea in later part of the sentence.

Nuclear reactors require uranium resources as their fuel and their location in adequate number is main issue.

Hence, the correct option is option D.

Question 5

Although information technology has entered the homes offices and hearts of many citizens of India.....

- A** India provides the highest number of IT experts to the world every year
- B** many people in rural areas still remain ignorant of its immense benefits
- C** government has done its best by funding research in this field appropriately
- D** the face of communication in the years to come would change completely from the bygone years
- E** None of these

Answer: B

Explanation:

Although used at the start of the sentence sets the premise for contradiction in later part of sentence. Only statement indicated by option B offers appropriate denial to the set idea in initial part of the sentence.

Option B is correct.

Instructions

Directions : In each of the following questions, a short passage is given with one of the lines in the passage missing and represented by a blank. Select the best out of the five answer choices given, to make the passage complete and coherent.

Question 6

Analysts and industry pundits forecast that the notebook market which has been growing faster than the desktop market for the past three years is expected to overtake the desktop market by the year 2011-12. A fall in prices, large deals from governments and institutions and demand from consumers and sectors such as education are expected to help the notebook numbers. According to research agencies, the year 2010 - 11 saw notebook volumes rise and for the first time, a million-plus notebooks were sold in India in a single quarter. The market has grown nearly four times for notebooks. The demand is driven by all sectors and a very buoyant consumer market, which prefers mobile computers. Entry-level notebook prices have dropped below the Rs. 25,000 mark; this has helped break the ice with new customers. This drop in notebook prices has been helped by the drop in the prices of the building blocks that make a notebook. It's simple. With notebook volumes growing, the prices of the components are also bound to come down_____ .

- A** All this has resulted in a noticeable change in a number of large government tenders for notebooks; which were traditionally for desktops.
- B** Because of this the government still prefers desktops to notebooks and has passed tenders for the same.
- C** Thereby making them more expensive.
- D** Thus, the forecast for the coming year states that desktops will be the preferred technology choice only for consumers who cannot afford the exorbitantly priced notebooks.
- E** Thus, notebooks will become obsolete after a decade or so.

Answer: A

Explanation:

The passage explains how notebooks are getting more popular and hence option A is the correct choice.

XAT Previous Papers

Question 7

Next to China, India is the most populated country in the world. _____. Particularly, rush to technical and higher education has increased as the scope for arts and science has become lesser and lesser due to lack of reforms and upgradation in the course structure and materials according to the developments of the world. Also, qualification in higher education gives added advantage to face competition successfully in the job market.

- A** Keeping this in mind, the government has provided concessions in the admission fees for the arts and science streams in the country.
- B** Naturally, there is too much rush and competition in every field.
- C** Despite this the rush to higher education is lesser.
- D** This population increase, though, has not kept pace with the knowledge expansion around the world.
- E** In the next decade, it will become the most populous.

Answer: B

Explanation:

There is a discontinuity between the first and the second lines in the given passage. Option B fills in the gap between those sentences.

Question 8

Research has shown that air pollutants from fossil fuel use make clouds reflect more of the sun's rays back into space. This leads to an effect known as global dimming whereby less heat and energy reaches the earth. However, it is believed that global dimming caused the droughts in certain parts of the world where millions died, because the northern hemisphere oceans were not warm enough to allow rain formation. Global dimming is also hiding the true power of global warming. By cleaning up global dimming-causing pollutants without tackling greenhouse gas emissions, rapid warming has been observed and various human health and ecological disasters have resulted, as witnessed during the European heat wave in 2003, which saw thousands of people die. _____.

- A** This, though, does not bring any relief in the problems associated with climate change.
- B** This phenomenon thus is part of the climate change problem.
- C** Scientists thus believe that this phenomenon goes hand in hand with global warming.
- D** At first, it sounds like an ironic saviour to climate change problems.
- E** The answer to all our problems with respect to climate- change is definitely here.

Answer: C

Explanation:

The paragraph talks about how the true effects of global warming would have been on display if global dimming had not been there. So, the best concluding sentence would be option c), which says that scientists believe that global dimming goes hand in hand with global warming.

Question 9

Women's rights around the world are an important indicator to understand global well-being. A major global women's rights treaty was ratified by the majority of the world's nations a few decades ago. These range from the cultural, political to the economic. For example, women often work more than men, yet are paid less; gender discrimination affects girls and women throughout their lifetime; and women and girls are often the ones that suffer the most poverty. Many may think that women's rights are only an issue in countries where religion is law. Or even worse, some may think this is no longer an issue at all. But reading the report about the United Nation's Women's Treaty and how an increasing number of countries are lodging reservations will show otherwise. Gender equality furthers the cause of child survival and development for all of society, so the importance of women's rights and gender equality should not be underestimated.

- A** This treaty tackled and solved a number of issues related to women.
- B** Why is it then, that women still face a number of problems on the domestic front?
- C** Thus, the woman today is ten times more empowered as compared to a woman say about a decade ago.
- D** Women's activists across nations have implored the respective governments to take! this seriously.
- E** Yet, despite many successes in empowering women, numerous issues still exist in all areas of life.

Answer: E

Explanation:

We can eliminate options A and C as they are contrary to what is being said in the paragraph. Option B incorrectly identifies the scope of the paragraph. The paragraph speaks of all the injustices women face - not just the one on the domestic front. Between D and E, E correctly completes the chain of thought being expressed at the end of the paragraph. Hence, the correct option is option E.

XAT Free Mock Test

Question 10

Poverty is the state of majority of world's people and nations. Why is this? Have they been lazy, made poor decisions, and been solely responsible for their own plight? What about their governments? Have they pursued policies that actually harm successful development? Such causes of poverty and inequality are no doubt real. But deeper and more global causes of poverty are often less discussed. Behind the increasing inter-connectedness promised by globalisation are global decisions, policies and practices. These are typically influenced, driven or formulated by the rich and powerful. These can be leaders of rich countries or other global actors such as multinational corporations, institutions and influential people. In the face of such enormous external influence, the governments of poor nations and their people are often powerless. As a result, in the global context, a few get wealthy while the majority struggles.

- A** Is it enough to blame poor people for their own predicament?
- B** What is the government doing about it?
- C** Are the wealthy ones in the nation even aware of this?
- D** The government has already taken measures to eradicate the same.
- E** The huge gap between the rich and the poor in the nation is now narrowing.

Answer: A

Explanation:

The sentences immediately after the blank uses the pronoun "they". This is used to refer to poor people. The only option that refers to poor people is option A

Instructions

Direction: Which of the phrases a), b),c) and d) given below each statement should be placed in the blank space provided so as to make a meaningful and grammatically correct sentence?

If none of the sentences is appropriate, mark e) i.e. 'None of these' as the answer.

Question 11

____ or else they would not keep electing him year after year.

- A** The party leader gave a strong message to the mayor for improving his political style
- B** Owing to numerous scandals against the mayor, he was told to resign from the post immediately
- C** The mayor threatened the residents against filing a complaint against him
- D** The residents must really be impressed with the political style of their mayor
- E** None of these

Answer: D

Explanation:

The second part of the sentence says the mayor is being elected year after year. So, the first part of the sentence should say something positive about him. The best answer is option d), which says the residents must be really impressed with his political style.

Question 12

Achieving equality for women is not only a laudable goal, ____

- A** political reforms are also neglected preventing women from entering legislatures and positions of power
- B** the problem is also deep rooted in the society and supported by it
- C** their empowerment is purposefully hampered by people with vested interests in all sections of the society
- D** but also equally difficult to achieve and maintain for a long term
- E** None of these

Answer: D

Explanation:

The second part of the sentence should also talk about achieving equality for women. Options b) and d) are relevant. Between these two, option d) is a better choice because it complements the first part by saying that the goal is not only laudable but also difficult to achieve.

XAT Decision Making Mock Tests

Question 13

He has lost most of his life's earning in the stock market but ____

- A** he still seems to be leading his life luxuriously and extravagantly
- B** he could not save enough to repay his enormous debts
- C** stock market is not a safe option to invest money unless done with caution
- D** experts have been suggesting to avoid investments in stock market because of its unpredictable nature
- E** None of these

Answer: A

Explanation:

The sentence says he lost most of his savings but...The best completion to this sentence is option a) which says he still leads a life of luxury. Option a) is the correct answer.

Question 14

Overlooking the fact that water scarcity intensifies during summer, ____

- A the government issued guidelines to all builders to limit their consumption to acceptable limits
- B provision for rainwater harvesting has been made to aid irrigation in drought prone areas
- C the water table did not improve even after receiving normal monsoon in the current year
- D many residential areas continue to use swimming pools, wasting large quantities of water
- E None of these

Answer: D

Explanation:

The first part of the sentence talks about water scarcity in summer and the fact that somebody is overlooking it. So, the statement in option d) which says many residential areas continue to waste water would be the best way in which to complete the sentence. Hence option d) is the correct answer.

Question 15

Refuting the rationale behind frequent agitations for formation of separate States, a recent report ____

- A proved that such agitations result in loss of governmental property
- B indicated that the formation of small states does not necessarily improve the economy
- C suggested that only large scale agitations have been effective in bringing out desired change in the past
- D recommended dividing large States into smaller ones to improve governance
- E None of these

Answer: B

Explanation:

The rationale behind formation of separate states is better governance and improvement in economy. The report refutes this idea. So, the most apt concluding sentence would be "...indicated that the formation of smaller states does not necessarily improve the economy.. So, option b) is the best answer.

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