

Quiz Date: 30th July 2020

Directions (1-8): In each of the question given below a/an idiom/phrase is given in bold which is then followed by five options which then try to decipher its meaning as used in the sentence. Choose the option which gives the meaning of the phrase most appropriately in the context of the given sentence.

Q1. He thought he was irreplaceable, and in asking for an absurdly high raise with the threat of quitting, he may have **overplayed his hand**.

- (a) Separated
- (b) Overconfidence
- (c) Prominent
- (d) Concealed
- (e) Regarded

Q2. John was a bit of a **square peg in a round hole** throughout high school, but when he went to college he found all sorts of people he could relate to.

- (a) Differ
- (b) Approve
- (c) Rejected
- (d) Yielded
- (e) Misfit

Q3.

The candidate **boxed himself into a corner** during the debate, having to take back several things he'd already said.

- (a) Origination
- (b) Conceded
- (c) Predicament
- (d) Conflicting
- (e) Disguised

Q4. Disrupting my class is **beyond the pale**, young lady—go to the principal's office!

- (a) Dissimilar
- (b) Hidden
- (c) Obvious
- (d) Unacceptable
- (e) Callous

Q5. The U.S. Senate continues to **drag its feet** on the next federal relief package and looks to slash the enhanced unemployment benefits.

- (a) Confirm
- (b) Postpone
- (c) Merciful
- (d) Cloak
- (e) Opposed

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Q6. I had **pinned my hopes** on this promotion, so I was crushed when I didn't get it.

- (a) Relied
- (b) Beguiled
- (c) Bluffed
- (d) Rebuked
- (e) Inglorious

Q7. Even as several MLAs and MPs have tested positive for Covid-19 over the past week, political leaders are **walking the tightrope** of carrying out public interaction amid the pandemic.

- (a) Repel
- (b) Acclaimed
- (c) Cautious
- (d) Generic
- (e) Disintegrate

Q8. Always look into the laws of any place you visit, or you may end up unwittingly **running foul of** the local police.

- (a) Being simple
- (b) Facing a tragedy
- (c) Having egoistic attitude
- (d) Getting into trouble
- (e) Approve something unacceptable

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Directions (9-15): In the following passage there are blanks, each of which has been numbered. These numbers are printed below the passage and against each, four pair of are suggested, both words of one pair fits the blank appropriately. Find out the appropriate pair of words in each case. If none of the given options fit in the respective blank, mark your answer as (e); None of the above.

Distancing, isolation and the thinning out of public spaces in Indian cities have offered up new _____ (9) landscapes of delight for urban dwellers, with clean air, summer blooms, and assorted wildlife crossing streets. The quiet that overtook our cities during the lockdown was _____ (10) as a gift of the pandemic. Fuel-saving work-from-home arrangements, cost-saving virtual meetings, and spare social gatherings are seen as offering new, _____ (11) possibilities of urban inhabitation that may save us from both COVID-19 and the ongoing climate crisis.

Before we celebrate this oncoming new normal, it is important to recognise what it puts at stake. Agglomeration, density and crowds have long been definitional _____ (12) of the urban. Urbanisation is premised on the scale economies that urban agglomeration affords. But the transformative social effects of urban density have also been long acknowledged. Cities, as close-knit, dynamic constellations of human and non-human bodies, offer ideal grounds for the spread of a virus, but also _____ (13) other diffusions. Urban mixings have helped dissolve or remake categories of caste and gender. They have enabled socio-economic mobility, widened horizons of possibility, and allowed historically _____ (14) groups to forge new identities, claim public resources, take risks and assert rights. The unpredictability and possibility contained in _____ (15) urban communions make for the “cityness” of crowds.

Q9.

- (a) Agreement, Accord
- (b) Centralize, Fortify
- (c) Pastoral, Idyllic
- (d) Acute, Smart
- (e) None of the above

Q10.

- (a) Celebrated, Observed
- (b) Diffident, Cowardly
- (c) Naïve, Coarse
- (d) Disdained, Rudeness
- (e) None of the above

Q11.

- (a) Deception, Veracity
- (b) Bold, Undaunted
- (c) Mellow, Enhanced
- (d) Contaminated, Sanctity
- (e) None of the above

Q12.

- (a) Interprets, Reveal
- (b) Disclaim, Repair
- (c) Ruin, Devastate
- (d) Attributes, Traits
- (e) None of the above

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Q13.

- (a) Despoil, Divest
- (b) Facilitate, Help
- (c) Restore, Renew
- (d) Detest, Despise
- (e) None of the above

Q14.

- (a) Blamed, Boycotted
- (b) Discriminated, Distinguished
- (c) Despaired, Misery
- (d) Opaque, Piled
- (e) None of the above

Q15.

- (a) Pliable, Plaint
- (b) Keen, Acquisitive
- (c) Motley, Diverse
- (d) Strange, Abnormal
- (e) None of the above



Solutions

S1. Ans. (b)

Sol. **Overplay one's hand:**

To have too much confidence in one's ability or position and fail to achieve something as a result.

Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S2. Ans. (e)

Sol. **Square peg in a round hole:**

A person who does not fit in or is not comfortable with others or in a particular situation.

ion; someone who is unsuited to a certain task, position, situation, or group of people . Hence, **option (e)** is the right answer choice.

S3. Ans. (c)

Sol. **Box oneself into a corner:**

To create a predicament or unpleasant situation for oneself whereby there are no or very few favorable solutions or outcomes.

Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S4. Ans. (d)

Sol. **Beyond the pale: Completely unacceptable or inappropriate**

Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S5. Ans. (b)

Sol. **drag one's feet: drag, put off doing something, postpone action**

Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S6. Ans. (a)

Sol. **Pin one's hopes on (someone or something): Rely on, depend on, count on.**

To have expectations that are tied to the success, performance, etc., of a particular person or thing.

Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S7. Ans. (c)

Sol. **Walk a tightrope: to be in a situation where one must be very cautious.**

Take or be on a very precarious course

Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S8. Ans. (d)

Sol. **Run foul of:**

To be in severe disagreement, trouble, or difficulty with someone or something; to be at odds with someone or something, especially due to disobeying rules or laws.

Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S9. Ans. (c)

Sol. Both words of **option (c)**, "**Pastoral, Idyllic**" fit the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S10. Ans. (a)

Sol. Both words of **option (a)**, "**Celebrated, Observed**" fit the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (a)** is the right answer choice.

S11. Ans. (c)

Sol. Both words of **option (c)**, "**Mellower, Enhanced**" fit the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

S12. Ans. (d)

Sol. Both words of **option (d)**, “**Attributes, Traits**” fit the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (d)** is the right answer choice.

S13. Ans. (b)

Sol. Both words of **option (b)**, “**Facilitate, Help**” fit the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S14. Ans. (b)

Sol. Both words of **option (b)**, “**Discriminated, Distinguished**” fit the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (b)** is the right answer choice.

S15. Ans. (c)

Sol. Both words of **option (c)**, “**Motley, Diverse**” fit the blank appropriately. Hence, **option (c)** is the right answer choice.

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