

Directions : In the following passage, certain phrases/words are in bold and are alphabetized. Some of the phrases/words in bold are incorrectly used either contextually or grammatically. You are provided with four options, one of which can replace the phrase/Word in bold in order to make the sentence coherent and meaningful. If the phrase/word in bold is correctly used in the paragraph and no correction is required then mark (e) as your answer.

Multi-drug resistant bacteria (MDR) in humans and animals have become a/an **(A) pandemic**. Antibiotic resistance occurs when a few bacteria **(B) split** in a given population that enables them to survive antibiotics. Scientists and public health officials have been constantly raising alarm about it **(C) and now they are getting response**.

Antibiotics, when discovered in the early 1900s, were, without a doubt, a miracle cure that saved millions of lives around the world during the two world wars and beyond. But clinicians started using it

(D) diligently as a cure-all for all infections, resulting in the evolution of resistant strains of microbes that could not be controlled effectively in due course of time. Even to this day, doctors in India are still prescribing antibiotics **(E) fighting a losing battle** without much monitoring or follow-up with patients to see if the therapy was conducted scientifically.

Another vicious practice in India and many other developing countries is the total lack of drug controls. Pharmacists themselves prescribe antibiotics and they do not do any follow-up as it is not their responsibility. This **(F) pernicious** practice of dispensing scheduled drugs without a valid physician's prescription is really killing antibiotic therapy itself. Patients, in order to save a few rupees in doctor's fees, go directly to the pharmacy and get whatever they want. The state governments are **(G) the epicenter of this corrupt practice**

1. A

a) blessing	b) deadlock
c) advantage	d) privilege
e) No correction required	

1. Correct Choice : e
Option (a), (c) and (d) are incorrect as multi-drug resistant bacteria cannot be a blessing or an advantage or a privilege. Deadlock is a situation, typically one involving opposing parties, in which no progress can be made, which does not fit into the context here. A pandemic is the worldwide spread of

a new disease, which is correct to use here. Hence, option (e) is the correct answer.

2. B

a) segregate	b) extrapolate
c) mutate	d) germinate
e) No correction required	

2. Correct Choice : c Solution :
It is given that when few bacteria become resistant, they can survive antibiotics. 'Segregate' means isolate, which is not correct to use here. 'Extrapolate' means to think about what might happen, which is again incorrect to use here. 'Germinate' means to grow and develop, which is unsuitable to use here as mere growing or developing won't make them resistant and survive the antibiotics. In this case, 'mutate' is more suitable option, it means to change into something different or to develop certain unusual characteristics, which can certainly enable bacteria to survive antibiotics. Hence, option (c) is the correct choice.

3. C

a) and people are now listening.
b) but they are wrong.
c) but to no avail.
d) and spreading rumors.
e) No correction required

3. Correct Choice : c Solution :
The passage talks about how antibiotics are being used as a cure-all and everyone seems to ignore how bacteria have been becoming resistant to antibiotics. So, in that case suggesting that scientists and public health officials are getting response or people are now listening would be completely incorrect. Also suggesting that they are spreading rumors or they are wrong is also incorrect. 'To no avail' means without any success, which seems appropriate here. Hence, option (c) is the correct choice.

4. D

a) carefully	b) recklessly
c) maliciously	d) ominously
e) No correction required	

4. Correct Choice : b Solution :
If clinicians are using antibiotics as a cure-all for all infections, then 'recklessly' is the correct word to use here, meaning without regard to the danger or the consequences of one's actions as the said action resulted in the evolution of resistant strains of microbes that could not be controlled effectively in due course of time. Hence, option (b) is the correct choice

5. E

a) at the drop of a hat

incorrect as it is clear what fiscal expenditure is being referred to (transferring D72.000 every year to the poorest 20% of the approximately 25 crore Indian households), so the definite article 'the' should be used at the end of the highlighted part. E is the right answer.

Direction : In each of the following questions, a sentence is given, divided into four parts (A), (B), (C) and (D). The error, if any, will only be in TWO PHRASES/PARTS of the sentence. The combination of those parts is the answer. If no part in the sentence has an error, then mark 'No error' as your answer. Ignore errors of punctuation, if any.

17. Hobbes had written in the 17th century (A)/ that all people want self-preservation, hence (B)/ they are willing to give up their rights (C)/ to a Leviathan in exchange for security. (D)

a) CD b) AB c) BD d) BC
e) No error

17. Correct Choice : e Solution :

The given sentence is grammatically correct and meaningful. Option E is the right answer. Leviathan - An autocratic monarch or state.

18. Pressure for consolidation among carmakers has grown (A)/with the challenges posed for electrification, tightening emission (B)/ regulations and expensive new technologies being (C)/ developed at connected and autonomous vehicles. (D)

a) AB b) BD c) CD d) BC
e) No error

18. Correct Choice : b Solution :

In part B, the preposition 'by' should be used in place of 'for', to indicate the cause of the 'challenges'. In part D, the preposition 'for' should replace 'at', to indicate the target of the 'expensive new technologies'. Option B is the right answer.

19. According to traders, fall in demand from (A)/ local jewellers and retailers at the (B)/ domestic spot market led to the dipper in (C)/ gold prices but a positive trend overseas cap the fall. (D)

a) CD b) AB c) BC d) AD
e) No error

19. Correct Choice : a Solution :

In part C, 'dip' is the right word to be used in place of 'dipper'. Dip - An act of sinking or dropping briefly before rising again. Dipper - A ladle or scoop. In part D, the past tense form 'capped' should be used to maintain the tense of the sentence. Option A is the right answer.

Direction : In each of the following questions, three statements are given with a phrase or idiom highlighted in bold. You have to select the answer choice that states the combination of statements in which the idiom or phrase has been correctly used.

20. I. If there is another incident like that in the building, the occupants will be **coming a long way!**

II. It was **buying a lemon** at the supermarket the day after the hold-up.

III. He deserves his success; he **worked like a charm** when he started the business.

- a) Both I & II b) Both II & III
c) Both I & III d) All of the above
e) None of the above

20. Correct Choice : e Solution :

(I) is incorrect - To come a long way means to make a lot of progress or become successful. A better idiom would be locking horns meaning to argue or fight with someone.

- (II) is incorrect - buying a lemon means to buy something that is defective, unsatisfactory, constantly gives trouble. A better idiom would be business as usual, meaning that after an unpleasant or unexpected event, everything is continuing in a normal way, in spite of the difficulties (a hold-up in this case)

- (III) is incorrect - If something such as a product or a method works like a charm, it functions very well or has the desired effect. A better idiom would be work your fingers to the bone, which denotes an extremely hardworking person.

Directions : Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

When we talk about being a "good" person, we're usually talking about having personality traits that get a social thumbs up, such as honesty, patience and courage. The other side of the coin exists, though, too, exemplified through traits like narcissism, spitefulness and disloyalty. Scientists now say these negative personality traits share a common 'dark core'. Researchers from the University of Copenhagen, Ulm University and University of Koblenz-Landau conducted a series of studies with more than 2,500 people focusing on nine common negative traits (egoism, Machiavellianism, moral disengagement, narcissism, psychological entitlement, psychopathy, sadism, self-interest and spitefulness). They asked participants how much they agreed or disagreed with statements like "I know that I am special because everyone keeps telling me so." They also studied other self-reported behaviours, such as impulsivity. Finally, researchers attempted to map a common denominator present in the nine personality traits. The experts involved in the work define this common denominator, the D-factor or "dark core", as the general tendency to maximize one's individual utility (i.e., to put your interests and goals over others and even enjoy it) while having beliefs that serve as justifications. While somebody certainly can display one negative trait more than others, the dark core means that, if a person shows one of the negative personality traits, they're probably going to have a strong tendency to show one or more of the others, as well. So, don't be too surprised, for example, if the same team member who fudges the books also plays mean office pranks or can't stop crowing about their own accomplishments.

21. What is the personality trait of a 'good person' according to the passage?
- Always agreeing with others.
 - Always thinking about others before oneself.
 - Having a behaviour that makes people like you socially.
 - Being narcissist.
 - None of the above
21. Correct Choice : c Solution :
The first two lines answer this question. Option C is the correct answer.
22. Researchers from which of the following universities did not participate in the study, which is mentioned in the passage?
- University of Copenhagen
 - University of Tennessee
 - Ulm University
 - University of Koblenz-Landau
 - None of the above
22. Correct Choice : b Solution :
The 4th and 5th line mentions this. Option B is the correct answer.
23. Which of the following is not a negative trait that the researchers focused on for their study?
- Egoism
 - Cowardness
 - Narcissism
 - Sadism
 - Psychopathy
23. Correct Choice : b Solution :
Line 6th to line 8th mention this. There were 9 negative traits. Option B is the correct answer.
24. What was the common denominator present in the nine personality traits?
- Always thinking for the benefit of others.
 - That if a person shows one of the negative personality traits, they're probably going to have a strong tendency to show one or more of the others, as well.
 - To be vengeful.
 - To put your interests and goals over others and even enjoy it while having justification for your behaviour.
 - None of the above
24. Correct Choice : d Solution :
The 12th and 13th line talk about this. Option D is the correct answer.

Directions : Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.

A common ailment is going around, and you probably know someone plagued by it. Caused in part by social media, the 24-hour news cycle and the pressure to check work email outside of office hours, it could hit you, too - especially if you don't know how to **nip it in the bud**. Burnout is everywhere. Books are being published about it, high-powered medical groups are raising alarms and ordinary people are feeling it. A recent report from Harvard and Massachusetts medical organizations declared physician burnout a public health crisis. It pointed out the problem not only harms doctors but also patients. "Burnout is associated with increasing medical errors," the

paper said. Ninety-five percent of human resource leaders say burnout is sabotaging workplace retention, often because of overly heavy workloads, one survey found. Poor management contributes to the burnout epidemic. Organizations typically reward employees who are putting in longer hours and replace workers who aren't taking on an increased workload, which is a systematic problem that causes burnout in the first place. A new book, "Burnout: The Secret to Unlocking the Stress Cycle," by sisters Emily Nagoski (a health educator) and Amelia Nagoski (a choral conductor who was hospitalized for burnout) aims to help women, in particular, live a more balanced life. Burnout is a term easily tossed around, the way somebody might claim to be starving when they're simply hungry, or freezing when cold. That's harmless if a person is describing a tired day or week. But somebody who is actually burned out should be prepared to take serious action because it's a condition that needs attention.

Burnout is caused by chronic stress, not stressors, the Nagoskis say in their book. It's important to differentiate the two. Stressors are external: to-do lists, financial problems or anxiety about the future. Stress, on the other hand, "is the neurological and physiological shift that happens in your body when you encounter stressors. To fix burnout, people need to address the stress itself. They must allow their body to complete its stress response cycle. Instead, people tend to focus on stressors. They assume their stress will go away if they're on top of things, if they're accomplishing things and constantly checking things off their to-do list. For those who suspect they might be on the road to burnout, there are practical tools to mitigate it. Among others: physical exercise, sleep and positive social connection (the real kind, not the Facebook kind). The importance of balance and self-care to prevent burnout likely isn't surprising to most.

Making space in our lives so we're not so **hurried** and harried isn't easy, especially in a culture that shames slow living. Preventing burnout requires hard decisions. Everyone has the same amount of time in a day: 24 hours. To rest - whether with a walk, an extra hour of sleep or a talk with a friend - means something else drops off the schedule.

25. What is that common ailment that the passage talks about?
- Social media
 - 24-hour news cycle
 - Pressure to check work email outside of office hours
 - Burnout
 - Both B and C

25. Correct Choice : d Solution :
The first four lines of the first paragraph talks about this. The common ailment is 'burnout' which is caused in part by social media, the 24-hour news cycle and the pressure to check work email outside of office hours. Option D is the correct answer.

26. According to the passage, what is the main reason associated with "increasing medical errors"?
- Incompetent physicians
 - Unruly patients
 - Burnout
 - Poor management
 - Both C and D
26. Correct Choice : c Solution :
8th line of the 1st para clearly says that burnout is associated with medical errors. Further, line 10th of the same para, says that poor management contributes to the burnout epidemic. Thus, we can deduce that 'poor management' does not impact the medical errors directly, making option c the right answer.
27. According to the passage, which of the following is/are cause(s) of 'burnout'?
- Overly heavy workload
 - Emotionally drained state
 - Chronic stress
- I only
 - I and II both
 - I and III both
 - II and III both
 - All of the above
27. Correct Choice : c Solution :
Both I and III are causes of 'burnout' as mentioned in the 10th line of the first passage and 1st line of the 2nd passage. II is not mentioned in the passage. Option C is the correct answer.
28. What do the people need to do in order to fix burnout?
- Read Harvard and Massachusetts medical journals
 - To allow their body to complete its stress response cycle
 - They need to address the stress which they are facing
 - Avoid social media completely
 - Both B and C
28. Correct Choice : e Solution :
The 5th and 6th line of the 2nd paragraph talk about this. Both B and C are correct. It is mentioned in the passage burnout, in part, is caused by social media but it is not mentioned that avoiding social media completely will fix it. Option E is the correct answer.
29. According to the passage, what kind of 'a culture' do we seem to be living in?
- A culture that shames slow living
 - A culture that abhors a more balanced life
 - A culture that tends to focus on stressors
 - A culture that encourages burn out
 - None of the above
29. Correct Choice : a Solution :
The first sentence of the 3rd paragraph answers this. Option A is the correct answer.
30. According to the passage, what assumption(s) do people make?
- That working too much, without enough time for socializing or relaxing will help prevent burnout.
 - That their stress will go away if they're on top of things and accomplishing their goals
 - That lack of close, supportive relationships causes depression
 - The importance of balance and self-care to prevent burnout likely isn't surprising to most.
 - Both B and D
30. Correct Choice : b Solution :
Option B is the correct answer. The 7th line of the second paragraph mentions this. D is incorrect because it is not an assumption which is made by people; rather it is a generic statement made by the author. Option B is the correct answer.
31. Which of the following words best expresses the opposite meaning of the word "harried" as used in the context of the passage?
- Distressed
 - Strained
 - Stressed
 - Disturbed
 - Calm
31. Correct Choice : e Solution :
Harried/Distressed- feeling strained and agitated. All of the words, except 'calm', are synonyms of it. Option E is the correct answer.
32. Which of the following options best expresses the meaning of the phrase "nip it in the bud" as used in the context of the passage?
- A close call
 - A tiresome situation
 - Lack of money
 - Suppress or destroy something at an early stage.
 - Make friendly relationships
32. Correct Choice : d Solution :
The phrase "nip it in the bud" means "to stop something at an early stage". Option D is the correct answer.
- Directions : Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions that follow.**
- After about four years in the making, the draft National Education Policy, 2019 is out in the public domain. It **sought** comments from all stakeholders. Drawing inputs from the T.S.R. Subramanian Committee report and the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MHRD), the K. Kasturirangan Committee has produced a document that is comprehensive, far-sighted and grounded in realities. The idea that lifelong education is based on four pillars - learning to know, learning to do, learning to live together and learning to be - has inspired the committee to cover every aspect of the education sector: school, higher, vocational and adult education. It also includes the whole gamut of professional education - engineering, medicine, agriculture, law, etc. It explains the scientific rationale behind the policy's prescriptions and suggests how the proposals can be translated into practice at the State and Central levels. The draft policy seeks to revamp all aspects of the sector and does not shy away from suggesting brave new ideas. In school education, one such idea is to cover children of 3-18 years [instead of the present 6-14 years under the Right to Education (RTE) Act], three years under early childhood care and education (ECCE) and four years under secondary education. Based on evidence from

neuroscience that over 85% of a child's cumulative brain development occurs prior to the age of six and that 'school preparedness' at Anganwadis is light on educational aspects, ECCE would facilitate play and discovery-based learning for children of that age group.

33. Which of the followings is not one of the four pillars mentioned in the passage?

- I. Learning to be II. Learning to live
 III. Learning to develop
 a) I and II only b) II and III only
 c) II only d) III only
 e) All are correct

33. Correct Choice : b Solution :

The four pillars which are mentioned in the passage are: learning to know, learning to do, learning to live together and learning to be. Both II and III are incorrect. Option B is the correct answer.

34. Which of the following words after replacing 'sought' will give the sentence an opposite sense without making it grammatically incorrect?

- I. Disregarded II. Ignored
 III. Requested
 a) I and II only b) II and III only
 c) II only d) I only
 e) All are correct

34. Correct Choice : a Solution :

'Sought' is the past form of 'seek' which means to ask/request for (something) from someone. Both I and II will fit grammatically and give the sentence an opposite sense. III is synonym hence eliminated. Option A is the correct answer.

35. Which of the followings can be an appropriate title for the passage?

- a) Importance of the Right to Education Act
 b) Childhood care and its connection education
 c) Universal foundational literacy
 d) Fine-tuning the education policy
 e) Roadblocks in the implementation of the education policy

35. Correct Choice : d Solution :

The topic/title of a passage is generally the main theme of the passage. The passage talks about this theme in generally most of the paragraphs. This entire passage revolves around an education policy and its features. It discusses the improvements made in the current policy and its purpose. D is the best fit. Option D is the correct answer. The Right to Education Act and childhood care has been mentioned just once in the passage; they are not the main theme that the passage revolves around; hence, options a) and b) are eliminated. The passage also doesn't talk about 'foundational literacy' or the 'roadblock in the implementation of the education policy'. It just talks about the new education policy and what and how it is; this eliminates options c) and e) too.

Direction : In each of the questions given below, a statement is given, find out which of the options show a similar meaning/context and is/are grammatically correct.

36. Dhoni has great temperament and can completely concentrate on the game with a tunnel vision.

- I. A tunnel vision and great temperament helps Dhoni completely concentrate on the game.
 II. Dhoni can completely concentrate on the game with a tunnel vision and he has great temperament.
 III. In order to completely concentrate on the game with a tunnel vision, Dhoni requires great temperament.
 a) III only b) II only
 c) I and II both d) All I, II and III
 e) All are incorrect

36. Correct Choice : b Solution :

II is grammatically correct and conveys the same meaning as that of the original sentence. According to the original sentence, a great temperament does not necessarily help in concentrating on the game; while I makes it necessary and mandatory. III is also eliminated because of the same criterion. Option B is the correct answer.

37. If this trade war continues over a longer horizon, it could even result in shift of production bases and restructuring of global supply chains.

- I. Shift of production bases and restructuring of global supply chains are the result of trade wars.
 II. Shift of production bases and restructuring of global supply chains might occur if this trade war continues over a longer horizon.
 III. If this trade war continues over a longer horizon, it could result in shift of production and supply chains.
 a) III only b) II and III both
 c) II only d) All I, II and III
 e) All are incorrect

37. Correct Choice : c Solution :

II is grammatically correct and conveys the same meaning as that of the original sentence. Both I and III have twisted the sentences in a way which conveys a different meaning than that conveyed by the original sentence. Option C is the correct answer.

Direction : In the given sentences, a blank is given indicating that a word is missing. Among the given options, a combination of words would fit the blank thereby making it grammatically and contextually correct. Choose that option as your response.

38. While there is a/an _____ rumour circulating about the celebrity's death, the story has not been confirmed by the star's publicist.

- A. spurious B. substantiated
 C. apocryphal D. verified
 a) AB b) BC c) BD d) CD
 e) AC

38. Correct Choice : e

Rumour always has an element of probability in it and since the story has not been confirmed by star's publicist, the word qualifying rumour would capture the probability element of it. Spurious- not being what it purports to be; false or fake;

apocryphal- of doubtful authenticity, although widely circulated as being true. Substantiated and verified are exactly opposite of what the sentence is trying to convey; hence, (e) is the right answer.

39. During her supervisor's absence, Jen took it upon herself to a leadership role on her team.
- A. relinquish B. arrogate
C. assume D. renounce
- a) AB b) BC c) BD d) CD
e) None of the above

39. Correct Choice : b

As per the context, Jen would be taking the leadership role during her supervisor's absence. The word in the blank would reflect that. Relinquish- voluntarily cease to keep or claim; arrogate- take or claim (something) without justification; assume-take or begin to have power or responsibility; renounce- formally declare one's abandonment of (a claim, right, or possession). The correct fit for the blank would be B and C.

40. Although I was the new girl in class, I was not anxious because all my classmates were so to me.
- A. reticent B. reclusive
C. genial D. convivial
- a) AB b) BC c) BD d) CD
e) None of the above

40. Correct Choice : d Solution:

Reticent- not revealing one's thoughts or feelings readily; reclusive- avoiding the company of other people; genial- friendly and cheerful; convivial- friendly, lively, and enjoyable. As per the sentence's context, 'genial' and 'convivial' would fit in while 'reticent' and 'reclusive' are exactly opposite of what the sentence is trying to convey; hence, (d) is the right answer.