

English

Class 12th

Section A

Case based Factual Passage

Passage 1

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

1. COVID-19, also known as the corona virus, is a serious and contagious disease that has affected people worldwide. It was first discovered in late 2019 in China and then got spread in the whole world. It had a major impact on people's life, their school, work and daily lives.
2. COVID-19 is primarily transmitted from person to person through respiratory droplets produced and through sneezes, and coughs of an infected person. It can spread to thousands of people because of its highly contagious nature. To cure the widespread of this virus, there are thousands of steps taken by the people and the government.
3. Wearing masks is one of the essential precautions to prevent the virus from spreading. Social distancing is another vital practice, which involves maintaining a safe distance from others to minimize close contact.
4. Very frequent hand washing is also very important to stop the spread of this virus. Proper hand hygiene can help remove any potential virus particles from our hands, reducing the risk of infection.
5. In conclusion, the Corona virus has changed people's perspective on living. It has also changed people's way of interacting and how to live. To deal with this virus, it is very important to follow the important guidelines such as wearing masks, social distancing and techniques to wash your hands. Getting vaccinated is also very important to go back to normal life and cure this virus completely.
6. Due to COVID-19, the whole world suffered a great loss. Many people in the 75 and above age group lost their lives. Age Standardized Mortality Rates for COVID-19 (per million populations) in India and its selected states are given in the table below-

Age in years►	<15	15-29	30-44	45-59	60-74	≥75
Maharashtra	6.5	14.5	98.1	522.1	1640.1	2818.1
Delhi	9.7	33.9	119.3	573.6	1937.3	3787.9
Karnataka	2.4	10.8	66.5	364.8	1111.8	2064.9
Tamil Nadu	2.2	7.0	45.4	231.7	773.6	1385.6
Haryana	2.1	4.5	31.6	146.4	489.3	837.5
West Bengal	1.0	4.8	18.1	102.3	346.1	748.4
Kerala	0.9	3.3	10.9	58.9	242.3	490.3
<u>India</u>	1.6	6.3	35.5	198.8	571.3	931.6

- (a) A person washes his hands frequently but does not wear a mask in crowded places.
What could be possible outcome?

- (i) He will not get infected in any circumstances.
- (ii) He will be at higher risk of contracting COVID-19.
- (iii) Hand washing alone is enough to prevent infection.
- (iv) He will get the virus only through physical contact.

- (b) Based on data provided in the table, which state had the highest mortality rate for people aged 75 and above? 1
- Kerala
 - Maharashtra
 - West Bengal
 - Delhi
- (c) If a new variant of COVID-19 emerges with higher transmission rate, which of the following is the most effective immediate response? 1
- Stopping vaccination drives
 - Encouraging large gathering to develop herd community
 - Strengthening preventive measure like mask, distancing and hand hygiene.
 - Ignoring the new variant as it will fade away soon.
- (d) Why were old adults more vulnerable to COVID-19, as indicated in the table? 1
- They had weak immune system and pre-existing health conditions.
 - The virus specially targeted elderly people.
 - They were more likely to be at crowded places.
 - They were not allowed to follow safety precautions.
- (e) State whether the given statement is True or False, according to the passage. 1
- “Wearing a mask is the only essential measure one could take to prevent infection from spreading.”
- (f) Pick the correct option to justify the following- 1
- Assertion (A): Whole world suffered a lot during COVID-19.
Reason (R): People’s perspective about life has been changed a lot after year 2019.
- A is true, but R is false.
 - A is false, but R is true.
 - Both A and R are true and R is correct explanation of A.
 - Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (g) Choose the correct option to fill in the blank- 1
- Cause: Covid-19 is a highly contagious disease that spreads through respiratory droplets.
Effect: _____.
- People have started to ignore safety precautions.
 - Governments and individuals have implemented measures like wearing masks, social distancing and hand washing.
 - The virus has stopped spreading on its own.
 - The need for vaccination has been completely eliminated.
- (h) Based on paragraph 3 of the passage, complete the following sentence using one word only: 1
- The of a safe distance from others is vital for social distancing.
- (i) Why do you think mortality rates, across all age groups, in Delhi and Maharashtra are far higher than those in Kerala? 2

Passage 2

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

In recent years, the habit of reading among high school students has seen a steady decline. The advent of digital media, social media platforms, and the easy access to online video content has contributed significantly to this decline. According to a recent survey conducted by the National Education Research Institute (NERI), only 30% of students read books for pleasure, while 60% of students prefer online content. Furthermore, the reading habits among students who belong to urban areas are noticeably different from those in rural areas. The survey data reveals that in urban areas, 40% of students engage in digital reading, while only 15% read physical books. On the other hand, in rural areas, 25% of students read physical books, while just 10% engage in digital reading.

The decline in reading habits is alarming as reading improves comprehension, vocabulary, and critical thinking. Educational experts have expressed concern over how this shift might impact the intellectual and emotional development of students in the long run. To counter this, schools are incorporating technology-based reading platforms, organizing reading marathons, and initiating peer group discussions to encourage students to read more.

Graph:

Type of Reading	Urban Students (%)	Rural Students (%)
Physical Books	15%	25%
Digital Reading	40%	10%
Other online content	45%	65%

- (a) State whether the given statement is True or False, according to the passage. 1
 “Critical thinking can be enhanced by reading books; however, online or digital reading would not help much in improving intellectual powers.”
- (b) Cause: The rise of online gaming and social media apps. 1
 Effect: _____.
- Students have started reading more books for pleasure.
 - The habit of reading books among school students has declined rapidly.
 - Schools have removed physical libraries.
 - The number of readers of physical books has increased.
- (c) What could be a possible reason why rural students read more physical books than urban students? 1
- Rural students have better access to digital platforms.
 - Rural students do not enjoy online reading content.
 - Traditional taboos banned digital access in urban areas.
 - Internet and digital device accessibility is quite lower in rural areas.
- (d) According to the passage, which option best describes the relationship between the following statements- 1
 Statement 1: Too much screen time can affect intellectual and emotional development.
 Statement 2: According to the passage, 40% of urban students are engaged in digital reading.
- Statement 2 gives a reason for Statement 1.
 - Statement 1 is the opposite of Statement 2.
 - Statement 2 is a fact, and Statement 1 is an opinion.
 - Statement 2 is the wrong explanation of Statement 1.
- (e) If the trend of declining reading habits continues, what could be a long-term consequence? 1
- Decreased analytical thinking and weaker language skills.
 - Stronger vocabulary and critical thinking skills.
 - A rise in book on sales in the market.
 - Increased interest in digital criminal literature.
- (f) What could be the best way to inspire school students to read books? 1
- (g) Complete the analogy using given options: 1
 Growth : Decline :: Past : _____
- Advent
 - Recent

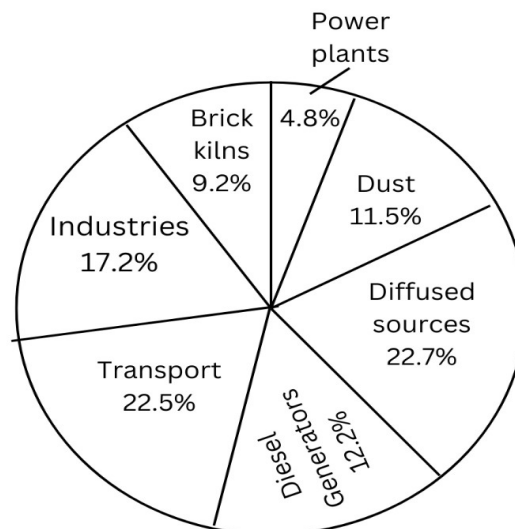
- (iii) Impact
(iv) Engage
- (h) Fill in the blanks using a suitable word to complete the sentence: 1
 “Technology based reading platforms are being..... to encourage students to read more.”
- (i) Why has the decline in reading habits been described as ‘alarming’? 2

Passage 3

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

1. Air pollution is a major threat to human health. The United Nations Environment Programme has estimated that, globally, 1.1 billion people breathe in unhealthy air. The World Health Organization (WHO) has estimated that urban air pollution is responsible for approximately 800,000 deaths and 4.6 million people lose their lives every year around the globe.
2. Traffic and transportation problems, inadequate drainage facilities, lack of open spaces, carbon emission, and the accumulation of waste aggravate the problem. Air pollution is associated with increased risk of acute respiratory infections (ARI), the principal cause of infant and child mortality in developing countries.
3. Urban air quality in most mega cities has been found to be critical and Kolkata is no exception to this. An analysis of ambient air quality in Kolkata was done by applying the Exceedance Factor (EF) method, where the presence of listed pollutants' (RPM, SPM, NO, and SO₂) annual average concentration are classified into four different categories: namely critical, high, moderate, and low pollution. Out of a total of 17 ambient air quality monitoring stations operating in Kolkata, five fall under the critical category, and the remaining 12 locations fall under the high category of NO₂ concentration, while for RPM, four record critical, and 13 come under the high pollution category. The causes of high concentration of pollutants in the form of NO, and RPM have been identified in earlier studies as vehicular emission (51.4%), followed by industrial sources (24.5%) and dust particles (21.1%).
4. Later, a health assessment was undertaken with a structured questionnaire at some nearby dispensaries which fall under areas with different ambient air pollution levels. Three dispensaries have been surveyed with 100 participants. It shows that respondents with respiratory diseases (85.1%) have outnumbered waterborne diseases (14.9%) and include acute respiratory infections. (ARI) (60%), chronic obstructive pulmonary diseases (COPD) (7.8%), upper tract respiratory infection (UTRD) (1.2%), Influenza (12.7%), and acid-fast bacillus (AFB) (3.4%).
5. To live a healthy life and have better well-being, practising pollution averting activities in one's day-to-day activities is needed. These pollution averting practices can only be possible when awareness among the masses is generated that the air they breathe outdoors is not found to be safe.

Pollution in India



- (a) If the air pollution continues to rise, what could be a possible long-term consequence? 1
- (i) A decrease in respiratory disease.
 - (ii) A decrease in number of death caused by pollution.
 - (iii) A complete elimination of industrial sources of pollution.
 - (iv) A rise in cases of ARI and COPD.
- (b) Cause: Increased carbon emissions and vehicular pollution in urban areas. 1
- Effect: _____.
- (i) Improved air quality
 - (ii) Decline in respiratory diseases
 - (iii) Higher levels of air pollution and more health issues.
 - (iv) Growth in green spaces
- (c) Which of the following measures would be the most effective in reducing urban air pollution? 1
- (i) Encouraging public transportation and carpooling
 - (ii) Increasing number of industrial units in cities
 - (iii) Expanding road networks to allow more vehicles
 - (iv) Reducing tree plantations to build more parking spaces.
- (d) Which of the following sources, mentioned in the above displayed figure is the most responsible for increasing pollution in India? 1
- (i) Dust
 - (ii) Transport
 - (iii) Industries
 - (iv) Diffused sources
- (e) According to the Exceedance Factor (EF) method, which pollutant had the highest number of monitoring stations falling under the "critical" category in Kolkata? 1
- (i) NO₂
 - (ii) SPM
 - (iii) SO₂
 - (iv) RPM
- (f) Which of the following options best summarises the passage: 1
- (i) Chemical composition of air in Kolkata.
 - (ii) Causes of water and air pollution.
 - (iii) Analysis of air pollution with a special mention of Kolkata.
 - (iv) Types of pollution averting activities.
- (g) Why do you think development of mega cities is needed? 2
- (h) What do you understand by pollution averting activities? 2

Passage 4

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

1. We're all familiar with the usual reasons workers cite for wanting to stay away even after lockdowns have long ended: flexible schedules, not having to commute, and of course, increased productivity. However, productivity isn't the only reason people want to stay away from the office. We recently surveyed 1000 remote workers to find out what's really keeping them tied to their work-from-home lives.
2. The findings include 72% want to be able to make a nap or exercise during the day. Nearly 3 out of 4 remote workers surveyed stated that the ability to take a nap or workout during the workday was one of the reasons they wanted to stay home. Though these activities may very well increase worker productivity, there's no doubt a nap on the kitchen couch would be frowned upon in the office.

3. 73% want to be able to watch TV while they work. Three out of four respondents again say that being able to entertain themselves with TV, podcasts, music, or other media is one of the reasons they want to keep their work-from-home lifestyle.
 4. 62% cite concern about their appearance. Well over half of respondents stated that they are concerned about their co-workers seeing them in-person again after such a long time apart. Whether its weight loss or gain, not having the right clothes, or another concern about appearances, most would not rather not have to worry about the way they look to their co-workers outside the zoom call.
 5. When asked to choose the reason that most affects their desire to keep working from home, predictable answers like caring for children and lack of a commute were still the most common number one reasons. 14% of respondents stated that working remotely was so important to them, that they would not go back to work in-person even if their employers required it.
- (a) According to the survey, what percentage of remote workers enjoys watching TV or other media while working? 1
- (i) 62%
 - (ii) 73%
 - (iii) 37%
 - (iv) 14%
- (b) Why do 62% of workers hesitate to return to the office? 1
- (i) They don't want to commute.
 - (ii) They are concerned about their appearance.
 - (iii) They prefer working with family.
 - (iv) They don't like their office setup.
- (c) According to the passage, which option best describes the relationship between the following statements- 1
- Statement 1: Nearly 3 out of 4 remote workers surveyed stated that the ability to take a nap or workout during the workday was one of the reasons they wanted to stay home.
- Statement 2: Day nap can increase workers productivity.
- (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.
- (d) How might the concern about appearance (as mentioned by 62% of respondents) affect employee morale and performance? 1
- (i) Employees might feel less confident and distracted when returning to the office.
 - (ii) Employees would feel more motivated to work harder when they return to the office.
 - (iii) Employees are less likely to care about their appearance when working remotely.
 - (iv) Employees are more likely to dress professionally while working from home.
- (e) State whether the following statement given below is TRUE or FALSE. 1
- 'The survey reveals that the people deeply miss socialising in the work from home style.'
- (f) Which of the following options is not a reason for people wanting to stay away from office? 1
- (i) Watching TV at home.
 - (ii) Providing help to spouse in domestic chores
 - (iii) Taking a nap or workout
 - (iv) Caring for children
- (g) Critically examine why 62 percent of the surveyed workers are concerned about their appearance. 2
- (h) Point out the two most prominent factors that have kept the surveyed workers on a 'work from home culture'. 2

