

English
Class 12th
Section A

Passage 1

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

An Innovation in Brain Injury Treatment

1. Scientists have recently developed a gel that helps brains recover from traumatic injuries, such as those suffered in combat, car accidents, falls or gunshot wounds. This gel, created by DR. Ning Zhang at Clemson University in South Carolina is injected in liquid form at the injury site stimulating the growth of stem cells.
2. Brain injuries are notoriously difficult to repair because the damaged tissues tend to swell causing additional harm to the surrounding cells. Traditional treatments have focused on minimizing the secondary damage by lowering the temperature or relieving pressure at the injury site, though these methods have often been ineffective.
3. Recently scientists have explored transplanting donor brain cells to repair damaged tissue. However, this approach has shown limited success, as the donor cells often fail to grow or stimulate repair due to inflammation and scarring at the injury site. Additionally, the injury site usually has a limited blood supply and connective tissue, hindering the donor cells from receiving the necessary nutrients.
4. Dr. Zhang's gel can be customized with different chemicals to stimulate various biological processes at the injury site. In previous studies on rats, she used the gel to restore full blood supply to the brain injury site, potentially creating a more favourable environment for donor cells. In a subsequent study, Dr. Zhang loaded the gel with immature stem cells and the necessary chemicals for their development into adult brain cells. Rats with severe brain injuries treated with this mixture for eight weeks showed significant recovery.
5. The new gel holds promise for treating patients at various stages of injury and is expected to be ready for human testing in about three years.

- (a) Which of the following is NOT true according to the passage? 1
- (i) This passage discusses on scientific discoveries and their benefits for humanity.
 - (ii) This passage primarily focuses on brain injuries and its cure.
 - (iii) This passage claims that traditional methods for treatment are more effective than modern methods.
 - (iv) This passage highlights the advancements in the medical field.
- (b) Which of the following best explains why Dr. Zhang's gel shows more promise compared to traditional brain injury treatment? 1
- (i) It is less expensive than traditional methods.
 - (ii) It can be customized to stimulate specific biological processes essential for healing.
 - (iii) It does not need any donor brain cells for recovery.
 - (iv) It is the only method that reduces swelling at the injury site.
- (c) Why did previous methods of transplanting donor brain cells show limited success, according to the passage? 1
- (i) The donor cells were too expensive to produce.
 - (ii) The injury site lacked adequate blood supply and connective tissue.

- (iii) The traditional methods were more effective than transplantation.
- (iv) Patients were not receptive to the idea of using donor cells.
- (d) Pick the correct option to justify- 1
 Assertion (A): Dr. Zhang's gel can be customized with different chemicals to stimulate various biological processes at the injury site.
 Reason (R): Dr. Zhang loaded the gel with immature stem cells and the necessary chemicals for their development into adult brain cells.
- (i) A is true, but R is false.
- (ii) A is false, but R is true.
- (iii) Both A and R are true and R is correct explanation of A.
- (iv) Both A and R are true, but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (e) What was the primary reason for the observed recovery in rats treated with Dr. Zang's experimental gel?? 1
- (i) The gel's bioactive compound directly facilitated tissue generation and reduces inflammation.
- (ii) The gel included an adverse reaction, masking the underlying condition and creating a false appearance of recovery.
- (iii) The gel's application method simplified post-surgical care, indirectly supporting the rats natural healing process.
- (iv) The gel demonstrated no therapeutic effect.
- (f) Choose the correct option to complete the given analogy: 1
 "Swollen Tissue: Inflammation:: Scar:....."
- (i) Under pressure Tissue
- (ii) Healed Tissue
- (iii) Damaged Tissue
- (iv) Repaired Tissue
- (g) Which word in the passage means 'to modify to suit a particular individual task'? 1
- (i) Customize
- (ii) Relieving
- (iii) Stimulating
- (iv) Infammation
- (h) Explain some uses of Dr Zhang's gel. 2
- (i) Illustrate Dr Zang's customization of gel according to the passage. 2
- (j) Brain injuries are difficult to repair because..... 2

Passage-2

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

- Right from childhood, a human being starts enjoying the pleasure of reading. As a child, he learns the ways of life through reading and writing. He is thrilled by going through new little things and learning through them. Any new lesson that comes his way excites his emotions by giving his little mind freshness of knowledge. A little poem about an animal, a little prose about the toys and a little sentence about society he lives in give him strange pleasure.
- The pleasure one derives from reading is indeed re-creative as well as instructive. The mental effects of reading create a strange sense of pleasure. Reading provides an ecstasy and intellectual exertion. Reading of novels or interesting literature makes a person forget the worries and cares

of life. The reading of a newspaper, periodical, journal etc, which is light reading gives the reader knowledge about human life around and solves his curiosity for knowledge about the world. The newspapers also publish important news and views in the fields of economics, politics and science. Reading of newspaper is indispensable for even a little educated citizen in modern society.

3. The reading of novels is the most popular pastime of a large number of people. The attraction of novel lies in its ability to create interest, to sustain it and take the reader to the heights of imagination and luxurious fiction. All fictions are somewhat connected with life and give in words the pictures drawn from real life or from imaginations. As such, of all forms of literature, novels are the most popular and interesting. They portray pen pictures from our real life and society and present the character of the people we see around or wish to see. A novel inspires the interest and intention of a reader because in it scenes rapidly shift and change and there are unexpected turns of events giving shocks and shakes to the mind.
4. Next, we come to the books of travel and adventure. The spirit of adventure is in the very blood of man. A man wants glamour and romantic life, full of adventure and the material spirit. Books of travel and adventure infuse a spirit of fearlessness which the travellers who are heroes of the books may inspire in us. Among the books of adventure lies the best literature of the world.
5. Whatever type of books one reads, the reading is always a source of pleasure and enjoyment, the habit of reading is a sign of good culture. It is a source of knowledge and the best means of making use of one's leisure. Books are, after all, a gold mine of knowledge, art, literature and science. Books are not only useful, instructive but also entertaining and re-creative.

(a) According to the passage, what is a sign of good culture? 1

- (i) reading a religious text
- (ii) a habit of reading
- (iii) giving respect to our teachers and elders
- (iv) making good use of time

(b) Pick the correct option to justify- 1

Assertion (A): Reading of novels or their interesting literature makes a person forget the worries and cares of life.

Reason (R): Reading is most accessible way to escape from reality.

- (i) A is true, but R is false.
- (ii) A is false, but R is true.
- (iii) Both A and R are true and R is correct explanation of A.
- (iv) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

(c) Which type of literature is considered most popular and engaging? 1

- (i) Newspapers and journals
- (ii) Scientific research papers
- (iii) Novels and fictions.
- (iv) Biographies of famous personalities.

(d) According to the passage, which option best describes the relationship between the following statements- 1

Statement 1: Newspapers and journals are essential for an educated citizen in modern society.

Statement 2: Newspapers and journals give information about the events taking place in the world and happenings in the states and the locality a person lives in.

- (i) Statement 2 gives a reason for Statement 1
- (ii) Statement 1 is the opposite of Statement 2
- (iii) Statement 2 is a fact, and Statement 1 is an opinion
- (iv) Statement 2 is the wrong explanation of Statement 1

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|---|---|
| (e) Name two types of pleasures one derives from reading? | 1 |
| (f) Which of the following is the most suitable title for the passage? | 1 |
| (i) Novel vs. Novels: A Comparison | |
| (ii) The Role of Books in India | |
| (iii) The History of Literature | |
| (iv) The Joy and Importance | |
| (g) "The spirit of adventure is in the very blood of man." Relate this statement with importance of reading books. | 2 |
| (h) Explain the connection of fiction with our real life and imagination. | 2 |
| (i) Do you think the term " light reading " used for reading newspapers and journals is appropriate? Justify your opinion with reference to the passage. | 2 |

Passage-3

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

- Today's woman is a highly self-directed person, alive to the sense of her dignity and the importance of her functions in the private domestic domain and the public domain of the world of work. Women are rational in approach, careful in handling situations and want to do things as best as possible. The fourth world conference of women held in Beijing in September 1995 had emphasized that no enduring solution of society's most threatening social, economic and political problems could be found without the participation and empowerment of the women. The 1995 World Summit for Social Development had also emphasised the pivotal role of women in eradicating poverty and mending the social fabric.
- The constitution of India had conferred on women equal rights and opportunities political, social, and educational and of employment with men. Because of oppressive traditions, superstitions, exploitation and corruption, a majority of women are not allowed to enjoy the rights and opportunities, bestowed on them. One of the major reasons for this state of affairs is the lack of literacy and awareness among women. Education is the main instrument through which we can narrow down the prevailing inequality and accelerate the process of economic and political change in the status of women.
- The role of women in a society is very important. Women's education is the key to a better life in the future. A recent World Bank study says that educating girls is not a charity, it is good economics and if developing nations are to eradicate poverty, they must educate the girls. The report says that the economic and social returns on investment in education of the girls considerably affect the human development index of the nation. Society would progress only if the status of women is respected and the presence of an educated woman in the family would ensure education of the family itself. Education and empowerment of women are closely related.
- Even when we are at the threshold of the 21st century, our society still discriminates against women in matters of their rights and privileges and prevents them from participating in the process of national and societal progress. Various committees and commissions have been constituted before and after the independence to evaluate the progress in women's education. The female literacy rate has gone up in the 20th century from 0.6 percent in 1901 to 39.29 percent in 1991.
- The prevailing culture norms of gender behaviour and the perceived domestic and reproductive roles of women tend to affect the education of girls. Negative attitude towards sending girls to schools, restrictions on their mobility, early marriage, poverty and illiteracy of parents affect the girl's participation in education.
- Women's political empowerment got a big boost with the Panchayati Raj Act of 1993 which gave them 30 per cent reservation in Village Panchayats, Block Samities and Zila Parishads throughout

the country. The National Commission for women was also setup in 1992 to act as a lobby for women's issues.

7. The educational system is the only institution which can counteract the deep foundations of inequality of sexes. Education is the most important instrument of human resource development. Educational system should be used to revolutionize the traditional attitudes and inculcate new values of equality.
- (a) Pick the correct option to justify- 1
Assertion (A): Educating girls is not the act of charity but a crucial economic investment.
Reason (R): The education of girls lead to higher economic and social returns, positively impacting the human development index of a nation.
(i) A is true, but R is false.
(ii) A is false , but R is true.
(iii) Both A and R are true and R is correct explanation of A.
(iv) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (b) Which of the following is the only tool to accelerate economic growth and development? 1
(i) Industrialization
(ii) Political Reforms
(iii) Agricultural Reforms
(iv) Education
- (c) Which of the following is an effective method to promote women empowerment? 1
(i) Restricting women's access to higher education
(ii) Engaging women in domestic roles
(iii) Providing equal educational and employment opportunities
(iv) limiting women's participation in politics
- (d) Which of the following statement is NOT true according to the passage? 1
(i) The future of a nation depends on how well the women in society are educated.
(ii) Several committees and commission have been organised to monitor the progress of women.
(iii) Panchayati Raj Act 1991 gave 30 percent reservation to women in village panchayat.
(iv) Education is the most important instrument of human resource development.
- (e) How can the system help in achieving gender equality? 1
(i) by maintain traditional gender roles
(ii) by reinforcing male superiority
(iii) by limiting women's access to resources
(iv) by promoting equal rights and opportunities for all genders
- (f) State whether the given statement is True or False? 1
'Literacy rate of a country has no relation with gender equality.'
- (g) What measures have been taken by governments to enhance women's political participation? 2
- (h) According to the passage, why do girls have less participation in education? Give reasons. 2
- (i) Analyze the relationship between girl's education and empowerment of women as described in the passage. 2

Passage-4

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

1. World Conservation Day is celebrated internationally to increase awareness about the best practices needed to protect our natural resources. The Earth is supplied with a limited amount of resources that we all rely upon, like water, air, soil and trees. The World Nature Conservation Movement is a great opportunity to celebrate the progress we've made and determine to take

action, wherever needed. It is time to remind ourselves that we need to give back to nature instead of just using resources without thinking about conservation. There is a need to replenish and recycle the resources we consume from nature.

2. Our forests, rivers, oceans and soils provide us with the food we eat, the air we breathe, and the water we irrigate our crops with. We also rely on them for numerous other goods and services. We depend on them for our health, happiness and prosperity. We have a cycle of biodiversity which needs proper conservation.
3. The population explosion remains one of the major reasons why natural resources are getting depleted at a very fast rate. Technological advancement and luxurious lifestyles have led to several environmental problems like global warming, ozone layer depletion, river water pollution and deforestation, which threaten the planet's future.
4. Humans, animals, marine creatures and the environment, all need to be protected and conserved for the planet's future well-being. There are many examples of conservation. One is a program to try to preserve wetlands, or a program to try and save old buildings another example is an attempt to minimize the amount of electricity used by turning off lights when leaving a room, or an attempt to turn off the running tap to avoid wastage of water. There are lots of examples like these which need implementation.
5. Following these small steps in our daily lives we can help to maintain the balance of nature, thereby saving humankind from the kinds of natural disasters we may face in the near future.
6. Nature also has a profound impact on our minds and our behaviour, helping reduce anxiety, brooding, stress and increase our attention, capacity, creativity and ability to connect with other people. So there is a need to save nature if we want to save life as the two are interconnected and need each other. If we hurt or destroy the environment, surely we will be ruined. We must create awareness among family members, and try and practice a sustainable lifestyle to protect and conserve nature.

Answer the following questions, based on the passage above.

- (a) The passage highlights "population explosion" as a major cause of resources depletion. Which of the following is the MOST likely indirect consequence of this depletion, as suggested by the text? 1
 - (i) Increased technological advancement.
 - (ii) Enhanced global prosperity.
 - (iii) A heightened frequency of natural disasters.
 - (iv) Reduced stress levels in urban populations.
- (b) If a government wants to create a campaign to promote world conservation day, which slogan would best capture the essence of the passage? 1
 - (i) "Consume More, Innovate Faster!"
 - (ii) "Technology: The Solution to All Environmental Problems."
 - (iii) "Replenish, Recycle, Restore: Our Future, Our Responsibility."
 - (iv) "Individual Luxury, Global Prosperity."
- (c) Based on the passage, what inference can be MOST reasonably drawn about the relationship between human well-being and environmental health? 1
 - (i) Human well-being is solely dependent on technological advancements.
 - (ii) Environmental health is a secondary concern compared to economic growth.
 - (iii) Human well-being is intrinsically linked to the health of the environment.

- (iv) Environmental health has minimal impact on individual mental health.
- (d) According to the passage which option best describes the relationship between the following statements- 1
 Statement 1: World Conservation Day is celebrated internationally to increase awareness about the best practices needed to protect our natural resources.
 Statement 2: Humans, animals, marine creatures and the environment, all need to be protected and conserved for the planet's future well-being.
 (i) Statement 2 gives a reason for Statement 1
 (ii) Statement 1 is the opposite of Statement 2
 (iii) Statement 2 is a fact, and Statement 1 is an opinion
 (iv) Statement 2 is the wrong explanation of Statement 1
- (e) Which of the following best describes overall tone of the passage? 1
 (i) Indifferent and detached
 (ii) Aggressive and argumentative
 (iii) Informative and persuasive with the sense of urgency
 (iv) Humorous and lighthearted
- (f) According to the passage, what is the primary reason why nature needs to be conserved? 1
 (i) To maintain mental well-being.
 (ii) To ensure the continued availability of essential resources.
 (iii) To preserve the biodiversity cycle.
 (iv) To counteract of rapid depletion of natural resources.
- (g) Infer significance of World Conservation Day. 2
- (h) Why is it fair to say that population explosion is the major cause of rapid depletion of natural resources. 2
- (i) Suggest two ways by which humans can conserve forests and rivers. 2

Passage-5

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

- 1 The effect of plastic bags on the environment are really quite devastating. The needless deaths from plastic bags are increasing every year. While there are many objections on the banning of plastic bags based solely on their convenience, the damage to the environment needs to be assessed too.
- 2 The environmental balance of the waterways is being thrown off by the rate of plastic bags finding their way into the mouth and intestinal tracts of sea mammals. As one species begins to die off at an abnormal rate, every other living organism in the waterways is also impacted.
- 3 The indefinite period of time that it takes for the average plastic bags to break down can be literally hundreds of years. Every bag that ends up in the woodlands of the country threatens the natural progressions of wildlife. Because the breakdown rate is so slow, the chances that the bag will harmlessly go away are extremely slim. Throughout the world, plastic bags are responsible for the suffocation and the deaths of woodland animals as well as for inhibiting soil nutrients. The land litter that is made up of plastic bags has the potential to unintentionally kill one animal every three months due to indigestion or inhalation.
- 4 While it's a noble thought to place the plastic bags in the recycling bin every week, studies have proven that there are few cycling plants that actually recycle them. Most municipalities either burn them or send them off to the landfill after sorting. This is because it can be expensive to recycle

this type of plastic. It does not melt down easily and is often not fit to be reused in its original form.

- 5 The premises of recycling these bags is nice. Yet funding for upgrading of the recycling unit just has not happened and thus less than 1% of all bags are sent to the recycling plants worldwide. Most are left to become a pollution problem in one way or another.
- 6 There are always alternatives to the plastic bags and the search for better and more alternatives continues. Paper bags are a possible option, but they also take their toll on the environment. The use of trees to increase the production of paper products will also have a negative environmental effect.
- 7 Reusable plastic bags are being introduced in regions that want to outlaw the plastic bags altogether. These are stronger and more durable and can be used for three to five trips to the store. Of course, the reusable cloth bag is fast becoming a favourite among the environmental supporters. While so far no bag is without issue, these are the bags that are currently recommended for use to help protect environmental concerns.

- (a) People do not want to put a ban on plastic bags because- 1
 - (i) they are cheap and convenient.
 - (ii) they are not so harmful.
 - (iii) they are durable.
 - (iv) they can be disposed off.
- (b) What is throwing off the environmental balance of the water ways? 1
- (c) According to the passage, which bag will be the best one regarding the environmental concern? 1
 - (i) Jute bags
 - (ii) Paper bags
 - (iii) Plastic bags
 - (iv) Clothes bags
- (d) The average plastic bag breaks down in----- 1
- (e) The word "litter" means: 1
 - (i) a unit to measure milk, petrol, etc.
 - (ii) rubbish
 - (iii) a heap of corn
 - (iv) a heap of rotten papers
- (f) Read the given statements and choose the correct option. 1
 - (A) There are always alternatives to plastic bags.
 - (B) The search for better and more alternatives continues.
 - (i) A is true, but B is false
 - (ii) A is false, but B is true
 - (iii) Both A and B are false
 - (iv) Both A and B are true
- (g) Is use of cloth bag a fair alternative? Give reasons. 2
- (h) What do most municipalities do to the plastic bags? Why? 2
- (i) As per the estimation how can a plastic bag kill one animal? 2

Passage-6

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

- 1- For many years now, the governments have been promising the eradication of child labour in hazardous industries in India. But the truth is that despite all the rhetoric, no government so far has succeeded in eradicating this evil, nor has any been able to ensure compulsory primary education for every Indian child. Between 60 and 100 million children are still at work instead of going to school, and around 10 million are working in hazardous industries. India has the biggest child population of 380 million in the world, plus the largest number of children who are forced to earn a living.
- 2- We have many laws that ban child labour in hazardous industries. According to the child labour (prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1986, the employment of children below the age of 14 in hazardous occupation has been strictly banned. But each state has different rules regarding the minimum age of employment. This makes implementation of these laws difficult.
- 3- The act applies to the organized or factory sector and not the unorganized or informal sector, where most children find employment as cleaners, servants, porters, and waiters among other forms of unskilled work. Thus, child labour continues because the implementation of the existing laws is lax.
- 4- There are industries which have a special demand for child labour because of their nimble fingers, high level of concentration and capacity to work hard at abysmally low wages. The carpet Industry in U.P and Kashmir employs children to make hand-knotted carpets. There are 80000 child labours in Jammu and Kashmir alone. In Kashmir because of the political unrest, children are forced to work, while many schools are shut. Industries like gem cutting and polishing, pottery and glass want to remain competitive by employing children.
- 5- The truth is that it is poverty which is pushing children into the brutish labour market. We have 260 million people below the poverty line in India and a large number of them are women. Poor and especially woman-headed families, have no option but to push their little ones into this hard life, in hostile conditions with no human or labour rights.
- 6- There is a lobby which argues that there is nothing wrong with children working as long as the environment for work is conducive to learning new skills, but studies have shown that the children are made to do boring, repetitive and tedious jobs and are not taught new skills as they grow older. In these hell holes like the sweet shops of old, there is no hope.
- 7- Children working in the hazardous industries are prone to debilitating diseases which can cripple them from life. By sitting in cramped, damp and unhygienic spaces, their limbs become deformed for life. Inside matchstick, fireworks and glass industries, they become victims of bronchial diseases and tuberculosis (TB). Their mental and physical development is permanently impaired by long hours of work. Once trapped, they can't get out of this vicious cycle of poverty. They remain uneducated and powerless. Finally, in later years, they too are compelled to send their own children to work. Child labour perpetuates its own nightmare.
- 8- If at all the government was serious about granting children their rights, an intensive effort ought to have been made to implement the Supreme Court's Directive of 1997 which laid down punitive action against employers of child labour. Only compulsory primary education can eliminate child labour.
- 9- Surely, if 380 million children are given a better life and elementary education, India's human capital would be greatly enhanced. But that needs, as former President Abdul Kalam says," a second vision."

- (a) Vicious cycle of poverty refers to-
- (i) the poor remaining uneducated and powerless
 - (ii) working in glass industries
 - (iii) Impairment of physical development
 - (iv) getting elementary education

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| (b) How can India's human capital be enhanced? | 1 |
| (c) The Supreme Court Directive of 1997 provides----- | 1 |
| (d) Which of the following industries employ child labour in abundance? | 1 |
| (i) Pottery (ii) Gem cutting and polishing (iii) Glass (iv) Leather | |
| (e) Government has been promising for many years- | 1 |
| (i) The eradication of community riots | |
| (ii) The non-stop supply of electricity | |
| (iii) The eradication of child labour in hazardous industries | |
| (iv) Promotion of child labour | |
| (f) Why do industries prefer the child labour? | 1 |
| (g) What effect does industries have on children's health? | 2 |
| (h) Justify the statement "Education can eliminate the child labour". | 2 |
| (i) What are the loopholes in the child labour act? | 2 |

Passage 7

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

- A. The basic task of a manager is to control workers and get the maximum amount of work out of them. There are two main ways of making workers produce more. One is to extend the working hours. The other is to increase the amount that is produced within a given time period. Machinery helps to increase production, but it also creates the danger that eventually machines will replace workers. Both Marx and Mahatma Gandhi saw mechanisation as a danger to employment.
- B. Another way of increasing output is by organising work. An American called Frederick Winslow Taylor invented a new system in the 1890s, which he called 'Scientific Management'. It is also known as Taylorism, or industrial engineering. Under his system, all work was broken down into its smallest repetitive elements, and divided between workers. Workers were timed with the help of stopwatches and had to fulfil a certain target every day.
- C. Production was further speeded up by the introduction of the assembly line. Each worker sat along a conveyor belt and assembled only one part of the final product. The speed of work could be set by adjusting the speed of the conveyor belt. During the 1980s, there was an attempt to shift away from this system of direct control to indirect control, where workers are supposed to motivate and monitor themselves. But often we find that the old Taylorist processes survive.
- D. Workers in textile mills, which are one of the oldest industries in India, often described themselves as extensions of the machine. Ramcharan, a weaver who had worked in the Kanpur cotton mills since the 1940s, said, "You need energy. The eyes move, the neck, the legs and the hands, each part moves. Weaving is done under a continuous gaze-one cannot go anywhere, the focus must be on the machine. When four machines run, all four must move together, they must not stop."
- E. The more mechanised an industry gets, the fewer people are employed, but they too have to work at the pace of the machine. For instance, in Maruti Udyog Ltd, two cars roll off the assembly line every minute. Workers get only 45 minutes rest in the entire day-two tea breaks of 7 1/2 minutes each and one lunch break of half an hour. Most of them are exhausted by the age of 40 and take voluntary retirement.
- F. While production has gone up, the number of permanent jobs in the factory has gone down. The firm has outsourced all services such as cleaning and security, as well as the manufacture of parts. The parts suppliers are located around or near the factory and send the parts every two hours, or just-in-time. Outsourcing and just-in-time keeps costs low for the company, but the workers are very tense, because if the supplies fail to arrive, their production targets get delayed and, when they do arrive, the workers have to work faster to keep up. No wonder they get exhausted.
- G. Now let us look at the services sector. Software professionals are middle class and well educated. Their work is supposed to be self-motivated and creative. But it is also subject to Taylorist labour processes. 10 to 12 hours is an average workday, and it is not uncommon for employees to stay

- overnight in the office (known as a 'night out'), when faced with a project deadline. Long working hours are central to the industry's work culture.
- H. As a result of these working hours, in places like Bengaluru, Hyderabad and Gurgaon, where many IT firms or call centres are located, shops and restaurants have also changed their working hours, and are open late. If both husband and wife work, then children have to be put in crèches. The joint family, which was supposed to have disappeared with industrialisation, seems to have re-emerged, as grandparents are roped in to help with children.
- I. One important debate going on is whether industrialisation and the shift to services and knowledge-based work like IT lead to greater skills in society. We often hear the phrase 'knowledge economy' to describe the growth of IT in India. But how do you compare the skills of a farmer who has the skills to grow many hundreds of crops relying on his or her understanding of the weather, the soil and seeds, with the knowledge of software professional? Both are skilled but in different ways. The famous sociologist, Harry Braverman, argues that the use of machinery actually deskills workers. For instance, whereas earlier, architects and engineers had to be skilled draughtsmen, now the computer does a lot of the work for them.
- (a) Machinery creates the danger that - 1
- (i) It will extend the working hours of the workers.
 - (ii) It may cause loss due to high cost
 - (iii) Ultimately machines will replace workers and cause unemployment.
 - (iv) Faults in machines may reduce production.
- (b) Assertion (A): F.W. Taylor invented a new system, which he called 'Scientific Management'. 1
- Reason (R): He wanted to increase output by organising work.
- (i) Both the assertion and the reason are correct, and the reason is the correct explanation for the assertion.
 - (ii) Both the assertion and the reason are correct, but the reason is not the correct explanation for the assertion.
 - (iii) The assertion is correct but the reason is incorrect.
 - (iv) The assertion is incorrect but the reason is correct.
- (c) The joint family seems to have re-emerged because - 1
- (i) grandparents are needed to look after children
 - (ii) IT leads to greater skills in society
 - (iii) children have to be put in crèches
 - (iv) shops and restaurants are open late
- (d) Find the word in para 2 which convey the meaning similar to 'tired'. 1
- (i) outsourced
 - (ii) located
 - (iii) delayed
 - (iv) exhausted
- (e) According to the passage, state whether given statement is True or False? 1
- 'Machinery not only made workers unskilled but also swallowed their workplace.'**
- (f) What is the implication of the 'just-in-time' system in Maruti Udyog Ltd.? 1
- (i) It reduces work pressure on workers and allows them to work on their own pace.
 - (ii) it provide job security and permanent position for every worker
 - (iii) It ensures workers mental health and physical activeness during work time.
 - (iv) It creates stress on workers as they must speed up work if supplies are delayed.
- (g) Why did workers in the textile mills describe themselves as extensions of the machine? 2
- (h) What do you understand by Harry Braverman's argument 'The use of machinery actually deskills workers'? 2

(i) Why has the number of permanent jobs in the factory gone down?

2

Passage-8

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

Overeating is one of the most wasteful practices among those who think that they can afford it. In fact, nearly all those, who can get what they desire, overeat to their disadvantage. This class of people could save a great deal more food than they can save by missing one meal per week and at the same time do much to improve their health.

A heavy meal at night, is so called dinner, is the fashion with many, and often it is taken shortly before retiring. It is largely waste and could be forgone, not only once a week but daily without loss of strength. From three to five hours are needed to digest food. While sleeping, this food, not being required to give energy for work, is in many cases converted into excess fat, giving rise to overweight and obesity. The evening meal should be light repast taken three to four hours before retiring. This plan prevents overeating, conserve energy and reduce food costs. Millions of people following such a plan would save a great deal more food that can be saved by missing one meal per week, and they would at the same time improve their health. Moreover, it will ensure good health; thereby a good mind. A sound body has a sound mind.

(a) Pick the correct option to justify the following-

1

Assertion (A): A Sound body has a sound mind.

Reason (R): Most of the offices have a provision of sick leave.

- (i) A is true, but R is false.
- (ii) A is false, but R is true.
- (iii) Both A and R are true and R is correct explanation of A.
- (iv) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.

(b) According to the passage, what is primary reason to avoid heavy meals at night?

1

- (i) To get energy to work the next day.
- (ii) To prevent conversion of food into excess fat during sleep.
- (iii) To reduce amount of food.
- (iv) To develop a sense of taste.

(c) Which word in the passage is similar to 'fleshiness'?

1

- (i) Thin (ii) Obesity (iii) Long (iv) Shortness

(d) Which word in the passage is the opposite of 'Waste'?

1

- (i) Maintain (ii) Preserve (iii) Conserve (iv) Forgone

(e) State whether the given statement is True or False according to the passage.

1

“Hunger would disappear if a few obese people will skip one meal per day”

(f) Find a word from the passage which is opposite of 'allows'.

1

(g) How can skipping meal help people?

2

(h) Overeating is not healthy. Explain with reference to the passage.

2

(i) When and what type of the meal should we take in the evening?

2

Passage-9

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

The hopping kangaroo is a familiar sight in every snapshot relating to Australia. Members of the kangaroo family can be as small as a rat or as a man kangaroos are found mainly in Australia,

Tasmania and New Guinea. Kangaroos, which are big-footed marsupials that evolved in Australia. Use their short front legs like arms. The man-sized kangaroos of Australia are capable of speeding up to 88 km / hr for short distances, their means of locomotion being their powerful hind legs, which carry them over the ground in jumps of 9 m or more at a time.

Weighing around 70 kg, they have an average lifespan of around 6 to 8 years and a maximum lifetime of 20 years. When bothered by predators, kangaroos often head for the water, standing submerged to the chest and attempting to drown the attacker by holding him under water. Another defensive technique is to get their back to a tree and kick at their adversary with their clawed hind feet, sometimes with sufficient force to kill a man. Normally shy animals, they alert other kangaroos of danger by beating on the ground with their hind feet. This loud alarm signal carries over a long distance.

The tail is important for kangaroos. It holds them in balance and supports them when they sit or fight against other kangaroos. The kangaroo uses its short legs as arms. With them it scratches itself, cleans its fur and holds branches when it eats leaves. Kangaroos are marsupials and the females carry newborn in a pouch in front of their abdomens. The babies are born small and climb up into the safety of the pouch. There, for the next 225 days they eat, sleep and grow. Once they reach full development, they leave the pouch. A young kangaroo that leaves the pouch is called a “joey”. To keep from getting too hot, the kangaroos take naps in the afternoon and do most of their grazing at night. But the best stay-cool secret of these creatures is the split bath! Kangaroos drool and lick saliva all over their faces and bodies to cool down.

- | | |
|--|---|
| (a) Kangaroos stay cool because they | 1 |
| (i) Submerge themselves in water (ii) Drool and lick saliva all over their body | |
| (iii) Come out at night (v) All of the above | |
| (b) A young kangaroo that leaves the pouch is called | 1 |
| (i) Baby (ii) Marsupials | |
| (iii) Joey (iv) hoppers | |
| (c) A kangaroo uses ----- for alarms. (Hind legs/short legs) | 1 |
| (d) What is the maximum speed of Kangaroos? | 1 |
| (e) A kangaroo often heads for the water when | 1 |
| (i) it is bothered by predators (ii) it is chased by fellow Kangaroos | |
| (iii) it is attacked by humans (iv) it feels thirsty | |
| (a) I and (iii) (b) Only (ii) (c) (iii)) and (iv) (d) (i) and (ii) | |
| (f) According to the passage, what is the meaning of ‘Marsupials’? | 1 |
| (g) Evaluate the importance of tail for kangaroos. | 2 |
| (h) Analyze how kangaroo’s newborns are raised. | 2 |
| (i) Elaborate kangaroo’s defensive techniques. | 2 |

Passage-10

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

The system of higher education in India, in fact the education system as a whole, has been faulted on several grounds, most of them being as valid today as they were many decades ago. The aim of higher education, of course, is to adequately equip students for the tough battle of life, to qualify

them for various types of employment, apart from widening their sphere of knowledge and building their character.

Education has to be related to the life and needs of the nation and the people's aspiration; it must aim at including among youth the values in lead to the full development of the individual's personality and also to change the quality of life for him. But throughout the decades a national result oriented policy has been lacking, despite all the experimentation on the lines recommended by various committees and commissions headed by prominent educationist.

The very concept of high education postulates the development of the basic qualities which fits a person for the continually complex battles of life. But the tragedy is that higher education has neither suitably equipped young man and woman for the requirement of Indian society nor made them strong enough morally and intellectually, to stand on their own feet. It is claimed that higher education now seeks to involve youth in the national mainstream, but this is a tall claim.

Beside higher education is supposed to dispel ignorance and promote basic virtues. But unfortunately teachers set bad examples for students. The colleges and universities are politicized, and practice of teachers resorting to tactics that are anything but educational leads to our ruinous atmosphere in the seats of higher learning.

- | | |
|---|---|
| (a) What are the motives of higher education? | 1 |
| (i) Equip students for battle of life. | |
| (ii) To qualify them for various employments | |
| (iii) Building their character's | |
| (iv) All of these | |
| (b) What is the aim of education according to paragraph 2 ? | 1 |
| (c) What does higher education claims for the youth? | 1 |
| (i) Appearance in natural level | |
| (ii) Seeks to involve youth in the national mainstream | |
| (iii) Hidden talent identification | |
| (iv) None of these | |
| (d) Which word in the passage is similar to 'outstanding' | 1 |
| (a) prominent (b) suitably (c) oriented (d) postulate | |
| (e) Which word in the passage is opposite of the word 'narrowing' | 1 |
| (a) promote (b) basic (c) widening (d) continually | |
| (f) Education has to be related to ----- | 1 |
| (g) What are the faults of higher education? | 2 |
| (h) Reflect on the claim that higher education now seeks to involve youth in the national mainstream. | 2 |
| (i) How would you improve the problems of the higher education? | 2 |

Passage-11

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

One day Nandu rode his horse to the village fair. On his way back he met Somendra, the merchant. The merchant was a crafty man, ready to do anything to earn some money. The villagers knew this. In fact no one knew what trick he would be up to next. Now, Nandu was poor and had no one in the world to call his own except a beautiful, white horse. He loved it more than anything else in the world. The

merchant had his eye on the horse for a long time and tried to think of a way to get it for himself. Seeing Nandu, the merchant thought, Nandu is a simpleton. Let me see if I can trick him out of his horse. So he said to Nandu, You live all alone. How do you manage? What does a young boy like you need with a horse? Sell it to me and I shall make you rich in return. Nandu replied, "No I don't want to sell my horse."

But the merchant refused to give up so easily. He offered Nandu more money. Finally, when the offer reached five hundred gold coins, Nandu paused and said. Five hundred gold coins seems like a good price. But I have a condition. If you agree to it, I shall give you my horse. "What is it?", the merchant asked impatiently. "Give me the money right now and I shall give you my horse when I have given you ten lashes." After all he would resell the horse for over a thousand gold coins in the market. He would take twenty lashes for such a gain. He agreed instantly. He ran home and got the money for Nandu and brought along his whip as well. Nandu counted the money carefully. He then took the whip and the lashes fell on the merchant's back in quick succession. By the eighth lash the merchant was almost in tears but he told himself that there were only two lashes to go and the horse would be his. The merchant held his breath waiting for the final lashes. But Nandu had mounted his horse and was riding off. "Wait!", shouted the merchant in anger. "What about the last lashes? Where are you going with the horse? We had a deal.

Nandu stopped and said, "I agree to give you the horse only after I had given you ten lashes. But it is upsetting my horse. I'll give you the last lashes later. Till then goodbye!" "Come back you cheat!", the merchant shouted. But the crowd that had gathered around agreed with Nandu. A deal was a deal. Till the last lash was given, the horse could not belong to the merchant. Nandu rode away richer by five hundred gold coins and Somendra waited in vain for several days for the final lash which never came.

- (a) Why did the merchant offer to buy Nandu's horse? 1
- (i) He was very fond of the horse and wanted it for himself
 - (ii) It was his way of helping Nandu who was poor.
 - (iii) The horse would be useful for carrying goods to the market.
 - (iv) He hated Nandu and wanted to deprive him of something he loved.
- (b) Which of the following is TRUE in the context of the passage? 1
- (i) Nandu was an orphan.
 - (ii) The merchant was very persevering.
 - (iii) The merchant was fond of Nandu's horse.
- (a) None (b) Only 1 (c) Both 1 & 2 (d) All 1, 2 and 3
- (c) Why did Nandu set the condition of giving the merchant ten lashes? 1
- (i) To discourage the merchant from buying his horse.
 - (ii) To demonstrate how painful a whipping was so that the merchant would never hit the horse.
 - (iii) To bargain with the merchant to offer more money.
 - (iv) To outwit the merchant who was trying to cheat him.
- (d) Which of the following can be said about Nandu? 1
- (1) He was very cunning.
 - (2) He needed money.
 - (3) He was cruel to people but loved animals.
- (i) None of these
 - (ii) Both 1 & 2
 - (iii) Both 2 & 3
 - (iv) All 1, 2 and 3
- (e) Choose the word that is synonym of "crafty" 1
- (i) skilled (ii) naïve (iii) cunning (iv) honest
- (f) Choose the word that is synonym of "PAUSED" 1

- | | | | | |
|--|--------------|-------------|------------|---|
| (i) Halted | (ii) Relaxed | (iii) Ended | (iv) Stuck | |
| (g) Why did the final lash never come? | | | | 2 |
| (h) Conclude how Nandu treated the merchant. | | | | 2 |
| (i) Do you approve or disapprove the crowd's behaviour toward the merchant? Give reason. | | | | 2 |

Passage-12

Read the passage given below and answer the questions that follow:

The Fascination with Reality Shows

1. Reality shows have become a staple of modern television, captivating audiences worldwide with their unscripted drama and real-life scenarios. These shows span a variety of genres, from competitive cooking and talent hunts to survival challenges and lifestyle makeovers, offering something for everyone. But what is it about reality shows that keeps viewers coming back for more?
 2. One of the key elements of reality shows is their relatability. Unlike scripted dramas or comedies, reality shows feature real people facing real challenges, making them more accessible to the average viewer. Audiences can see themselves in the contestants, empathize with their struggles, and celebrate their successes. This emotional connection is a significant factor in the popularity of reality shows.
 3. Moreover, the competitive nature of many reality shows adds an element of excitement and suspense. Whether it's cooking the perfect dish under extreme time pressure or outsmarting opponents in a remote jungle, the unpredictable outcomes keep viewers on the edge of their seats. The format often includes *eliminations*, adding a layer of tension as viewers root for their favourite contestants to stay in the game.
 4. Another intriguing aspect of reality shows is the behind-the-scenes look they offer into different lifestyles and professions. Shows like "Keeping Up with the Kardashians" or "Shark Tank" provide insights into the lives of celebrities and entrepreneurs, respectively. These glimpses into otherwise inaccessible worlds satisfy the curiosity of viewers and offer a form of escapism from their daily routines.
 5. However, the impact of reality shows is not without controversy. Critics argue that these programs often prioritize sensationalism over substance, sometimes leading to the exploitation of participants. The portrayal of certain stereotypes and the emphasis on conflict can also have a negative influence on societal norms and behaviours. Despite these criticisms, the popularity of reality shows continues to grow, driven by evolving formats and the advent of streaming platforms.
 6. In conclusion, reality shows have carved out a unique niche in the entertainment industry, blending real-life drama with elements of competition, reliability, and behind-the-scenes access. While they offer a compelling form of entertainment, it's essential for viewers to critically assess the content and be aware of the potential implications of what they consume. As reality shows evolve, their impact on society and culture will undoubtedly remain a topic of interest and debate.
-
- (a) How do reality show with real people facing real challenges feel more relatable to viewers than scripted stories or celebrity lifestyles? 1
 - (i) It creates an emotional connection by reflecting real-life struggles.
 - (ii) It provides entertainment without requiring any viewer investment.
 - (iii) It distances viewers by focusing on idealized versions of reality.
 - (iv) It diminishes reliability by making outcomes predictable.

 - (b) Why is it fair to say reality shows focus too much on drama instead of meaningful content, and how does this affect viewers? 1
 - (i) It enhances the show's entertainment value but sacrifices meaningful content.
 - (ii) It undermines the show's credibility and may negatively influence societal norms.

- (iii) It ensures higher ratings by creating predictable and repetitive formats.
 - (iv) It reduces viewer engagement by avoiding conflict and drama.
- (c) Assertion (A): Reality shows offer behind-the-scenes looks into different lifestyles and professions.
Reason (R): These shows prioritize educational content over entertainment.
Question:
How does the assertion about offering behind-the-scenes looks in reality shows relate to the reason of prioritizing educational content, and how might this affect the balance between entertainment and educational value in these shows? 1
- (i) Both A and R are true, but R does not fully explain the reason why behind-the-scenes looks are included in reality shows.
 - (ii) Both A and R are true, and R explains how educational content is emphasized by the behind-the-scenes approach in reality shows.
 - (iii) A is true, but R is false, as most reality shows prioritize entertainment over education.
 - (iv) A is false, and R is true, as reality shows rarely show behind-the-scenes content.
- (d) Assertion (A): The competitive nature of reality shows adds excitement and suspense.
Reason (R): Viewers are emotionally invested in the outcomes of the shows.
Question:
How does emotional investment enhance the excitement and suspense created by the competitive nature of reality shows, and what role does this emotional connection play in viewer retention? 1
- (i) Both A and R are true, and R significantly contributes to the excitement and suspense by making viewers more emotionally engaged with the competition.
 - (ii) Both A and R are true, but R has little impact on the excitement, as competition alone drives the suspense.
 - (iii) A is true, but R is false, as excitement is mainly generated through unpredictable outcomes, not emotional investment.
 - (iv) A is false, and R is true, as emotional investment in reality shows has no relation to competition.
- (e) Cause: Reality shows feature real people facing real challenges.
Effect: _____
- Question:
How does showing real people facing real challenges in reality shows help viewers feel connected to the contestants, and how does this make the shows more popular? 1
- (i) They provide unrealistic portrayals of life, making it difficult for viewers to connect emotionally.
 - (ii) Viewers can relate to and empathize with the contestants, which increase engagement and appeal.
 - (iii) The shows become predictable and boring, as real-life struggles can lack dramatic flair.
 - (iv) They lack any form of excitement or suspense because real challenges are too mundane for entertainment.
- (f) Cause: Critics argue that reality shows often emphasize conflict and sensationalism.
Effect: _____
- Question:
How does focusing on drama and conflict in reality shows affect how viewers see the content, and what impact could this have on society's values? 1
- (i) Reality shows have no impact on viewers, as the focus on sensationalism is purely for entertainment.

- (ii) They can have a negative influence on societal norms and behaviours by promoting exaggerated or distorted versions of reality.
- (iii) They become more educational by providing a platform for real-world discussions, despite the sensationalism.
- (iv) Viewers lose interest quickly, as the drama becomes predictable and repetitive over time.

(g) Discuss the role of competition in reality shows and how it contributes to their popularity. 2

(h) What are some of the genres of reality shows mentioned in the passage? 2

(i) What are some examples of reality shows that offer a behind-the-scenes look into different lifestyles? 2