

Quiz Date: 17th June 2020

Directions (1- 8): Read the following passage carefully and answer the questions given below them. Certain words/phrases have been printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions.

Are China's ambitions to "lead the world" in artificial intelligence (AI) by 2030 credible? China's rapid emergence as an AI powerhouse is often hyped and sensationalized, variously provoking alarm and enthusiasm that can sometimes overshadow the reality of real progress. At the same time, critical challenges remain in China's quest to become "the world's premier AI innovation center" and build up an AI industry of 1 trillion RMB (about \$150 billion) in the process. In China's "rise" in AI, the active efforts of private enterprises have predated more recent policy support. However, since the State Council released the New Generation AI Development Plan in July 2017, there have been a number of indicators that its implementation is advancing throughout all levels of government. Although the future trajectory of its AI revolution remains to be seen, China is rapidly building momentum to **harness** the power of state support and the dynamism of private enterprises in a new model of innovation.

The initial impetus for the development of a national AI strategy may very well have come from the private sector, which has **pioneered** China's AI revolution to date. Baidu, in particular, has actively pursued an "AI first" agenda since launching the Institute for Deep Learning in 2013 and then establishing the Silicon Valley AI Lab in 2014. Perhaps of note, in 2015, Robin Li (Li Yanhong), Baidu's CEO, in his capacity as a delegate to the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference, proposed the creation of a "China Brain" Plan that would devote extensive state investment to AI, even welcoming military funding for such an initiative. In particular, Li called for the government to "support capable companies in building an open platform offering AI-related basic resources and public services." Coincidentally (or perhaps not), the plan that has since emerged does resemble his initial proposal, and major tech companies like Baidu, Alibaba, and Tencent ("BAT") may have been quite actively involved in advising its formulation.

The decision to develop this AI plan appears to have been catalyzed in part by AlphaGo's triumph over Go world champion Lee Sedol in March 2016, which has been characterized as a "Sputnik moment" for China. This feat occurred at least a decade earlier than experts had anticipated AI could master Go, given the game's complexity. Such a notable advance highlighted the sophistication of U.S. and Western AI, whereas by contrast Chinese AI had achieved fewer cutting-edge advances at that. Against the backdrop of the U.S. AI plans and strategies released in mid- and late- 2016 under the Obama administration, AlphaGo was seen as another indication of the U.S. advancement disruptive technologies that could place China at a disadvantage. The cultural resonance of the game of Go may also account for the intense interest and attention that this event seems to have received from Chinese leaders. As of July 2016, central authorities had formally approved the drafting of a new AI plan, building upon prior research on AI strategy led by Chinese Academy of Engineering academician and AI expert Pan Yunhe.

The plan has acted as an impetus for new energy and motion across China's science and technology bureaucracies over the six or so months since its release. For instance, in August 2017, the National Natural Science Foundation of China released Guidelines on AI Basic Research Urgent Management Projects, identifying a series of research priorities to receive millions in new funding, including new brain-inspired computing architectures and methods and man-machine cooperative hybrid intelligence. In October 2017, the National Development and Reform Commission (NDRC) has

announced a parallel AI Innovation and Development Megaproject, highlighting priorities that included advances in deep learning AI chips and highly reliable intelligent unmanned systems and service robots.

Q1. How is the emergence of Artificial Intelligence (AI) gaining interest and support?

- (a) China wants to become the super power in science and technology.
- (b) Private enterprises are strengthening its progress.
- (c) Government is showing its concern for advancement in its implementation.
- (d) Both (b) and (c)
- (e) All are correct.

Q2. "China Brain" plan has been proposed to

- (a) make it available for trade.
- (b) establish it throughout the world
- (c) make the young brains involve in AI
- (d) formulate the AI related resources
- (e) All of the above

Q3. According to the passage, what does the phrase "sputnik moment for china" signify?

- (a) It denotes the victory of machine over man.
- (b) It signifies the support from U.S towards developing the AI
- (c) It signifies the approval of developing the AI plan.
- (d) China's achievement in AI is far less than that of U.S.
- (e) It represents the achievement of AlphaGo over Go world champion.

Q4. Which of the following is an appropriate title of the passage?

- (a) The new model of innovation
- (b) The Artificial progress
- (c) China's AI agenda advances
- (d) The AlphaGo triumph
- (e) Towards becoming a superpower

Q5. How is it correct to say that the last few months exhibit significant advancement of AI?

- (I) Many guidelines have been issued regarding AI basic research projects.
- (II) Many new AI projects have received funding, with a focus on AI chips, cloud services, and open-source platforms.
- (III) Brain-inspired computing architectures and methods and man-machine cooperative hybrid intelligence are given priorities.

- (a) Only (I) is correct
- (b) Only (II) is correct
- (c) Both (I) and (II) are correct
- (d) Both (II) and (III) are correct
- (e) All are correct

Q6. Which of the following sentences is not true in the context of the passage?

- (a) Lee Sedol is the world champion of the game Go.
- (b) Major Tech countries are least interested in developing AI plan.
- (c) Public and Private enterprises have been supporting the development of AI plan.
- (d) AlphaGo is an advanced AI program of China.
- (e) All are correct

Direction (7): Choose the word which is **MOST SIMILAR** in meaning to the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

Q7. **Pioneered**

- (a) surpass
- (b) established
- (c) rant
- (d) munificent
- (e) callous

Direction (8): Choose the word which is **Most Opposite** in meaning to the word printed in bold as used in the passage.

Q8. **Harness**

- (a) alleviate
- (b) mitigate
- (c) stimulate
- (d) propel
- (e) underuse

BANKERS



Directions (9-15): Read the following passage to answer these questions given below it. **Certain words phrases have been printed in bold to help you locate them while answering some of the questions:**

The suicide attacks by militant Palestinian groups killing large numbers of Israeli civilians and the harsh Israeli response, have raised the renewed hopes of peace in the region. It is Arafat's leadership and authority that are being severely tested in the latest phase of the west Asian crisis.

By accusing the Palestinian Authority (PA) of supporting terrorism by groups, Israel hopes to put pressure on Arafat to act. Arafat, on the other hand, has never looked a less powerful force than he does today. If he acts against the militants and elements in his own Fatah movement sympathetic to them, he risks a Palestinian civil conflict. But if he chooses to do nothing, he faces erosion of his authority and all claim to a central role in the peace process. Whatever he does, sections of the Palestinians will hold that he has gone too far and Israel that he has not gone far enough. This is, of course, why Arafat has invariably shrunk from hard decision. He has refrained from **curbing** the militant groups, explaining his inaction as necessary to maintain Palestinian unity.

The Palestinian leaderships inability to improve economic conditions for its people has been a decisive factor in the erosion of its ability to act. Palestinians in Gaza have targeted the PA as being responsible for their condition. The Militant organizations have capitalized on the PA's failure to establish a functioning administrative infrastructure by setting up a parallel welfare system with the help of the millions of dollars. Though the Palestinian security forces claim to have arrested more than 100 militants after the suicide bomb attacks in Israel, the other similar militant groups remain defiant, confident of their popular support and of the certainty that in the ultimate analysis the PA leadership will stop short of decisive action against them.

That the militant groups enjoy popular support in Gaza is hardly surprising. The Gaza Strip today resembles a vast prison camp in which some 1.2 million Palestinians are crammed. Despite the Oslo Accord, 7000 Israeli settlers still remain in 20 percent of the Gaza's area and are protected by heavily armed Israeli forces. With its recent blockade of and extensive incursion into PA controlled territories, the Israeli government has placed the whole civil society in Palestine under siege. Over 450 NGOs, eight universities and numerous other educational, civic, social, and developmental and health institutions have had their work impeded and their vital services to the population blocked. An international conference on Israel's treatment of human rights in West Bank and Gaza, attended by signatories to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, that has opened in Switzerland overriding Israeli and American protests, is expected to censor Israel for its treatment of civilians in the Palestinian territories.

Arafat's standing among Palestinians rests on the authority conferred on the PA by the international community to represent and speak for the Palestinians. Even the major militant group has so far never openly challenged Arafat's leadership. Israel's latest vicious attacks directed against the PA and Arafat present the international community with the danger that this precarious balance of power in the Palestinian community may be destroyed. Continuance of the Israeli attacks can only further radicalize and harden the attitudes of ordinary Palestinians. On the other hand, Israeli moves to freeze further expansion of Jewish settlements in the West Bank and Gaza and, as soon as security conditions permit it, ease the economic blockade of Palestinian towns, however remote such measures appear just now, alone can restore the authority of the PA and give it a chance to get a grip on Palestinian militancy.

Q9. What dangers are being perceived by the international community due to Israel's vicious attack?

- (a) Both the nations may get destroyed if War erupts.
- (b) It may lead to the economic instability of the Palestinians.
- (c) Militancy will be much difficult to curb.

- (d) Palestinian leader faces the erosion of his authority.
- (e) None of these.

Q10. Why the Palestinian leader is refraining from curbing the militant groups according to the author?

- (a) He is fearful of the army action against him
- (b) This according to him will fasten peace process
- (c) He feels that this step will keep Palestinians united
- (d) Due to the danger of civil strife it may engender
- (e) None of these

Q11. What is ultimate analysis of other similar militant groups?

- (a) The PA leadership will only act if a definite forceful action is taken on the PA
- (b) The suicidal attacks will only aggravate the situation
- (c) The PA leadership should be changed
- (d) The action on the Palestinians was justified
- (e) None of these

Q12. Which of the following can restore the degenerating authority of PA?

- (i) Arresting the expansion of Jewish settlements.
- (ii) Easing the economic blockade of Palestinian towns.
- (iii) Action against the militant groups.

- (a) Both (i) and (ii)
- (b) Only (i)
- (c) Only (ii)
- (d) Both (iii) and (ii)
- (e) All are correct

Q13. What may be the effect of continuous Israeli attacks?

- (a) It may harness a negative attitude amongst the civil Palestinians.
- (b) It may destroy militancy from its basic roots.
- (c) It may revitalize the weakening leadership of PA.
- (d) It may enhance militant actions.
- (e) None of these.

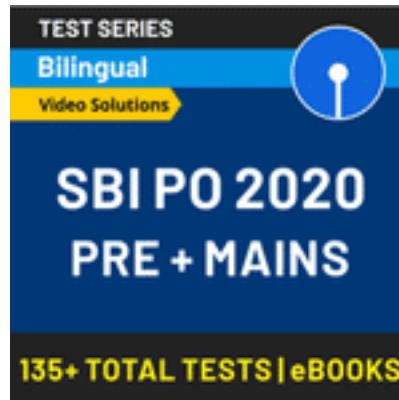
Q14. How the Israeli government has placed the whole civil society in Palestine under siege.

- (a) By launching vicious attacks in response to the suicide attacks.
- (b) By putting the pressure on Arafat to act against the military groups.
- (c) By impeding the work of various social organizations and various public institutions.
- (d) By freezing the expansion of Jewish settlements
- (e) None of these.

Q15. Which of the following word is nearest in meaning to 'curbing' as used in the passage?

- (a) discretion
- (b) curious

- (c) innovate
- (d) bridle
- (e) hinder



Solutions

S1. Ans. (d)

Sol. Refer the first paragraph of the passage “Although the future trajectory of its AI revolution remains to be seen, China is rapidly building momentum to harness the power of state support and the dynamism of private enterprises in a new model of innovation.” Hence both the options are correct.

S2. Ans. (d)

Sol. Sentence (d) is best among the other options. Refer the second paragraph of the passage.

S3. Ans. (c)

Sol. Refer the first few lines of the fourth paragraph “The decision to develop this AI plan appears to have been catalyzed in part by AlphaGo’s triumph over Go world champion Lee Sedol in March 2016, which has been characterized as a “Sputnik moment” for China.”

S4. Ans. (c)

Sol. “China’s AI agenda advances” is an appropriate title of the passage. The passage is about the China’s plan to progress in the field of AI.

S5. Ans. (e)

Sol. All the given sentences are correct. Refer the last paragraph of the passage.

S6. Ans. (d)

Sol. Sentence (d) is not true as AlphaGo is designed and developed by U.S not China.

S7. Ans. (b)

Sol. Pioneer means develop or be the first to use or apply (a new method, area of knowledge, or activity). Hence it has the same meaning as establish.

S8. Ans. (e)

Sol. Harness means control and make use of (natural resources), especially to produce energy. Hence it has the opposite meaning to underuse.

S9. Ans.(d)

Sol. Refer to the first few lines of the fourth paragraph of the passage, "Arafat's standing among Palestinians rests on the authorityto represent and speak for the Palestinians. "

S10. Ans.(d)

Sol. Option (d) is the correct choice. Refer to the seventh line of the passage, "But if he chooses to do nothing, he faces erosion of his authority and all claim to a central role in the peace process."

S11. Ans.(e)

Sol. Option (e) is the correct choice as the militant groups are confident that PA leadership will fall short of the decisive action against them . Refer to the last few lines of the third paragraph of the passage.

S12. Ans.(a)

Sol. Both (i) and (ii) are correct. Refer the last few lines of the passage, "Israeli moves.....to get a grip on Palestinian militancy".

Option (iii) is incorrect as action against their own Fateh movement can cause a civil conflict and they may further lose their authority.

S13. Ans.(a)

Sol. Refer to the 5th line of the third paragraph of the passage, "Continuance of the Israeli attacks can only further radicalize and harden the attitudes of ordinary Palestinians. "

S14. Ans.(c)

Sol. Refer to the 5th line of the 3rd paragraph of the passage, "Over 450 NGOs, eight universities and numerous other educational, civic, social, and developmental and health institutions have had their work impeded and their vital services to the population blocked."

S15. Ans. (d)

Sol. Curbing means restrain or keep in check, which is nearest in meaning to 'bridle' which means bring (something) under control; curb.

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