

(Directions 1-10: Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below it.

For as long as biologists have studied cancer, they have **nurtured** one dream. Their hope has been that, for all of the many different cancers that can eat away at a body - from the glioblastomas that creep through the brain like kudzu (a quick-growing East Asian climbing plant with reddish-purple flowers, used as a fodder crop and for erosion control.) through Georgia, to the lung and colon cancers that envelop vital organs like a death shroud (cover) - there will turn out to be a single step that determines whether cells turn cancerous. By targeting drugs at that step, physicians would be able to stop a cell from heading down the path towards cancer just as a switchman stops a tram in from going down the wrong track. It turns out that a gene called p53 - the gene whose useless mutant form, luckless families passed from patient to child through the generations - may be that switch. If p53 is healthy and doing its job, it keeps the cell on the track of normalcy. But if the p53 gene is absent, damaged or tied up by other molecules, the cell goes down the track toward cancer. 'p53 fulfils this long-held hope', says Dr. Bert Vogelstein of the Howard Hughes Medical Institute (HHMI) and the Johns Hopkins Oncology Centre, who found, in 1989, that some 80 per cent of colon cancers involve p53. 'Alterations of the p53 gene appear to be involved, directly or indirectly, in the majority of human cancers.' All said and done, p53 has been implicated in more kinds of cancer than most people knew existed: 52 and counting.

Not bad for a gene that first broke on the scene in a bad case of mistaken identity. In 1979, David Lane of the University of Dundee in Scotland and Arnold Levine of Princeton University independently discovered p53, the protein that the p53 gene makes. In 1982, biologists **isolated** the p53 gene. But it seemed to cause, rather than suppress, cancer. Few researchers were interested in yet another one of those. It was not until 1989 that Levine and Vogelstein separately discovered p53's true colours: it was a tumour killer. With this realisation, some 2,000 biologists have now dropped the date they brought to the

dank (chilly) and their previous research subject and latched onto (become very interested) the pretty new arrival. 'Our interest converged on p53 like no other molecule', recalls oncologist Richard Elledge of the University of Texas Health Science Centre at San Antonio. Three years ago p53 won the science world's Academy Award, earning 'Molecule of the Year' honours from the journal Science. Just last month researchers led by Nikola Pavletich of New York's Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Centre produced a stunning photo of p53 that shows how rogue (dishonest or unprincipled man) molecules can prevent it from performing its good deeds. Today there are more than 5,200 published studies on p53, and biologists are convinced that p53 is bound for even greater glory. 'What I like so much about p53 is that it predicts ways to treat cancer', says Princeton's Levine. 'For the first time, we can honestly translate from the lab to the clinic'.

p53 acts as the cell's director of damage control. A healthy cell, usually, keeps a small number of p53 proteins around, continuously degrading them and replenishing the supply. But if something - ionising radiation, a chemical carcinogen, and chemotherapy drugs - damages a cell's DNA in a way that threatens to set it on the path to cancer, the cell switches into high alert. If everything is working right, something signals the p53 to stop degrading 'and tells it that it's time to be active', says molecular biologist Carol Prives of Columbia University. The p53 supply builds up, p53 starts acting like an office clerk who, discovering a typo (a small mistake in a text made when it was typed or printed) in an original document that is about to be copied, turns off the copier until he can fix the typo.

p53 turns off the cell's copying machinery until he can repair the damaged DNA. To do this, p53 floats toward the cell's genes. It slips into a specific stretch of DNA. There, it **triggers** expression of genes nearby. These genes make proteins that directly inhibit growth of the cell. The tumour - to be stopped dead. Sometimes, though, p53 acts more like the clerk so disgusted with the many typos that he just trashes the document: p53 activates the cell's suicide software.

Except when it doesn't. Even good genes can go bad, and the gene that makes p53 has several ways of failing. Those failures account, directly or indirectly, for an estimated 60 per cent of human cancers, including those of the breast, lung, liver, skin, prostate, bladder, cervix and colon. Most often, the p53 gene goes bad by undergoing a mutation, typically a spelling mistake. One of the 2,362 chemical 'letters' (designated A, T, G and C) that make up the p53 gene changes into another letter. When the p53 gene contains such a spelling mistake, the p53 protein that the gene makes is garbled (confused and distorted; unclear), too. And proteins are not very forgiving of errors. A single wrong letter in a crucial part of the p53 gene produces a protein with a wrong molecule; the protein is now no more able to suppress tumours than a cork is to cap a volcano. The Li-Fraumeni families (the syndrome is named after its discoverers) inherit their p53 mutations. If the sperm or egg from which a baby grew held a mutant p53, then every single cell of the 30 trillion in her body will also harbour a mutant copy. In theory, inheriting only one mutant p53 gene, from one parent, should not be a problem as long as the child inherits a healthy p53 gene from the other parent. The healthy copy should make enough p53 to keep tumours at bay (away). But p53 doesn't work that way.

First of all, each cell with one bad p53 gene is only 'one mutation away from completely lacking the function of this critical gene', explains p53 researcher Tyler Jacks of HHMI and the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. That mutation can occur when the cell - in the liver, lungs or any other organ - makes a spelling mistake as it copies its genes before dividing into two cells. Then the cell has lost its primary defence against cancer.

But even a cell whose healthy p53 gene stays that way can be trouble. The p53 proteins made by the genes, both good and bad, get together in groups of four to form a sinuous complex that looks like ribbon on a Christmas present. If the mutant gene is churning out mutant proteins, then each four-ribbon tangle likely has a mutant among its strands. That is enough to keep the p53 ribbon from binding to DNA and halting tumour growth.

Most p53 mutations, though, are not inherited. Instead, they arise from a copying error or an attack by a carcinogen. Bulky chemicals, such as benzopyrene in cigarette smoke, changes G to T and C to A, for instance. A single mutant gene is

enough to leave a cell with no healthy, tumour-quashing p53. And just one out of control cell can give rise to a deadly tumour.

1. The primary purpose of the passage is to propose :
 - A. An alternative cause of cancer, the gene p53.
 - B. The p53-if healthy-keeps cancer away, but if unhealthy or absent, could result in a cell becoming cancerous.
 - C. An alternative cure of cancer, the gene p53.
 - D. A new drug that will prevent a cell from becoming cancerous.
 - E. None of these.

Ans. (B)

The question goes directly to the heart of the matter the purpose. Locate the topic sentence of the passage and the rest should be easy. Sentences 5 and 6 of paragraph 1 clearly indicate the answer. Hence (B).

2. Which of the following statements, regarding p53, is true?
 - (a) p53 probably has more preventive rather than curative powers.
 - (b) p53, when it fails, accounts for about 90% of cancers.
 - (c) The perception among biologists that p53 is the cause of cancer, was trashed in 1989.
 - (d) Biologists opine that p53 does not really suggest any of treating cancer.
 - (e) None of these.

Ans. (c)

See paragraph 2, sentence 5, which indicates what statement (C) states. Hence (C).

3. According to Carol Prives, the p53 gene is akin to an office clerk, in that p53.
 - (a) Passes on the job the p53 protein to perform damage control.
 - (b) Stalls the cell's copying process until the cell can rectify its damaged DNA.
 - (c) If the situation is hopeless, decides to give up, and goes into the mode of self-destruction.
 - (d) Both (b) and (c)
 - (e) None of these

Ans. (d)

Quickly scan what Carol Prives has to say about the p53 gene in paragraph 3. Both (b) and (c) are mentioned. Hence (d).

4. All of the following statements are true, except.
 - (a) A wrong mutation of the p53 gene results in the p53 protein being rendered ineffective in suppressing tumours.
 - (b) Most p53 mutations are inherited.
 - (c) A healthy p53 gene can be useless if faced by even a single mutant p53 gene.

- (d) The Li-Fraumeni families inherit their p53 mutations.
- (e) None of these

Ans. (b)

See the last paragraph, sentence 1” Most p53 mutations, though, are not inherited.” Hence (b)

5. Which of the following is true regarding those who have Li-Fraumeni syndrome?
- (a) One single mutant p53 gene inherited either from the sperm or the egg does not imply increased chances of getting cancer.
 - (b) Any cell with one bad p53 gene could lose its defence against cancer with just one wrong mutation, since the bad p53 gene could destroy the good p53 gene.
 - (c) The good p53 gene cannot nullify the effects of a mutant p53 gene and it probably will be rendered impotent by the latter.
 - (d) A mutant p53 gene need not necessarily produce mutant and faulty proteins.
 - (e) None of these.

Ans. (c)

Refer to the paragraph 5 to 7. (a) and (d) contradict what is stated about the p53 genes of those who have Li-Fraumeni syndrome. Nothing is mentioned about a bad p53 gene destroying the good p53 gene, so (b) is wrong. Only (c) can be inferred, based on the ribbon example Hence (c).

6. What repercussion does a faulty p53 mutation—a spelling mistake—have?
- (a) The mutated gene may or may not produce a p53 protein with a wrong molecule.
 - (b) The mutated gene prevents the good p53 gene from performing its function, i.e. halting tumour growth.
 - (c) It strips the cell of its defences against cancer.
 - (d) both (b) and (c)
 - (e) None of these

Ans. (d)

The last two sentences, the topic sentences of the paragraph, and summation of the passage reveal the answer. Hence (d)

7. Which of the following is most similar in meaning to the word **nurtured** as used in the context of the passage?
- (a) cherished
 - (b) encouraged
 - (c) protected
 - (d) cared
 - (e) All of the above

Ans. (a)

In the passage nurtured means to cherish (a hope, belief, or ambition).

8. Which of the following is most similar in meaning to the word **isolated** as used in the context of the passage?

- (a) secluded
- (b) withdrawn
- (c) unapproachable
- (d) extracted
- (e) All of the above

Ans. (d)

In the passage isolated means to obtain or extract (a compound, microorganism, etc.) in a pure form.

9. Which of the following is most opposite in meaning to the word **triggers** as used in the context of the passage?

- (a) blocks
- (b) checks
- (c) halts
- (d) stops
- (e) All of the above

Ans. (e)

Triggers to cause (a device) to function. All the given options are opposite in meaning.

10. Which of the following is most opposite in meaning to the word **critical** as used in the context of the passage?

- (a) negative
- (b) analytic
- (c) unimportant
- (d) humble
- (e) All of the above

Ans. (c)

Critical means having crucial importance in the success/failure/existence of something.

Direction (11-15) : In each of the following sentences there are blank spaces. Below each sentence there are five pairs of words. Find out which pair of words can be used to fill up the blanks in the sentences to make it grammatically correct.

11. A major security Came to the fore during Prime Minister Narendra Modi’s visit as his Was misled by a police van directing the way.

- (a) forefront, direction
- (b) lapse, cavalcade
- (c) threat, path
- (d) alarm, track
- (e) gap, walkway

Ans. (b)

Forefront-the leading or most important position or place.

Lapse-a brief or temporary failure

Cavalcade-a formal procession of people walking, on horseback, or riding in vehicles.

Threat-a person or thing likely to cause damage or danger.

Alarm-an anxious awareness of danger.

Track-a prepared course or circuit for athletes, horses, motor vehicles, bicycles, or dogs to race on.

Gap-a break in continuity.

Walkway-a passage or path for walking along, especially a raised passageway connecting

different sections of a building or a wide path in a park or garden.

The correct words to fit the blanks are lapse and cavalcade.

12. When Sri Lankan cricketers out wearing pollution masks in the middle of a Test match at the Feroz Shah Kotla ground in Delhi, it a new low for the city.
(a) trooped, heralded (b) filled, resulted
(c) cut, hovered (d) rolled, menaced
(e) headed, claimed

Ans. (a)

If you tell someone that something they did was **low**, that is one level of insult. But to say it is a "**new low**" implies that it breaks a record for lowness, exceeding your normally **low** expectations for that person

Trooped out-the current or future process of leaving. It usually signifies leaving one area for another.

Heralded-be a sign that (something) is about to happen.

Filled out-to complete.

Resulted-occur or follow as the consequence of something.

Cut out-remove completely.

Hovered-remain poised uncertainly in one place or between two states.

Rolled out-remove gradually.

Menaced-be a threat or possible danger to .

Headed out-go out, leave a place.

Claimed-state or assert that something is the case, typically without providing evidence or proof.

The correct words to fill in the blanks are trooped and heralded.

13. Mr. Hegde's remarks are not those of an elected representative who swears to the constitutions.
(a) obliging, faith
(b) accentuating, dominance
(c) according, credence
(d) according, credence
(e) consenting, trust

Ans. (c)

Obliging-willing to do a service or kindness; helpful.

Faith-complete trust or confidence in someone or something.

Accentuating-make more noticeable or prominent.

Dominance-power and influence over others.

Befitting-appropriate to the occasion.

Allegiance-loyalty or commitment to a superior or to a group or cause.

According-as stated by or in.

Credence-belief in or acceptance of something as true.

According as stated by or in.

Credence-belief in or acceptance of something as true.

Consenting-agree to do something.

Trust-firm belief in the reliability, truth, or ability of someone or something.

The correct words are befitting and allegiance.

14. Pakistan appears to have low in its treatment of Kulbhushan Jadhav's family members by not only violating the letter and spirit of the understanding about this but also conducting the meeting in a And intimidating atmosphere, there by defeating the very purpose of such a reunion.
(a) remained, deserted (b) stooped, hostile
(c) faced, dangerous (d) repeated, safe
(e) complied, hazardous

Ans. (b)

Remained-continue to possess a particular quality or fulfil a particular role.

Deserted-(of a place) empty of people

Stopped-lower one's moral standards so far as to do something reprehensible.

Hostile-unsolicited and restricted by the management of a target company/authority.

Faced-have (a difficult situation) in prospect.

Dangerous-able or likely to cause harm or injury.

Repeated-do (something) again or more than once.

Safe-protected from or not exposed to danger or risk.

Complied-act in accordance with a wish or command.

Hazardous-risky, dangerous.

The correct words to fit in the blanks are stooped and hostile.

15. The way in which the Indian batting line-up against genuine fast bowling is well known.
(a) luxurious, marches (b) opulent, pits
(c) prolific, takes (d) famed, collapses
(e) influential, goes

Ans. (d)

Luxurious-extremely comfortable or elegant, especially when involving great expense.

Marches-proceed or advance inexorably.

Opulent-ostentatiously costly and luxurious.

Pits-set someone or something in conflict or completion with.

Prolific-present in large numbers or quantities.

Takes (take against) to begin to dislike someone often without having a good reason.

Famed-renowned; well known by many people.

Collapses-fail suddenly and completely.

Influential-having great influence on someone or something.

Goes-(goes against)-to counteract.

The words that fit in are famed and collapses.

Direction (16-20) : In each of the questions given below a/an idiom/phrase is given in bold which is then followed by five options which then tries to decipher its meaning as used in the sentence. Choose the option which gives the meaning of the phrase most appropriately in context of the given sentence.

16. The authority asked for a few days time **to chew the matter over** before making a final decision.

- (a) organize (b) think
(c) register (d) restrict
(e) ignore

Ans. (b)

The meaning of the phrasal verb chew over here means to think about an issue.

17. The little kids were going **all agog** for Christmas.

- (a) ignorant (b) angry
(c) restless (d) emotional
(e) alert

Ans. (c)

The idiom 'all agog' means going restless.

18. I am **dead on my feet** from standing at the bar all night.

- (a) cold (b) jolted
(c) gloomy (d) somber
(e) exhausted

Ans. (e)

The idiom 'dead on my feet' means being so tired that one can hardly stand up.

19. She is a **dead ringer** of one of my friends.

- (a) identical (b) acquaintance
(c) enemy (d) neighbor
(e) nemesis

Ans. (a)

The meaning of the idiom 'dead ringer' means someone or something that looks very similar to someone or something else.

20. Just **hold your horses** till we have an official communication.

- (a) snub (b) suffer
(c) tolerate (d) wait
(e) operate

Ans. (d)

The idiom 'hold your horses' means to wait a moment.

Direction (21-30) : In each of the questions given below a sentence is given which is then divided into five parts out of which last part is correct. There is an error in three part of the sentence and only one part is correct. You have to choose the correct part as your answer.

21. Severe dengue haemorrhagic fever cause (A)/ blood vessels to leak, which leads to a loss of blood (B)/pressure and if this isn't treat quickly (C)/ by replacing bodily fluids, the person can went (D) **into shock and can die. (e)**

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

Ans. (b)

Error in part A : The noun is singular but the verb-cause is given in plural form. Replace 'cause' with 'causes' (singular form).

Error in part C : Replace 'treat' with 'treated'.

Error in part D : Replace 'went' with 'go' as this is referring to a future event.

22. In an desperate attempt to (a)/prevent herbivores like nilgai (blue bulls) and wild boar for (b)/destroying their crops, farmers often (c)/set up illegal high-voltage electrical fences around its (d)/fields (e)

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

Ans. (c)

Error in part A : The use of article 'an' before desperate is grammatically wrong. Replace 'an' with 'a'.

Error in part B : The use of preposition 'for' is incorrect. Use 'from' in place of 'for'.

Error in part D : Since the noun is plural (farmers), the pronoun should be plural too. Hence, replace 'its' with 'their'.

23. Last week, I visited (A)/mine ancestral village (B)/and found myself listen to (C)/family stories told with my aunts (D)/**who are well into their 70s (E)**

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

Ans. (a)

Error in part B : Use possessive pronoun 'my' instead of 'mine'.

Error in part C : Replace 'listen' with 'listening'.

Error in part D : The use of preposition 'with' is incorrect. Use 'by' instead of 'with'.

24. When a clinical researcher or a (A)/pharmaceutical company wants to check (B)/whether a new medicine or treatment (C)/works, they choose a largenough (D)/**set of patients for the clinical trial. (E)**

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

Ans. (e)

The sentence is grammatically correct.

25. Research have successfully attempted (A)/gene-editing inside the human body to correct a (B)/defect on the DNA that causes Hunter's syndrome (C)/a disorder where the body can't

broke down sugar that (D)/**builds bones, skin, tendons and other tissue. (E)**

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

Ans. (b)

Error in part A : The use of 'have' suggests that the noun associated with it should plural in form. Use 'researchers' instead of 'researcher'

Error in part C : The correct form is defect in the DNA'

Error in part D : Replace 'broke' with 'break'

26. Choosing to use public transport (A)/over driving a private vehicle was a good (B)/way to make a immediate difference. (C)/that not only decreases emissions but also save money (D)/ **and encourages physical activity. (E)**

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

Ans. (a)

Error in part (B) : The sentence is not in past tense, 'was' is the wrong form of very here. Replace 'was' with 'is'

Error in part C : The use of article 'a' is grammatically wrong before 'immediate.' Replace 'a' with 'an'

Error in part D : There is parallelism error. Decreases, encourages-all are singular forms. Therefore, replace 'save' with 'saves'

27. The freedom struggle of India produce (A)/innumerable brilliant personality of intellectual excellence (B)/and comprehensive perceptions of various (C)/issue concerned with the quality of (D)/**human life in the country (E)**

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

Ans. (C)

Error in part A : The sentence is referring to a past event. Hence, use 'produced' instead of 'produce'

Error in part B : The use of 'innumerable' suggests that the noun associated with it must be in plural. Therefore, use 'personalities' instead of 'personality'

Error in part D : The use of 'various' suggests that the noun associated with it must be in plural. Hence, use 'issues' instead of 'issue'.

28. Pupils should always (A)/be given freedom to think (B)/ on academic and social problems (C)/and to find their solutions (D)/**independently. (E)**

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

Ans. (e)

The sentence is grammatically correct.

29. The President and the Vice-President continues (A)/to get salaries less than top bureaucrats and

(B)/the chiefs of the armed forces, because the laws are since (C)/to be amended to rectification an anomaly in the implementation (D)/ **of the Seventh Pay Commission recommendations. (E)**

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

(e) All correct

Ans. (b)

Error in part A : when two singular nouns are joined by 'and' and both of them refer to different persons, then plural verb is used. Replace 'continues' with 'continue' to make it grammatically correct.

Error in part C : When something is expected to happen, but didn't happen till this moment, 'yet' is used. Replace 'since' with 'yet'

Error in part D : Replace 'rectification' with 'rectify'

30. The government is set to brought out (A)/a new policy to spur domestically electronics (B)/production by March 2018 on a bid (C)/to boost its flagship 'Make in India' programme (D)/**and curb the country's trade deficit. (E)**

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

(e) All correct

Ans. (d)

Error in part A : Replace 'brought' with 'bring'

Error in part B : Replace 'domestically' with 'domestic'

Error in part C : The correct form of usage is 'in' a bid which means in an attempt. So, replace 'on' with 'in'