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## Solutions

### S1. Ans.(d)

**Sol.** "But it might not be inappropriate to ask" is grammatically and contextually correct as the blank is followed by a question.

### S2. Ans.(b)

**Sol.** "it has destroyed its raison d'être." is grammatically and contextually correct. "raison d'être" means the most important reason or purpose for someone or something's existence.

### S3. Ans.(a)

**Sol.** "because they had a monopoly of nukes at the time " is the correct choice. 'Nukes' mean a nuclear weapon.

### S4. Ans.(b)

**Sol.** "to retaliate with a massive nuclear attack on the enemy country " is the correct choice. 'Retaliate' means make an attack in return for a similar attack.

### S5. Ans.(c)

**Sol.** "Thus, the rationale for the naval leg of the triad is its survivability." is grammatically and contextually correct.

### S6. Ans.(b)

**Sol.** "Survivability by itself does not appear to make deterrence more credible." is grammatically and contextually correct and it maintains the continuity of the sentence. 'Deterrence' means the action of discouraging an action or event through instilling doubt or fear of the consequences.

### S7. Ans.(d)

**Sol.** "he would suffer a defeat that he simply cannot afford to let happen" is grammatically and contextually correct and it maintains the continuity of the sentence.

### S8. Ans.(b)

**Sol.** "there will not be an all-out war involving the use of nuclear weapons" is grammatically and contextually correct.

### S9. Ans.(a)

**Sol.** "ever expanding nuclear programme has destroyed that argument" is the correct choice and maintains the continuity of the paragraph.

### S10. Ans.(b)

**Sol.** "if the private sector is prepared to invest in developing the needed capacities." is grammatically and contextually correct.

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**S11. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** "whatever the conditions might have been in the previous year" as the latter part of sentence talks about the previous year.

**S12. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** "dimming hopes of faster international trade" is the correct choice and maintains the continuity of the paragraph.

**S13. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** "signs are not good for the balance of the year" is grammatically correct.

**S14. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** "But it looks to be a touch-and-go situation." is the correct choice as it maintains the continuity of the paragraph.

**S15. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** "this will have an impact on our exports and, therefore, growth" is the correct choice as it maintains the continuity of the paragraph.

**S16. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Undermine: lessen the effectiveness, power, or ability of, especially gradually or insidiously.

**S17. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Pulp: withdraw (a publication) from the market and recycle the paper.

**S18. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** Resurrect: revive or revitalize (something that is inactive, disused, or forgotten).

**S19. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Invoke: call earnestly for.

**S20. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** Punitive: inflicting or intended as punishment.

**S21. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Malicious: characterized by malice; intending or intended to do harm.

**S22. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Curtail: reduce in extent or quantity; impose a restriction on.

**S23. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Enmity: a state or feeling of active opposition or hostility.

**S24. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Tweak: a fine adjustment to a mechanism or system.

**S25. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Inhibit: hinder, restrain, or prevent (an action or process).

**S26. Ans. (b)**

**Sol.** Option (b) is the most appropriate choice.

Dire- extremely serious or urgent

Dreadful- causing or involving great suffering, fear, or unhappiness; extremely bad or serious

Fanatic means a person filled with excessive and single-minded zeal, especially for an extreme religious or political cause.

Enthusiast means a person who is very interested in a particular activity or subject.

Disconcert means disturb the composure of; unsettle.

Perturb means make (someone) anxious or unsettled.

Hence the set of words in option (b) share the relationship of being the synonyms of the word 'dire' and to each other. Hence option (b) is the correct answer choice.

**S27. Ans. (b)**

**Sol.** Elicited- evoke or draw out (a reaction, answer, or fact) from someone

Hence the set of words in option (b) share the relationship of being the synonyms of the word 'Elicited' and to each other.

Confiscation means the action of taking or seizing someone's property with authority; seizure.

Requisition means a formal written demand that something should be performed or put into operation.

Exalt means Think or speak very highly of (someone or something)

Frugal means sparing or economical about money or food.

Parsimonious means very unwilling to spend money or use resources.

Comradely means friendly, amiable.

**S28. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Mooted- raise (a question or topic) for discussion; suggest (an idea or possibility)

Option (d) is the most suitable choice as the answer of the question.

The set of words in option (d) share the relationship of being synonyms to the word given in bold.

Despicable means deserving hatred and contempt.

Abhorrent means inspiring disgust and loathing; repugnant.

Deceitful means guilty of or involving deceit; deceiving or misleading others.

Disingenuous means not candid or sincere, typically by pretending that one knows less about something than one really does.

Cognizant means having knowledge or awareness.

Apprised means informed or told.

Critic means a person who expresses an unfavorable opinion of something.

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**S29. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Espouse- adopt or support (a cause, belief, or way of life).

Option (c) is the correct answer as the pair of words in option (c) share the relationship of being the synonym and antonym to the word given in bold.

Flexible means able to be easily modified to respond to altered circumstances.

Intransigent means unwilling or refusing to change one's views or to agree about something.

Shallow means of little depth

Insubstantial means lacking strength and solidity.

Authoritative means commanding and self-confident; likely to be respected and obeyed.

Authentic means of undisputed origin and not a copy; genuine.

Fatal means causing death.

Lethal means sufficient to cause death.

**S30. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Frantic- distraught with fear, anxiety, or other emotion

Berserk- out of control with anger or excitement; wild or frenzied

Option (a) is the correct answer as the pair of words in option (a) shares the relationship of being the synonym and antonym to the word given in bold.

Furtive means attempting to avoid notice or attention, typically because of guilt or a belief that discovery would lead to trouble; secretive.

Sly means having or showing a cunning and deceitful nature.

Meddle means Interfere in something that is not ones concern.

Taint means something with a contaminating influence or effect.

Vicinity means the area near or surrounding a particular place.

Proximity means Nearness in space, time, or relationship.

**S31. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Use of 'outrage' is incorrect in statement (III). 'Outrage' means an extremely strong reaction of anger, shock, or indignation.

**S32. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Use of 'onus' is incorrect in statement (I). 'Onus' means something that is one's duty or responsibility.

**S33. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** All are correct.

Deliberate: done consciously and intentionally.

**S34. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Only (III) is incorrect.

Obscene: offending against moral principles; repugnant.

**S35. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Only (II) is incorrect.

Emblematic: serving as a symbol of a particular quality or concept; symbolic.

**S36. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** Both (I) and (III) are incorrect.

Tweak: a fine adjustment to a mechanism or system.

**S37. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** All are correct

Tedious: too long, slow, or dull; tiresome or monotonous.

**S38. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Only (III) is incorrect.

Bolster: support or strengthen.

**S39. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Only (II) is incorrect.

Lampoon: publicly criticize (someone or something) by using ridicule, irony, or sarcasm.

**S40. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** All are correct

Quest: a long or arduous search for something.

**S41. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** A-F, C-E and B-D are the correct pairs and form grammatically and contextually correct statements.

**S42. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** A-E and B-F are contextually and grammatically correct sentences. C-D is grammatically incorrect. 'Neglecting' should be used in place of 'neglected'.

**S43. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** C-D and B-E are contextually and grammatically correct sentences.

**S44. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** A-F, B-E and C-D are contextually and grammatically correct sentences.

**S45. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** None of the sentences join to make contextually and grammatically correct sentences.

**S46. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Option (b) is the most suitable choice to be selected as the answer. As all the statements except (b) altogether are trying to convey the death of the pilot whales on stranding. Whereas the statement of option (b) is conveying the physical characteristics of the whales, thus it is the only option that is not contributing to the context of the paragraph. Hence, the option (b) is the correct answer.

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**S47. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Option (c) is the most suitable choice to be selected as the answer. As all the statements except (c), altogether are trying to convey the idea that U.S. and China must stop the trade war, as soon as possible, in a way that benefits both. Whereas the statement of option (c) is conveying the news that Huawei CFO Sabrina MengWanzhou, daughter of founder, arrested in Canada at request of US government 'for violating Iran sanctions', thus (c) is the only option that is not contributing to the context of the paragraph. Hence, the option (c) is the correct answer.

**S48. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Option (a) is the most suitable choice to be selected as the answer. As all the statements except (a), altogether are trying to convey that how the increased global warming because of the increasing greenhouse gases emissions, is affecting the farming sector on which depends the well-being of a large section of the population. Whereas the statement of option (a) is presenting a report, warning that increase in the temperature will enable the dengue virus and malaria to spread farther and faster. Thus (a) is the only option that is not contributing to the context of the paragraph. Hence, the option (a) is the correct answer.

**S49. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** Option (e) is the most suitable choice to be selected as the answer. As all the statements altogether are trying to convey the same message that urgent correctives are needed, or lethal winter pollution will become the new normal as the air pollution is choking several cities in the northern States once again, as changes in temperature and slowing winds trap soot, dust and fine particulate matter. Hence, the option (e) is the correct answer.

**S50. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Option (d) is the most suitable choice to be selected as the answer. As all the statements except (d), altogether are trying to convey the simmering tensions over the last few months between the Reserve Bank of India and the Centre, The Centre-RBI face-off is not healthy, they must resolve their differences. The statement in option (d) is talking about the inflation forecasts. Thus (d) is the only option that is not contributing to the context of the paragraph. Hence, the option (d) is the correct answer.

**S51. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** No Error

In Option (a), 'experiment' is incorrectly used.

In Option (b), 'experimenting' will be used and not 'experimented'.

In Option (c) and (d), 'enhance' should be used.

**S52. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The correct statement is "While nuclear costs have been rising, other low-carbon sources of electricity, especially solar energy, have become cheaper. "

**S53. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The correct statement is "The dialogue sounded stilted and unnatural, perhaps because of the translation from the original Russian."

**S54. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The correct statement is "Since its maiden Test at Lord's in 1932, India gained strength as a powerhouse at home but remained diffident overseas."

**S55. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** No Error

**S56. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** Option (b) is factually incorrect. The paragraph mentions that the study covered 100 km length of rivers and channels around the Sunderbans. The paragraph made no statement on the length or the size of the water system that makes the Indian Sunderbans.

Option (c) was an already known fact and wasn't discovered through the study. So, option (c) is also wrong. Option (d) was something which might be FOUND in the study but was NOT the result of the study.

The answer to the question can be derived from the last clause of the last sentence of the last paragraph 'distribution of GRD (Ganges River Dolphin) is influenced by the salinity level of the waterways'.

The study attempts to find out the relationship between the salinity level of the waterways and the distribution of GRD.

Among the given options, only information presented in the option (e) which illustrates the relationship between GRD (Ganges River Dolphin) and salinity level of waterways deserves to be the RESULT of the study mentioned in the study.

Hence, option (e) is the correct answer.

**S57. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The phrase 'national aquatic animal' is a small phrase. The passage suggests that the Ganges River Dolphins is the national aquatic animal.

Neither the passage nor the phrase provides any suggestions to the criteria for an animal to be national animal or whether national aquatic animal is same as national animal.

From above, it can be deduced that option (a) is the correct answer.

**S58. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The answer to the question can be found from the last sentence of the second paragraph 'Only in the western part of Sunderbans, where the salinity is lower, could researchers find some evidence of the species'.

The usage of the word 'only' with the phrase 'western part of Sunderbans' along with the latter part of the sentence reveals that among the given options, GRD could be found in the Western Parts of the Indian Sunderbans.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

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**S59. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Entitle [verb] means '(often be entitled to) Give (someone) a legal right or a just claim to receive or do something;

Divulge [verb] means 'make known (private or sensitive information)';

From above, it could be understood that the word 'divulge' has the meaning which is SIMILAR to the meaning of the word 'reveal'.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

**S60. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** 'Covering' is grammatically and contextually correct fit for the blank.

**S61. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** The correct rearrangement is DBFCAG and statement E is incoherent here. B-F is the correct answer.

**S62. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The correct rearrangement is DBFCAG and statement E is incoherent here. E is the correct answer.

**S63. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The correct rearrangement is DBFCAG and statement E is incoherent here.

**S64. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The correct rearrangement is DBFCAG and statement E is incoherent here. G is the correct answer.

**S65. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The correct rearrangement is DBFCAG and statement E is incoherent here. C is the correct answer.

**S66. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The correct rearrangement is ECBDA.

**S67. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** The correct rearrangement is ECBDA.

**S68. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The correct rearrangement is ECBDA.

**S69. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The correct rearrangement is ECBDA.

**S70. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The correct rearrangement is ECBDA.

**S71. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The correct rearrangement is ECBDA.

**S72. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The answer to the question can be derived from the last sentence of the second-last paragraph 'Prior to this, two unmanned flights in full complement will be carried out to gain confidence...'

So, the purpose served by the two unmanned flights prior to the flight carrying humans is for the ISRO to be confident prior to sending humans into space.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

**S73. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** The answer to the question can be derived from the starting phrase of the first sentence of the third paragraph 'the first human space flight demonstration'.

So, prior to Gaganyaan Programme, India or ISRO has conducted zero human space flight demonstrations.

Hence, option (e) is the correct answer.

**S74. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The answer to the question can be derived from a phrase present in the first sentence of the first paragraph 'will send three Indian astronauts to space for up to seven days by 2022'.

Please take note of the phrase 'up to'. It means seven days are the maximum number of days which the Indian astronauts are expected to spend in space.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

**S75. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Complement [noun] means 'a thing that contributes extra features to something else in such a way as to improve or emphasize its quality';

Accompaniment [noun] means 'a musical part which supports or partners an instrument, voice, or group; something that supplements or complements something else'.

Relative [noun] means 'a person connected by blood or marriage';

Ivory [noun] means 'a hard creamy-white substance composing the main part of the tusks of an elephant, walrus, or narwhal, often (especially formerly) used to make ornaments and other articles';

Pointer [noun] means 'a hint as to what might happen in the future';

From above, it could be understood that the word 'accompaniment' is the SYNONYM of 'complement'.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

**S76. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** "the way for deploying a better equipped arsenal." is grammatically and contextually correct.

**S77. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** "prevalent in access to education and jobs" is grammatically and contextually correct. 'Excess' means exceeding a prescribed or desirable amount. 'Access' means the right or opportunity to use or benefit from something.

**S78. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** "the Bill is quite silent on this." is grammatically and contextually correct.

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**S79. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** "to scrap the minimum educational qualification criteria for" is grammatically and contextually correct.

**S80. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** "since more than half the population is restricted from contesting." is grammatically and contextually correct.

**S81. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** The sentence is correct as it is and no change is required.

**S82. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** "could trigger a rivalry with the U.S. in outer space." is grammatically and contextually correct.

**S83. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** "to the Communist nation's quest to become a space superpower. " is grammatically and contextually correct.

**S84. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** No change required

**S85. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** "to divest Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) Director Alok Verma of his powers and functions was legally valid." is grammatically and contextually correct.

**S86. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Option (b) is the correct choice. The set of words in option (b) are a pair of synonyms to the word given in bold.

Formidable means Inspiring fear or respect through being impressively large, powerful, intense, or capable.

Brooding means engaged in or showing deep thought about something that makes one sad, angry, or worried.

Dreadful means causing or involving great suffering, fear, or unhappiness; extremely bad or serious.

Smashing means Excellent; wonderful.

Vague means of uncertain, indefinite, or unclear character or meaning.

Precise means Marked by exactness and accuracy of expression or detail.

Ambiguous means Open to more than one interpretation; not having one obvious meaning.

Equivocal means open to more than one interpretation; ambiguous.

Superficial means existing or occurring at or on the surface.

Bewildered means perplexed and confused; very puzzled.

**S87. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Option (c) is the most appropriate option as the choice of the answer. This option shares the relationship of being the synonyms to the word given in bold.

Bucolic means relating to the pleasant aspects of the countryside and country life.

Pastoral means associated with country life.

Rural means in, relating to, or characteristic of the countryside rather than the town.

Flimsy means insubstantial and easily damaged.

Insignificant means too small or unimportant to be worth consideration.

Fickle means changing frequently, especially as regards one's loyalties or affections.

Wavering means quivering.

Mediate means intervene in a dispute in order to bring about an agreement or reconciliation.

Intermediate means coming between two things in time, place, character, etc.

Anticipated means expected.

**S88. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Option (d) is the most apt choice. The set of words in option (d) are the ones in which one is an antonym and one is a synonym to the word given in bold.

Parsimonious means very unwilling to spend money or use resources.

Extravagant means lacking restraint in spending money or using resources.

Frugal means sparing or economical as regards money or food.

Opulent means ostentatiously costly and luxurious.

Invigorated means revitalized.

Exorbitant means (of a price or amount charged) unreasonably high.

Sonorous means (of a person's voice or other sound) imposingly deep and full.

Melodious means pleasant-sounding.

**S89. Ans. (a)**

**Sol.** Option (a) is the correct choice as the set of words given in option(a) are the antonyms to the word given in bold.

Eschew means deliberately avoid using; abstain from.

Confront means Come face to face with (someone) with hostile or argumentative intent.

Intervene means Take part in something so as to prevent or alter a result or course of events.

Visualize means Form a mental image of.

Surplus means an amount of something left over when requirements have been met; an excess of production or supply.

Lavish means Sumptuously rich, elaborate, or luxurious.

Solitude means the state or situation of being alone.

Sullen means bad-tempered and sulky.



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**S90. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Option (d) is the correct choice as these two are the synonyms of the word given in bold.

Ruminate means Think deeply about something.

Contemplate means Look thoughtfully for a long time at.

Ponder means think about (something) carefully, especially before making a decision or reaching a conclusion.

Contempt means the feeling that a person or a thing is worthless or beneath consideration.

Denigration means the action of unfairly criticizing someone or something.

Evade means escape or avoid (someone or something), especially by guile or trickery.

Abscond means leave hurriedly and secretly, typically to escape from custody or avoid arrest.

**S91. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Empathetic: showing an ability to understand and share the feelings of another.

**S92. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Heretic: a person believing in or practising religious heresy.

**S93. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Expatriate: speak or write in detail about.

**S94. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** Immaculate: perfectly clean, neat, or tidy.

**S95. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Venial:(of a fault or offence) slight and pardonable.

**S96. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** "deprivation, economically" make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.

**S97. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** "dividing, grow" make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.

**S98. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** "vat, stumbles" make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.

Vat: a large tank or tub used to hold liquid, especially in industry.

Stumble: trip or momentarily lose one's balance; almost fall.

**S99. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** "embrace, drudgery" make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.

Embrace: hold (someone) closely in one's arms, especially as a sign of affection.

Drudgery: hard menial or dull work.

**S100. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** "terminologies, attributes" make the sentence grammatically and contextually correct.

**S101. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** The answers to the question can be derived from the presence of phrases like ‘among one of the more quirky requests’, ‘is on a list of top 10 requests, which the U.K. FCO highlighted...’ and ‘Other unusual requests...’

Clearly, (I) is the correct answer.

Hence, option (c) is the correct answer.

**S102. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** The answer to the question can be found from the third paragraph: ‘The man in New Delhi asking what time the British High Commission opened, as he had heard it sold vegetarian sausages and wanted to buy some, was ranked seventh on the list...’

Hence, option (b) is the correct answer.

**S103. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** The answer to the question can be derived from the third paragraph ‘... was ranked seventh on the list, which was topped by a caller from the U.S. asking which celebrity contestant had won the popular BBC show ‘Strictly Come Dancing’.

From above, it could be found that the caller was the citizen of the U.S.

Hence, option (e) is the correct answer.

**S104. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The answer to the question can be derived from the first clause of the third paragraph ‘The man in New Delhi asking what time the British High Commission opened, as he had heard it sold vegetarian sausages...’

From above, it could be derived that option (a) is the correct answer.

**S105. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** The answer to the question can be derived from the last paragraph: ‘... a caller in the Canary Islands wanted his hotel to be persuaded to give him a different room...’

From above, it could be understood that option (d) is the correct answer.

**S106. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Option (d) is the most appropriate choice as the answer of the question. The answer can be inferred directly from the first paragraph of the passage where it is given that Japan is now ahead of the UK as the biggest non-US buyer of the stealth fighter F-35 jets produced by Lockheed Martin. Thus F-35 jets are produced by Lockheed Martin and these are the only stealth fighter jets mentioned in the passage.

**S107. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Option (c) is the correct option. Other options can be correct on the basis of deduction but in reference to the passage only option (c) stands out as only it is mentioned in the passage. Refer to the first paragraph, sixth line where it is given, “Defense officials unveiled plans to refit its Izumo-class warships to carry US-designed F-35B fighter jets, an advanced stealth fighter it hopes to purchase over forty of within the next decade, which have short takeoff and vertical landing capabilities.”

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**S108. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Option (c) is the most apt choice. This is so as whole of the paragraph is based on this theme that Japan faces the risks of the challenges from regional great power China, which are “increasing with extremely high speed.” This statement is supported by the facts given in third paragraph as well as the first paragraph where it is given, “The ambitious defense overhaul, called the National Defense Program Guideline, was approved by Japan's parliament on Tuesday and cited the “severity and uncertainty” of challenges with regional great power China, which are “increasing with extremely high speed.”

**S109. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Option (b) is the most suitable option to be suited as the answer for the question. Refer to the second paragraph of the passage from where the text can be quoted as, “Rapid expansion of new areas, such as space, cyber and electromagnetic waves, is fundamentally changing the ideal state of national security, which had placed importance on dealing with physical areas such as land, sea and air.”

**S110. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** Option (e) is the correct option. All of the options can be deduced from the second last paragraph of the passage where it is given (i) “Defense officials also noted frequent foreign military activity in the East China Sea and western Pacific Ocean.”

(ii) “Russia announced that it is continuing build-up on a series of islands claimed by Japan.”

(iii) “This has left Japanese military planners feeling unprepared as waters in the region grow hotter, especially in light of increased US-China confrontations and the potential for a wider confrontation.”

**S111. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Option (d) is the correct option.

Overhaul means periodic maintenance on a car or machine.

Revamp means an act of improving the form, structure, or appearance of something.

Rupture means drastically alter or destroy the structure of.

Splintering means break or cause to break into small sharp fragments.

Crumble means cause (something) to break apart into small fragments.

Disintegration means the process of losing cohesion or strength.

**S112. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Manifest means clear or obvious to the eye or mind.

Obscure means not discovered or known about; uncertain.

Hence it is the word which is opposite in meaning to the word given in bold.

Apparent means clearly visible or understood; obvious.

Evident means clearly seen or understood; obvious.

Conspicuous means clearly visible.

Overt means done or shown openly; plainly apparent.

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**S113. Ans.(e)**

**Sol.** Upon reading the passage, one understands that the passage talks about the need to protect the Western Ghats. Option (c) is correct.

Also, upon reading the second paragraph, one understands that options (a) and (c) are talking about the same thing—need to protect the Western Ghats.

Hence, option (e) is the correct answer.

**S114. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** The answer to the question can be derived from the second paragraph. The second paragraph mentions the names of some states and say that the floods in Kerala and Karnataka should serve as alarm bells administrations which failed to mark ESA in the Western Ghats.

From above, it could be deduced that the states of Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Karnataka do have its land forming part of the Western Ghats. The usage of 'and' prior to Karnataka hints that the list of states given is exhaustive, meaning no other state which is not mention has its land forming a part of the Western Ghats.

In the list, Odisha and Chennai are not mentioned but other states are mentioned. So, (II) and (V) won't be part of the correct answer.

Hence, option (a) is the correct answer.

**S115. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Grievance [noun] means 'a real or imagined cause for complaint, especially unfair treatment; a feeling of resentment over something believed to be wrong or unfair'.

Aberration [noun] means 'a deviation from what is normal or expected';

Venality [noun] means 'the condition of being susceptible to bribes or corruption';

Grumble [noun] means 'a complaint';

Amusement [noun] means 'something that causes laughter or happiness';

Predilection [noun] means 'a strong liking';

From above, it can be inferred that the word 'amusement' has a meaning which is OPPOSITE to the meaning of the word 'grievances'.

Hence, option (d) is the correct answer.

**S116. Ans.(c)**

**Sol.** Option (c) is the correct choice. Statement (ii) is the one that can join both of the statements such as follows, "Pointing out that trust was the backbone of finance, the SEBI chief said that public trust in functioning of financial markets had of late declined due to some financial reporting scandals."

**S117. Ans.(a)**

**Sol.** Option (a) is the most appropriate choice. Statement (iii) is the which will connect two sentences in a way as follows, "While there are a combination of factors, including unnecessary imports, market restrictions and oversupply in some commodities, agricultural prices are also declining as a result of severe demand deflation in the economy, particularly the rural economy."

We can use while to talk about two longer events or activities happening at the same time. We can use either simple or continuous verb forms.

**S118. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Option (d) is the most appropriate choice. The sentences can be combined using both the connectors in the following way: (i) “While some of the deals date back as far as 2010, they remained active as late as 2017 and some were still in effect this year.”

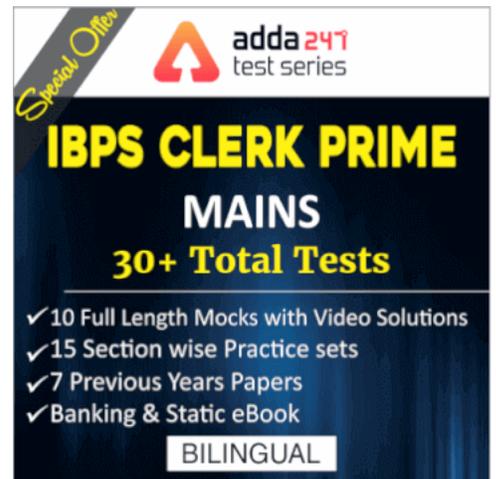
(ii) “Whereas some of the deals date back as far as 2010, they remained active as late as 2017 and some were still in effect this year.”

**S119. Ans.(d)**

**Sol.** Option (d) is the most suitable choice. Both of the sentences can be combined using statement (ii) that is, “Though all banks issue debit cards, the rate of issuance for some banks is higher vis-à-vis their own ATM network and its expansion.”

**S120. Ans.(b)**

**Sol.** Option (b) is the most appropriate choice. Only statement (iii) is the one which can help in joining two of the sentences given. The sentences can be joined in the following way: “Because digitization and Internet connectivity are the driving force of the Fourth Industrial Revolution, the initiative aims to create shared, safe global digital networks that encourage organizations to take action to create stable economies and societies.”



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