

# Comprehension

**Directions** – In the following questions, you have brief passages with questions following each passage. Read the passages carefully and choose the best answer to each question out of the four alternatives.

## PASSAGE – 1

Street theatre in India is a well established ancient art form. Despite the proliferation of modern means of entertainment and communication, street theatre continues to flourish in India.

Street theatre as a channel of communication has for centuries been propagating reforms by highlighting social, economic and political issues present in the society. Unlike in the old days, its performance is no longer restricted to villages or small localities of the city. Today small groups of performers, including students, would stage performances to mobilize public opinion or to help create or raise awareness over a particular issue of public importance. Themes on substance abuse, AIDS awareness and domestic violence are some of the areas highlighted by contemporary street theatre troupes. Unlike in regular drama, street drama employs very little props and images. The human body becomes the main tool in which choreography, mime, dialogues, songs and slogans are extensively used.

Street theatre is one of the most intimate media. Its appeal is to the emotions leading to quick psychological impact on audiences. By being local and live they are also able to establish not only direct contact with the audience but by being cost-effective and flexible, they are popular among all age groups.

1. Street theatre is ..... to stage.  
(A) nothing (B) costly  
(C) reasonable (D) affordable
2. Street theatre creates an/a ..... impact on audiences.  
(A) intimate (B) emotional  
(C) mystical (D) physical

3. Modern means of entertainment and communication ..... street theatre.

(A) does affect (B) does not affect  
(C) helps popularise (D) helps establish

4. Street theatre usually ..... with issues of public importance.

(A) is distanced (B) is performed  
(C) deals (D) does not deal

5. In the old days street theatre ..... to villages or small localities of the city.

(A) was restricted (B) was not restricted  
(C) was opened (D) was entertained

## PASSAGE – 2

Self-directed learning, in its broadest meaning, describes a process in which individuals take the initiative with or without the help of others, in diagnosing their learning needs formulating learning goals, identifying resources for learning, choosing and implementing learning strategies and evaluating learning outcomes. Thus, it is important to attain new knowledge easily and skillfully for the rest of their life.

What is the need for self-directed learning ? One reason is that there is convincing evidence that people, who take the initiative in learning, learn more things and learn better than people who sit at the feet of teachers passively waiting to be taught. The second reason is that self-directed learning is more in tune with our natural processes of psychological development; an essential aspect of maturing is developing the ability to take increasing responsibility of our own lives to become increasingly self-directed. The third reason is that many of the new developments in education put a heavy responsibility on the learners to take a good deal of initiative in their own learning. To meet the challenges in today's instructive environment, self-directed learning is most essential.

1. The modern environment according to the author is :

- (A) Restrictive (B) Instructive  
(C) Less developed (D) Impracticable

2. The synonym of the word “diagnosing” is :

- (A) Searching (B) Examining  
(C) Identifying (D) Complying

3. There is need for self-directed learning because :

- (A) it is less challenging  
(B) it helps people to learn more and better  
(C) it is a more cost-effective method  
(D) it is a modern method of learning

4. Which word best describes self-directed learning ?

- (A) Active learning  
(B) Passive learning  
(C) Compulsory learning  
(D) Repulsive learning

5. In self-directed learning, an individual :

- (A) Takes initiative with or without the help of others  
(B) Is passive and waits for directions  
(C) Is helpless and dependent  
(D) Takes initiative, without an objective

### PASSAGE – 3

At first sight, silence would seem to be the essence of non communication. Yet we know that in some circumstances silence can speak volumes. It is also a potent tool in the communication tool-box, for the speaker, as it adds emphasis to point, allowing time for its full significance to sink in. Handled skilfully, it can build up anticipation for what is to come - the pregnant pause. It gives opportunity to make eye contact with the audience and gauge their reactions. It is an essential component of the timing of one's delivery. For the listener, silence can buy time, either to digest what has been said or to consider a response, or both. Silence will often lure the speaker into saying more than he or she may have intended.

1. The opposite of ‘potent’ is :

- (A) Latent (B) Patent  
(C) Weak (D) Inherent

2. Give the synonym of ‘Gauge.’

- (A) Measure  
(B) Make statement  
(C) Gather knowledge  
(D) Share information

3. For the listener, silence can :

- (A) Emphasise a point  
(B) Be a potent tool  
(C) Lure him to say more  
(D) Buy time

4. According to the author, the pregnant pause :

- (A) Breaks up communication  
(B) Helps communication  
(C) Builds up anticipation  
(D) Leads to confusion

5. Silence seems to be the essence of :

- (A) Communication  
(B) Volumes  
(C) Communication tool-box  
(D) Non communication

### PASSAGE – 4

Poverty has its own meaning for different persons. Poverty or the state of being poor is a relative term. Its meaning varies depending upon the state of the economy.

Poverty is always and every where a social phenomenon in which a section of the society is unable to fulfil even its basic necessities of life. When a substantial segment of a society is deprived of the minimum level of living and continues at a bare subsistence level, that society is said to be plagued with mass poverty. The countries of the Third World exhibit invariably the existence of mass poverty, although pockets of poverty exist even in the developed countries of Europe and America.

It is a matter of great disappointment for India's economic planning that even after more than 60 years since independence, India still suffers from the problem of mass poverty. Poverty is affecting our mind, affecting our state, our country and the world. Although there was the Global Economic Crisis, India was not as affected by it as was the USA and other European countries. This is because of the paradoxical situation of the Indian economy. It is ridden by extreme poverty on the one side while it also has a thriving and growing economy on the other.

1. .... and there is a lack of equitable distribution of wealth in India.

- (A) Some Indians are rich and poor  
(B) All Indians are poor  
(C) Some Indians are rich and some poor  
(D) All Indians are rich and poor

2. Mass poverty exists in the Third World countries ..... Europe and America.

- (A) excluding  
(B) including  
(C) and in pockets of  
(D) and invariably in

3. India ..... from the problem of mass poverty due to the failure of its economic planning.

- (A) is free                      (B) still suffers  
(C) is not affected          (D) recovers

4. Poverty ..... on the state of the economy.

- (A) is a burden              (B) depends  
(C) borders                  (D) does not depend

5. When a substantial segment of a society ..... a bare subsistence level, that society is said to be plagued with mass poverty.

- (A) thrives on a              (B) is deprived of  
(C) struggles on              (D) continues at

#### PASSAGE – 5

One conspicuous question in the modern journals is : how can I develop personality ? Ursula Bloom gives this noteworthy advice to young people : Please do not do as I did, at your age, and waste years copying other people. Of old, to the same question asked by Greek youth, Socrates replied: Know yourself! That was excellent advice but it did not satisfy, because it did not go far enough.

When Roman youth questioned Marcus Aurelius, he said: Be yourself! To the youth of our atomic age, the psychologist says : Develop yourself! That is the answer to the question. What is personality? Personality is the development of oneself.

1. The Greek philosopher Socrates promoted .....

- (A) tested knowledge  
(B) self knowledge  
(C) referred knowledge  
(D) borrowed knowledge

2. Ursula Bloom propagated that young people should .....

- (A) copy others              (B) not copy others  
(C) not waste years          (D) give advice

3. Marcus Aurelius preached to the Roman youth of his day to .....

- (A) express themselves  
(B) understand themselves  
(C) be themselves  
(D) know themselves

4. The question on personality development has .....

- (A) no definitive answer  
(B) correct answers  
(C) a definitive answer  
(D) no answer

5. The development of oneself ..... the question on, what is personality ?

- (A) gives an unsatisfactory answer to  
(B) does not give a satisfactory answer to  
(C) satisfactorily answers  
(D) partly answers

#### PASSAGE – 6

Opera refers to a dramatic art form, originating in Europe, in which the emotional content is conveyed to the audience as much through music, both vocal and instrumental, as it is through lyrics. By contrast, in musical theatre, an actor's dramatic performance is primary and the music plays a lesser role. The drama in opera is presented using the primary elements of theatre such as scenery, costumes and acting. However, the words of the opera, or libretto are sung rather than spoken. The singers are accompanied by a musical ensemble ranging from a small instrumental ensemble to a full symphonic orchestra.

1. A libretto is :

- (A) the main character who is the liberator at the climax of the scene  
(B) the words of the opera  
(C) a musical composition which is played in a slow leisurely manner  
(D) the sequence of well controlled, graceful movements performed as a display of skill

2. It is pointed out in the passage that opera :

- (A) has developed under the influence of musical theatre  
(B) is a drama that is not dependent on music  
(C) is not a high-budget production  
(D) has originated in Europe

3. We can understand from the passage that :

- (A) audiences are captivated more by the lyrics than by the music  
(B) in opera lyrics are as important as the music  
(C) orchestras in operas do not vary in size  
(D) musical theatre relies, above all, on music

4. The word “conveyed” also means :

- (A) transmit  
(B) tote  
(C) keep  
(D) dissuade

5. It is stated in the passage that :

- (A) acting and costumes are secondary to music in musical theatre
- (B) many people find musical theatre more captivating than opera
- (C) music in musical theatres is not as important as it is in opera
- (D) an opera requires a huge orchestra as well as a large choir

#### PASSAGE – 7

My lodge is nothing but a dark, tiny hut made of palm fronds, with a bunch of damp branches and a swarm of flies through a whole in the wall of leaves. I see a patch of cleared earth in the rainforest: the stage of *Cicinnurus magnificus*, the magnificent bird of paradise. The bird's loud call, 'Kyeng, kyeng' has been ringing since dawn, announcing the male's imminent performance. But his feathered female spectators have not shown yet. Perhaps they are out window-shopping, taking a good look around until they find the most resplendent specimen.

I hear a fluttering and look up. A *magnificus* is enthroned on a branch about 2m above the stage: an iridescent-green breast shield, bright orange-red wings and a lemon-yellow cape with a furry brown collar. The feet and heel are a sparkling sky-blue, which also covers the eyelids and extends down to the neck. He plucks off a few leaves to let in more light and optimize eye contact with his audience. Finally, he drags the freshly fallen leaves away from catwalk.

1. The *cicinnurus magnificus* is :

- (A) the magnificent bird of paradise
- (B) a patch of cleared earth in the rainforest
- (C) a place where his hut is located
- (D) the stag in the rainforest

2. The synonym for 'optimise' is :

- (A) to make best use of      (B) to improve vision
- (C) to see clearly              (D) to enlarge

3. The most 'resplendent specimen' means :

- (A) bright and colourful      (B) beautiful and gentle
- (C) appalling and ugly        (D) extravagant and gaudy

4. The bird performs for :

- (A) no one                      (B) the author
- (C) sheer enjoyment        (D) female birds

5. An 'iridescent-green breast shield' means :

- (A) a shield worn by the bird to protect it self
- (B) the bright, colourful feathers of the bird
- (C) a description of the surroundings
- (D) a piece of twig used by the bird in its performance

#### PASSAGE – 8

These days we hear a lot about science, but scientists, the men and women who do the work and make the discoveries, seem distant and strange to us. Science often appears to be very difficult and sometimes even magical. It is difficult of course, but we are wrong if we believe that we cannot understand it. The chief thing about the scientific method is that we get the answers to questions by making tests. The man, to take an example, who finds his bicycle tyre is flat will pump some air into it. Suppose, one hour later the tyre is flat again, if the man is wise, he will first test the valve in water. If he finds air is escaping from it he will put in a new piece of valve-rubber and then pump up the tyre. All should then be well again. This man is using a simple form of scientific method. If the man was very 'unscientific' he might say to himself that an evil spirit had caused the tyre to go flat.

1. If a man does not use the scientific approach, what will he attribute the flat tyre to ?

- (A) An evil spirit              (B) The rubber valve
- (C) The bicycle              (D) Magic

2. The antonym of believe is :

- (A) reveal                      (B) disbelieve
- (C) agree                      (D) deny

3. What is the common man's attitude towards scientists ?

- (A) They are wrong
- (B) They seem distant and strange
- (C) They are wise
- (D) They are difficult

4. If we use the scientific method how do we get answers to questions ?

- (A) By believing              (B) By example
- (C) By making tests        (D) By methods

5. What do people talk a lot about these days ?

- (A) Science                      (B) Magic
- (C) Men and women        (D) Work

#### PASSAGE – 9

A small band of biologists share a dream - to find species of sea or land animals hitherto completely unknown or to discover living examples of animals thought to have died out ages ago. Finds made in this century encourage these dreamers, whose field is aptly named cryptozoology-literally, the science of hidden animals.

Size and habitat are often responsible for an animal being overlooked. Not surprisingly, a bumblebee-size bat that lives in caves in Thailand eluded detection until 1973. But, larger animals in less remote sites have also remained hidden. Herds of a species of peccary supposedly extinct since the last ice age, for instance, were found in Paraguay in 1975.

Native people sometimes offer scientists useful clues. An unusual feather in a local's hat sparked the discovery of a showy African peacock in 1936, and accounts of giant lizards on the Indonesian island of Komodo proved not to be mere myth when naturalist P.A. Owens identified four of the creatures captured in 1912. As cryptozoologists follow such leads into lesser explored areas, they remain optimistic that it is not too late to uncover sensational surprises.

1. Giant lizards on the Indonesian island of Komodo were discovered in .....  
 (A) 1975 (B) 1936  
 (C) 1912 (D) 1973
2. It is the ..... of the cryptozoologists that keep their dream alive.  
 (A) spirit (B) findings  
 (C) love for adventure (D) curiosity
3. Myths refer to .....  
 (A) love stories  
 (B) historical stories  
 (C) legends  
 (D) traditional stories involving supernatural beings or events
4. A bumblebee-size bat that lives in caves in Thailand was discovered in .....  
 (A) 1973 (B) 1936  
 (C) 1912 (D) 1975
5. Herds of a species of peccary supposedly extinct since the last ice age were discovered in :  
 (A) 1936 (B) 1973  
 (C) 1975 (D) 1912
6. An unusual feather in a local's hat sparked the discovery of a showy African peacock in .....  
 (A) 1936 (B) 1973  
 (C) 1975 (D) 1912
7. .... still look forward to discovering sensational surprises.  
 (A) P.A. Owens  
 (B) The natives  
 (C) The naturalists  
 (D) The small band of biologists
8. Often the cryptozoologists get a lot of leads from .....  
 (A) native people  
 (B) the animal's size and habitat  
 (C) myths  
 (D) legends.

9. The dream of the cryptozoologist is to find .....

- (A) Species of sea or land animals hitherto completely unknown
- (B) All of the given options
- (C) Living examples of animals thought to have died out ages ago
- (D) Hidden, supposedly extinct animals

10. Often ..... responsible for an animal having been overlooked :

- (A) the uniqueness of the animals themselves is
- (B) the resigning nature of the scientists themselves is
- (C) size and habitat are
- (D) unexplored areas remain

### PASSAGE – 10

India is chiefly an agricultural land. The cultivation of crops depends on a proper supply of water throughout the year. Since old times, large parts of our country have suffered from occasional periods of too much rain and those of drought. People have known that if surplus flood water could be stored away for use during the dry season, these problems will be solved. Unfortunately, they had neither the knowledge nor the means to do much in this direction. Whatever little they knew, they tried to put into practice. They dug canals to drain water from perennial rivers. This was heavy and expensive work and practicable over only a small area. Large tanks were excavated and small dams built to hold back floods. But it was not possible to do anything on a countrywide scale.

1. 'Excavated' means :

- (A) to fill (B) to make caves
- (C) to dig (D) to flood

2. India's economy is chiefly :

- (A) socialistic (B) industrial
- (C) mixed (D) agricultural

3. Why were the people unable to solve the problem ?

- (A) Absence of will power
- (B) They were indifferent to the problem
- (C) They lacked knowledge and the means to solve the problem
- (D) Inadequate finance

4. The term 'perennial' means :

- (A) rivers flowing into canals
- (B) flowing once a year
- (C) flowing throughout the year
- (D) flowing during the monsoon

**5. How has our country suffered since olden times ?**

- (A) It has suffered due to the zamindari  
(B) It has suffered from heavy rains or severe droughts  
(C) It has suffered under the British Rule  
(D) It has suffered due to the caste system

### PASSAGE – 11

The recent change to all-volunteer armed forces in the United States will eventually produce a gradual increase in the proportion of women in the armed forces and in the variety of women's assignments, but probably not the dramatic gains for women that might have been expected. This is so thought that the armed forces operate in an ethos of institutional change oriented toward occupational equality and under the federal sanction of equal pay for equal work. The difficulty is that women are unlikely to be trained for any direct combat operations.

A significant portion of the larger society remains uncomfortable as yet with extending equality in this direction. Therefore, for women in the military, the search for equality will still be based on functional equivalence, not identity or even similarity of task. Opportunities seem certain to arise. The growing emphasis on deterrence is bound to offer increasing scope for women to become involved in novel types of non-combat military assignments.

1. According to the passage, despite the United States armed forces commitment to occupational equality for women in the military, certain other factors preclude women :

- (A) being assigned all of the military tasks that are assigned to men
- (B) drawing assignments from a wider range of assignments than before
- (C) having access to positions of responsibility
- (D) receiving equal pay for equal work

2. The ‘dramatic gains for women’ and change in the attitude of a ‘significant portion of the larger society’ are logically related to each other in as much as the author puts forward the latter as :

- (A) the major reason for absence of the former
- (B) a public response to achievement of the former
- (C) a reason for some of the former being lost again
- (D) a precondition for any prospect of achieving the former

3. It can be inferred from the passage that :

- (A) The change to all-volunteer armed forces took place many years ago
- (B) Opportunities for women in military are certain to decline
- (C) The government sanctions equal pay for equal work
- (D) The society encourages increased participation of women in direct combat

4. Which sentence is an incorrect one ?

- (A) The recent change to all voluntary armed forces in US will produce a gradual increase in the proportion of women
- (B) The difficulty is that women are likely to be trained for any direct combat operation
- (C) Opportunities seem certain to arise
- (D) The difficulty is that women are unlikely to be trained for any direct combat operation

5. The passage implies which of the following is a factor conducive to a more equitable representation of women in the United States armed forces than has existed in the past ?

- (A) The all-volunteer character of the present armed forces
- (B) The past service records of women who had assignments functionally equivalent to men's assignments.
- (C) The level of awareness on the part of the larger society of military issues
- (D) An increased decline in the proportion of deterrence oriented non combat assignments.

6. A suitable title for the passage might be :

- (A) Current status of women in US military  
(B) Current status of women in US navy  
(C) Current status of women in US airforce  
(D) Current status of women in US teaching service

7. Which of the following is closest in sense to the word 'novel' used in the passage ?

- (A) new                      (B) prosaic  
(C) dull                     (D) boring

8. It can be inferred from the passage that after the recent change :

- (A) Some join willingly, some are forced  
(B) Everyone joins the military under compulsion  
(C) Men are forced, women join willingly  
(D) Everyone joins the military willingly

9. The word 'opportunities' used in the passage may be replaced by all except
- (A) openings                      (B) failures  
(C) scope                          (D) prospects
10. The primary purpose of the passage is to :
- (A) present an overview of the different types of assignments available to women  
(B) analyze reforms in the new United States all-volunteer armed forces necessitated by the increasing number of women in the military  
(C) present the new United States all-volunteer armed forces as a model case of equal employment policies in action  
(D) present a reasoned prognosis of the status of women in the new United States all-volunteer armed forces

### PASSAGE – 12

Stop reading this passage for a few seconds and look around the room you're in. Without any perceived effort at all on your part, your brain will register everything within the scope of your vision. But where does all that information — known as sensory memory — go ? Well, pretty quickly, it vanishes.

So what if you want to hold on to these fleeting memories for longer ? The answer is obvious : you need to pay conscious attention to the sensory input you are receiving. By focusing on it, you can take the information to the next memory level, and turn it into working — or short-term — memory. This enables you, say, to remember the words you've just read so that what follows makes overall sense.

True to its name, short-term memory lasts for only a few seconds to a few minutes, but it plays a vital role in our daily lives, allowing us to write down doctor's appointment, make everyday decisions or have a conversation (think about it : you have to recall what someone said to you five seconds ago in order to respond). Of course, there is some information you need to keep for days, months or even years. What you need here is long-term memory. With this, the potential is there to remember something forever.

1. The information that your brain stores within a fleeting moment is called :
- (A) memory level                      (B) sensory memory  
(C) short-term memory                      (D) long-term memory
2. To convert a sensory memory into a short-term memory we must:
- (A) ignore a sensory input completely  
(B) focus on the information  
(C) concentrate on what we are looking at  
(D) be consciously attentive to sensory input

3. The information stored in your sensory memory generally:
- (A) stays with you forever  
(B) stays with you for a short while  
(C) disappears completely  
(D) lingers in your brain
4. Short-term memory allows us to :
- (A) remember events for many years  
(B) remember an event during childhood  
(C) remember simple things like appointments  
(D) remember plenty of dates and numbers
5. Long-term memory helps us :
- (A) forget unimportant things  
(B) remember a thing for a long time  
(C) forget things for a long time  
(D) erase short-term memory

### PASSAGE – 13

The Wright brothers did not have to look far for ideas when building their airplane; they studied birds. The act of copying from nature to address a design problem is not new but over the last decade the practice has moved from obscure scientific journals to the mainstream. The term 'biomimicry', popularized by American natural science writer Janine Benyus in the late 1990s, refers to innovations that take their inspiration from flora and fauna. Biomimicry advocates argue that with 3.8 billion years of research and development, evolution has already solved many of the challenges humans now encounter. Although we often see nature as something we mine for resources, biomimicry views nature as a mentor. From all around the globe, there are countless instances where natural sources have served as inspiration for inventions that promise to transform every sector of society. One such instance occurred in 1941 when Swiss engineer, George de Mestral was out hunting with his dog one day when he noticed sticky burrs, with their hundred tiny hooks, had attached themselves to his pants and his dog's fur. These were his inspiration for Velcro.

1. What has helped solve many of the challenges encountered by man ?
- (A) biomimicry                      (B) evolution  
(C) innovation                      (D) invention
2. The two instances of biomimicry mentioned in the passage are :
- (A) flora and fauna  
(B) birds and burrs  
(C) copying and innovating  
(D) airplane and Velcro

3. The airplane was inspired by :  
 (A) animals (B) plants  
 (C) birds (D) flies
4. Biomimicry refers to designs that :  
 (A) are inspired by natural things  
 (B) transformed society  
 (C) are based on scientific engineering  
 (D) arise out of man's creativity
5. Biomimicry views the natural world as a :  
 (A) mine for resources (B) mine field of ideas  
 (C) mentor (D) source of inspiration

#### PASSAGE – 14

The Critical Faculty is the most potent one in the human make-up. Its pervasiveness and force have not properly been recognized because like breathing, it is so much a part and parcel of human activity. The difference between a simpleton and an intelligent man, according to the man who is convinced that he is of the latter category, is that the former wholeheartedly accepts all things that he sees and hears while the latter never admits anything except after a most searching scrutiny. He imagines his intelligence to be a sieve of closely woven mesh through which nothing but the finest can pass.

The critical sense is essential for keeping social transactions in a warm state. Otherwise life would become very dull and goody-goody. The critical faculty is responsible for a lot of give and take in life. It increases our awareness of our surroundings; it sounds dignified no doubt, but it also seems to mean that we can watch someone else's back better than our own! We never know our own defects till they are pointed out to us, and even then we need not accept them. We always question the bonafides of the man who tells us unpleasant facts. On the surface it is all very well to say, 'I want an honest criticism; that will help me, not blind compliments.' I wish people would mean it.

1. The self-defined intelligent man defines himself on the basis of :  
 (A) his obvious divergence from the simpleton  
 (B) his superior intelligence as a whole  
 (C) his possession of the critical faculty  
 (D) his heightened awareness of his surroundings
2. The negative side of the critical faculty is that :  
 (A) it makes us critical of others  
 (B) it makes us critical of ourselves  
 (C) it sounds dignified but it is not actually so  
 (D) it is a tool for creating classificatory division

3. What, according to the writer, is the essential link between breathing and the critical faculty ?  
 (A) Both are required in social relations  
 (B) Both are exercised by human beings  
 (C) Both grow with age  
 (D) both stop with death
4. People who solicit others opinions (about themselves) generally want :  
 (A) effusive compliments  
 (B) honest criticism  
 (C) harsh facts  
 (D) precise feedback
5. The critical faculty is defined as the 'most potent one in human make-up' because :  
 (A) it is all pervasive and powerful  
 (B) it separates the simpleton from the intelligent man  
 (C) it is a help in social transactions  
 (D) All of the above

#### PASSAGE – 15

The world's largest living organism is not the blue whale-which still is the world's largest living animal-but Australia's Great Barrier Reef, one of the country's living animals and prime tourist attraction. Sadly, size notwithstanding, it is slowly succumbing to the killer 'white syndrome', a bleaching disease which has invaded 33 of its 48 reefs.

Otherwise brilliantly multicoloured and teeming with a kaleidoscope of life, the affected reefs have acquired a deathly white pallor, the result of dying tissues. The bleaching of the reef happened following the recording of the warmest ever sea water temperature in the area here. Scientists fear that the naturally gorgeous reef is endangered and the yet undiscovered animal and plant species would soon suffer irreplaceable damage. This is only because of the rising water temperature.

1. Scientists' main worry is that :  
 (A) there will be a fall in tourism with the reefs gone  
 (B) the bleaching will make the water warmer  
 (C) other endangered and undiscovered flora and fauna will also be damaged  
 (D) future research on 'white syndrome' will stop
2. The meaning of 'succumbing' is :  
 (A) giving way to an underground passage  
 (B) giving way to something powerful  
 (C) following order  
 (D) coming in the way of



3. Which of the following statements is not true ?

- (A) The great Barrier Reef is not the world's largest living mammal
- (B) The Blue whale is dying of 'white syndrome'
- (C) The 'white syndrome' is a new bleaching disease
- (D) The Great Barrier Reef is the world's largest living organism

4. 33 out of Australia's 48 reefs have succumbed to :

- (A) the impact of the Blue whale
- (B) the impact of tourism
- (C) the destructive impact of 'white syndrome'
- (D) the bleaching disease affecting the whales

5. The dying reefs acquired a :

- (A) brilliant and multicolour
- (B) kaleidoscopic hues
- (C) brilliant blue colour like the whale
- (D) sickly white pallor

#### PASSAGE – 16

International trade represents a significant share of Gross Domestic Product (G.D.P.) While international trade has been present throughout much of history, its economic, social and political importance has been on the rise in recent centuries.

Industrialization, advances in technology, transportation, globalization, multinational corporations, and outsourcing are all having a major impact on the international trade system. Increasing international trade is crucial to the continuance of globalization. International trade is, in principle, not different from domestic as the motivation and the behaviour of parties is same as across a border or not. The main difference between domestic and international trade is that factors of production such as capital and labour are typically more mobile within a country than across countries.

1. According to the author, increasing international trade :

- (A) brings about speedy industrialization
- (B) uplifts technology and transportation
- (C) is crucial to the continuance of globalization
- (D) encourages multinational corporations

2. Which of the following is one of the factors of production?

- (A) Capital                      (B) Cost
- (C) Profit                      (D) Loss

3. Which one of the following has a major impact on international trade ?

- (A) Contribution to GDP      (B) Industrialization
- (C) Outsourcing              (D) Domestic trade

4. What is the synonym of 'mobile' ?

- (A) Versatile                  (B) Moveable
- (C) Changeable              (D) Transferable

#### PASSAGE – 17

At low tide he walked over the sands to the headland and round the corner to the little bay facing the open sea. It was inaccessible by boat, because seams of rock jutted out and currents swirled round them treacherously. But you could walk there if you chose one of the lowest ebb tides that receded a very long way. You could not linger on the expedition, for once the tide was on the turn, it came in rapidly. For this reason very few people cared to explore the little bay, fresh and unlit, as it was completely covered by the sea at high tide. The cave looked mysteriously dark, cool and inviting, and he penetrated to the farthest corner where he discovered a wide crack, rather like a chimney. He peered up and thought he could see a patch of daylight.

1. It was not possible to 'linger on the expedition' because :

- (A) the tide turned sprightly
- (B) the tide turned at once
- (C) the water rose rapidly
- (D) the water rushed with great force

2. While passing through the cave, the writer discovered a :

- (A) large opening
- (B) chimney-shaped rock
- (C) cool and secluded corner
- (D) big crack through which light came in

3. One could visit the bay :

- (A) at any time one chose
- (B) when there was low tide
- (C) on certain occasions
- (D) during the evenings

4. He found the bay 'fresh and unlit' because :

- (A) the sea water had receded
- (B) he was the first visitor there
- (C) the high tide had just washed the litter away
- (D) it was not frequented by people

5. According to the writer, the bay could not be reached by boat because :

- (A) it had numerous number of rocks
- (B) there were too many ebbs
- (C) it was facing the open sea
- (D) there were seams of rock and treacherously swirling currents

# Answer with Explanation

## PASSAGE – 1

1. (D) affordable.
2. (B) emotional.
3. (B) does not affect.
4. (C) deals.
5. (A) was restricted.

## PASSAGE – 2

1. (B) Instructive.
2. (C) Identifying.
3. (B) It helps people to learn more and better.
4. (A) Active learning.
5. (A) Takes initiative with or without the help of others.

## PASSAGE – 3

1. (A) Latent.
2. (C) Gather knowledge.
3. (D) Buy time.
4. (C) Builds up anticipation.
5. (D) Non-communication.

## PASSAGE – 4

1. (C) Some Indians are rich and some are poor.
2. (C) and in pockets of.
3. (B) Still suffers.
4. (B) depends.
5. (D) continues at.

## PASSAGE – 5

1. (B) Selfknowledge.
2. (B) not copy others.
3. (C) be themselves.
4. (A) no definitive answer.
5. (C) satisfactorily answers.

## PASSAGE – 6

1. (B) the words of the opera.
2. (D) has originated in Europe.
3. (B) in opera lyrics are as important as the music.
4. (A) transmit.
5. (C) music in musical theatres is not as important as it is in opera.

## PASSAGE – 7

1. (A) the magnificent bird of paradise.
2. (A) to make best use of.

3. (A) bright and colourful.
4. (D) female birds.
5. (B) the bright, colourful feathers of the bird.

## PASSAGE – 8

1. (A) An evil spirit.
2. (B) disbelieve.
3. (B) They seem distant and strange.
4. (C) By making tests.
5. (A) Science.

## PASSAGE – 9

1. (C) 1912.
2. (B) findings.
3. (C) legends.
4. (A) 1973.
5. (C) 1975.
6. (A) 1936.
7. (D) The small band of biologists.
8. (A) native people.
9. (B) All of the given options.
10. (C) Size and habitat are.

## PASSAGE – 10

1. (C) to dig.
2. (C) agricultural.
3. (C) They lacked knowledge and the means to solve the problem.
4. (C) flowing throughout the year.
5. (B) It has suffered from heavy rains or severe droughts.

## PASSAGE – 11

1. (A) being assigned all the military tasks that are assigned to men.
2. (D) a pre-condition for any prospect of achieving the former.
3. (C) The government sanctions equal pay for equal work.
4. (B) The difficulty is that women are likely to be trained for any direct combat operation.
5. (A) The all-volunteer character of the present armed forces.
6. (A) Current status of women in US military.
7. (A) new.
8. (D) Everyone joins the military willingly.
9. (B) failures.
10. (D) Present a reasoned prognosis of the status of women in the new United States all-volunteer forces.

**PASSAGE – 12**

1. (B) Sensory memory.
2. (D) be consciously attentive to sensory input.
3. (C) disappears completely.
4. (C) remember simple things like appointments.
5. (B) remember a thing for a long time.

**PASSAGE – 13**

1. (B) evolution.
2. (D) airplane and Velcro.
3. (C) birds.
4. (A) are inspired by natural things.
5. (C) mentor.

**PASSAGE – 14**

1. (D) his heightened awareness of his surroundings.
2. (A) it makes us critical of others.
3. (B) Both are exercised by human beings.
4. (A) effusive compliments.
5. (D) All the above.

**PASSAGE – 15**

1. (C) other endangered and undiscovered flora and fauna will also be damaged.
2. (B) giving way to something powerful.
3. (B) The blue whale is dying of white syndrome.
4. (C) the destructive impact of white syndrome.
5. (D) sickly white pallor.

**PASSAGE – 16**

1. (C) is crucial to the continuance of globalization.
2. (A) capital.
3. (B) Industrialization.
4. (B) Moveable.

**PASSAGE – 17**

1. (A) the tide turned sprightly.
2. (D) big crack through which light came in.
3. (B) when there was low tide.
4. (C) the high tide had just washed the litter away.
5. (D) there were seams of rock and treacherously swirling currents.