

XAT 2022

Verbal Ability & Logical Reasoning

1. Which of the following sentences are grammatically CORRECT ?

1. Have you any clothes to dispose of?
2. I saw a pleasant dream last night.
3. I have done it many a times safely.
4. Students struggle to cope up with academic pressure.
5. You need not give negative feedback to your employees.
6. My friend is good at playing football.

A 4,5,6

B 1,5,6

C 2,3,4

D 3,4,5

E 1,2,3

2. Read the poem carefully, and answer the following question.

I smiled at you because I thought that you
Were someone else; you smiled back; and there
grew
Between two strangers in a library
Something that seems like love; but you loved
me

(If that's the word) because you thought that I
Was other than I was. And by and by
We found we'd been mistaken all the while
From that first glance, that first mistaken smile

Which of the following CANNOT be inferred from the poem?

A The idea of love is different for the parties involved.

B Love may start with small acts like glancing and smiling.

C We make mistakes in love.

D We don't fall in love with others but with ourselves.

E We fall in love with strangers.

3. Carefully read the following statement:

The moment we no longer have a free press, anything can happen. What makes it _____ for a totalitarian or any other dictatorship to rule is that _____ are not informed; how can you have an opinion if you are not informed? If everybody always lies to you, the _____ is not that you believe the lies, but rather that nobody believes anything any longer. This is because lies, by their very nature, have to be changed, and a lying government has _____ to rewrite its own history.

Which of the following options will BEST fill up the above blanks meaningfully?

B 3,4,5

C 3,4,6

D 2,3,4

E 1,3,6

7. Arrange the following sentences in a LOGICAL sequence:

1. But when it comes to companies that lack computer programmers, the government is far more sympathetic.
2. As a result, limited access to foreign talent is a common gripe of tech founders and venture capitalists.
3. And, demand for the latter has soared among British startups.
4. This is less inconsistent than it may seem.
5. An HGV driver takes between six and ten weeks to train; a competent coder several years.

A 3,4,2,1,5

B 1,4,5,3,2

C 3,5,1,2,4

D 1,2,5,3,4

E 3,5,4,2,1

8. Arrange the following sentences in a LOGICAL sequence:

1. In America, primary-age pupils are on average five months behind where they would usually be in maths, and four months in reading, according to McKinsey, a consultancy.
2. As a new school year gets under way in many countries, the harm caused by months of closure is becoming ever clearer.
3. The crisis will accelerate that trend.
4. The damage is almost certainly worse in places such as India and Mexico, where the disruption to schooling has been greater.
5. Even before pandemic, parents around the world were growing more willing to pay for extra lessons in the hope of boosting their children's education.

A 2,1,4,5,3

B 5,1,3,2,4

C 3,5,2,4,1

D 2,3,1,4,5

E 5,3,2,1,4

9. Read the passage carefully and answer the following question.

One theory of accidents is what experts call the Swiss Cheese model. A slab of swiss cheese has several holes, randomly and unevenly distributed over its surface. If several slabs are stacked together, it would be impossible for something to slip through unless all the holes happen to line up.

If even one slab doesn't align, the impending catastrophe will meet a layer of resistance, and the worst is averted. Aviation professionals will tell you that plane crashes never happen for a single reason. There may be an identifiable primary factor, but it's usually a chain of events, an array of circumstances neatly piling up. Which of the following statements can be BEST concluded from the passage?

A Averting catastrophe is actually easier than it seems

- B Any historically relevant event is an accident because it involves a chain of preceding events
- C Accidents cannot be averted since a chain of events have to be averted to avert accidents
- D A catastrophe can be averted if the preceding array of events meets resistance
- E Any disaster is a culmination of many events happening in a particular order

Instructions [10 - 12]

Read the passage carefully and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Comprehension:

Stupidity is a very specific cognitive failing. Crudely put, it occurs when you don't have the right conceptual tools for the job. The result is an inability to make sense of what is happening and a resulting tendency to force phenomena into crude, distorting pigeonholes.

This is easiest to introduce with a tragic case. British high command during the First World War frequently understood trench warfare using concepts and strategies from the cavalry battles of their youth. As one of Field Marshal Douglas Haig's subordinates later remarked, they thought of the trenches as 'mobile operations at the halt': i.e., as fluid battle lines with the simple caveat that nothing in fact budged for years. Unsurprisingly, this did not serve them well in formulating a strategy: they were hampered, beyond the shortage of material resources, by a kind of 'conceptual obsolescence', a failure to update their cognitive tools to fit the task in hand. In at least some cases, intelligence actively abets stupidity by allowing pernicious rationalisation.

Stupidity will often arise in cases like this, when an outdated conceptual framework is forced into service, mangling the user's grip on some new phenomenon. It is important to distinguish this from mere error. We make mistakes for all kinds of reasons. Stupidity is rather one specific and stubborn cause of error. Historically, philosophers have worried a great deal about the irrationality of not taking the available means to achieve goals: Tom wants to get fit, yet his running shoes are quietly gathering dust. The stock solution to Tom's quandary is simple willpower. Stupidity is very different from this. It is rather a lack of the necessary means, a lack of the necessary intellectual equipment. Combatting it will typically require not brute willpower but the construction of a new way of seeing our self and our world. Such stupidity is perfectly compatible with intelligence: Haig was by any standard a smart man.

10. Which of the following statements BEST summarizes the author's view on stupidity?

- A Comprehending a problem by applying our existing world view is stupidity
- B The inability to avoid forcing our current views on a new situation is stupidity
- C Pushing our extant solution to fix an alien problem is stupidity
- D The inability to comprehend what is happening around us is stupidity
- E The novelty of the problem, in relation to our cognitive capacity, is the cause of stupidity

11. Which of the following statements BEST explains why stupidity for a smart person is "perfectly compatible with intelligence"?

- A Intelligence is poorly defined, and is usually a perception, making it compatible with stupidity.
- B A new phenomenon creates fear, rushing intelligent people to explain it to put others at ease.
- C Past successes make us believe that we are intelligent and capable of explaining any new phenomenon.

D Intelligent people are scared to admit their lack of knowledge, and therefore, try to explain everything, including things they do not understand.

E Intelligence, when perceived through past successes, makes any rationalization of a new phenomenon

acceptable.

12. Based on the passage, which of the following can BEST help a leader avoid stupidity?

- A Be ready to discuss with everyone before taking a decision
- B Being aware that our current answers are only applicable to the current context
- C Being aware that we are short of the required resources
- D Be cautious in taking a decision until the future unfolds
- E Being aware that we must handle future with a different cognitive tool

13. Read the excerpt carefully and answer the following question.

The over-whelming preponderance of people have not freely decided what to believe, but, rather, have been socially conditioned (indoctrinated) into their beliefs. They are unreflective thinkers. Which of the following statements CANNOT be concluded from the excerpt?

- A A normal thinker finds it difficult to recognize what is happening to them
- B Beliefs that appear normal and natural heighten their acceptance
- C A lot of people end up believing what they passionately oppose
- D Things that we do automatically need to be reflected upon
- E The inability to criticize one's belief leads to indoctrination

Instructions [14 - 16]

Read the passage carefully and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Comprehension:

What bullshit essentially misrepresents is neither the state of affairs to which it refers nor the beliefs of the speaker concerning that state of affairs. Those are what lies misrepresent, by virtue of being false. Since bullshit need not be false, it differs from lies in its misrepresentational intent. The bullshitter may not deceive us, or even intend to do so, either about the facts or about what he takes the facts to be. What he does necessarily attempt to deceive us about is his enterprise. His only indispensably distinctive characteristic is that in a certain way he misrepresents what he is up to. This is the crux of the distinction between him and the liar. Both he and the liar represent themselves falsely as endeavoring to communicate the truth. The success of each depends upon deceiving us about that. But the fact about himself that the liar hides is that he is attempting to lead us away from a correct apprehension of reality; we are not to know that he wants us to believe something he supposes to be false. The fact about himself that the bullshitter hides, on the other hand, is that the truth-values of his statements are of no central interest to him; what we are not to understand is that his intention is neither to report the truth nor to conceal it. This does not mean that his speech is anarchically impulsive, but that the motive guiding and controlling it is unconcerned with how the things about which he speaks truly are. It is impossible for someone to lie unless he thinks he knows the truth. Producing bullshit requires no such conviction. A person who lies is thereby responding to the truth, and he is to that extent respectful of it. When an honest man speaks, he says only what he believes to be true; and for the liar, it is correspondingly indispensable that he considers his statements to be false.

14. Which of the following statements can be BEST inferred from the passage?

- A Both the liar and the bullshitter misrepresent the truth
- B Both the liar and the bullshitter intend to deceive in their own ways
- C Both the liar and the bullshitter are guided by the truth
- D Both the liar and the bullshitter live in their own worlds of realities
- E Both the liar and the bullshitter are not bound by any conviction

15. Why does the author say that the bullshitter's intention "is neither to report the truth nor to conceal it?"

- A Because bullshitters are not convinced about the truth
- B Because bullshitters know the truth
- C Because bullshitters do not like to deceive
- D Because bullshitters do not find the truth useful
- E Because bullshitters are respectful to the truth

16. When will a liar BEST turn into a bullshitter?

- A When a liar stops responding to the truth
- B When a liar stops worrying about the correct comprehension of reality
- C When a liar focusses only on the outcome and not on telling lies
- D When a liar lies to people about his intention
- E When a liar stops misrepresenting the state of affairs

Instructions [17 - 19]

Read the passage carefully and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Comprehension:

What does a good life look like to you? For some, the phrase may conjure up images of a close-knit family, a steady job, and a Victorian house at the end of a street arched with oak trees. Others may focus on the goal of making a difference in the world, whether by working as a nurse or teacher, volunteering, or pouring their energy into environmental activism. According to Aristotelean theory, the first kind of life would be classified as "hedonic"—one based on pleasure, comfort, stability, and strong social relationships. The second is "eudaimonic," primarily concerned with the sense of purpose and fulfillment one gets by contributing to the greater good. The ancient Greek philosopher outlined these ideas in his treatise *Nicomachean Ethics*, and the psychological sciences have pretty much stuck with them ever since when discussing the possibilities of what people might want out of their time on Earth. But a new paper, published in the *American Psychological Association's Psychological Review*, suggests there's another way to live a good life. It isn't focused on happiness or purpose, but rather it's a life that's "psychologically rich."

What is a psychologically rich life? According to authors Shige Oishi, a professor of psychology at the University of Virginia, and Erin Westgate, an assistant professor of psychology at the University of Florida, it's one characterized by "interesting experiences in which novelty and/or complexity are accompanied by profound changes in perspective." Studying abroad, for example, is one way that college students often introduce psychological richness into their lives. As they learn more about a new country's customs and history, they're often prompted to reconsider the social mores of their own cultures. Deciding to embark on a different cultural new career path or immersing one's self in avant-garde art (the paper gives a specific shout-out to James Joyce's *Ulysses*) also could make a person feel as if their life is more psychologically rich.

Crucially, an experience doesn't have to be fun in order to qualify as psychologically enriching. It might even be a hardship. Living through war or a natural disaster might make it hard to feel as though you're living a particularly happy or purposeful life, but you can still come out of the experience with psychological richness. Or you might encounter less dramatic but nonetheless painful events: infertility, chronic illness, unemployment. Regardless of the specifics, you may experience suffering but still find value in how your experience shapes your understanding of yourself and the world around you.

17. Which of the following statements BEST contrasts Hedonic from Eudaimonic?

- A Hedonic focuses on the emptiness from seeking pleasure, while Eudaimonic focuses on the fulfillment by giving pleasure to others

Hedonic focuses on what gives pleasure to self, while Eudaimonic focuses on what he/she believes

B benefits the society

Hedonic believes that pleasure leads to fulfillment while Eudaimonic believes that fulfillment leads to

C pleasure

D Hedonic believes in seeking pleasure while Eudaimonic focuses on depriving oneself of pleasure

E Hedonic focuses on pleasure to self while Eudaimonic focuses on pleasure to the other

18. Which of the following statements BEST defines a “psychologically rich life”?

A A life that offers interesting experiences that makes you question what life is

B Any novel experience that affects us cognitively makes us psychologically rich

C A life that is filled with learning opportunities that makes us an expert in a particular area

D A life that is filled with novel experiences which changes our view of what a good life is

E A life where novel experiences result in a fundamental change to our existing views

19. Which of the following statements can be BEST concluded from the passage?

A A psychologically rich life is a good life.

B A bad experience can enrich someone psychologically.

C An unpleasant experience can enable a good life.

D A good life should not be seen in binary terms.

E Life need not be good, but can still be psychologically rich.

Instructions [20 - 22]

Read the passage carefully and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Comprehension:

What Arendt does for us is to remind us that our “publicness” is as important to our flourishing as our sociability and our privacy. She draws a distinction between what it means to act “socially” and what it means to act “politically.” The social realm for Arendt is both the context where all our basic survival needs “are permitted to appear in public” and also the realm of “behaviour.” One of the things she fears about modern societies is that society - focused on how we behave and what we will permit for ourselves and others becomes the realm of conformism. This is worrying not just because we don’t really get vibrant societies out of conformism and sameness, but also, Arendt says because there is a risk that we think this is all there is to our living together. We lose ourselves in the tasks of managing behaviour and forget that our true public task is to act, and to distinguish ourselves in doing so. The risk, says Arendt, is therefore that we confuse behaviour with action, that in modern liberal societies “behaviour replaces action as the foremost mode of human relationship.” This confusion can happen in any area of our modern lives and institutions, secular or faith-based. None is immune.

Arendt wants to drive home the point that the healthy public life requires that we do not just see ourselves as social actors but also as fully public persons, committed to judging and acting as members of a common world we want to inhabit and pass on. Arendt tells us that public action is action in which we stand out, are individuated, become in some way excellent in a manner that is of service to others and a greater good. This is the space where we take risks, subject our common life to scrutiny, seek justice (that sometimes requires us to transgress what seem like accepted laws) in order to be increasingly open to the claims and needs of other humans - ones who are not our household and our kin.

20. According to the passage, who can be BEST categorised as a “public person”?

- A An NGO employee who was tasked to lead a campaign against tribal land acquisition.
- B A wildlife photographer who highlighted the plight of poverty-stricken migrants by posting their pictures.
- C An online fraud victim who ran a campaign against online fraudsters.
- D A parent who organized protests against the random fee hike by a local school.
- E A local politician who led RTI applications to unearth nancial scams by a village panchayat.

21. Based on the passage, which of the following options BEST describes “public action”?

- A Acting based on our core beliefs while being mindful of what society thinks
- B Acting for a just cause regardless of what society thinks about it
- C Acting in a way that is perceived to be anti-social
- D Acting based on our conviction regardless of what society thinks
- E Acting in a way that is seen as acceptable to the society

22. Which of the following is the BEST reason for focusing on behaviour instead of acting in public?

- A We are dependent on each other, leading to focus on what is accepted by others
- B Our fear of being called out on our imperfect thoughts leads us to behave
- C Our focus is to survive and not to ourish
- D To survive is not to distinguish ourselves from others
- E The foundation of any vibrant society is based on cooperation and not confrontation

Instructions [23 - 24]

Read the poem carefully, and answer the TWO questions that follow.

Comprehension:

It hurts to walk on new legs:

The curse of consonants. The wobble of vowels.

And you for whom I gave up a kingdom

Can never love that thing I was.

When you look into my past

You see

Only weeds and scales.

Once I had a voice.

Now I have legs.

Sometimes I wonder

Was it a fair trade?

23. Which of the following statements BEST reflects the theme of the poem?

- A** Our concern for loss is more than what we gain.
- B** Our quest for love is accompanied with pain.
- C** Our loss of identity is irreparable.
- D** As the future unfolds, our distant past looks pleasant.
- E** Nostalgic recollection undermines materialistic gains.

24. What does the author BEST mean by “Once I had a voice. /Now I have legs?”

- A** The poet is contemplative of his/her identity
- B** The poet has lost his/her speech
- C** The poet puts less value on the new world
- D** The poet’s actions speak louder than his/her words now
- E** The poet is indecisive about choosing between the two worlds

25. Which of the following conditional sentences are grammatically INCORRECT?

1. If Sandhya had started from the hotel on time, she would have not missed the flight.
2. The students wouldn’t have completed their assignment even if the professor would have been there.
3. I had travelled across Europe if I weren’t afraid of airplane crashes.
4. Saurav won’t join music classes unless his father will ask him.
5. Should you wish to join the party, you must let me know by this evening.
6. We would be stupid if we shared our strategy with her.

- A** 4,5,6
- B** 1,5,6
- C** 2,3,4
- D** 3,4,5
- E** 1,2,3

26. Read the passage carefully and answer the following question.

Labouring is simply what we do to survive. We labour to eat. To keep our bodies healthy. To keep roof over our heads, and to keep life reproducing. All animals labour, with or without coaxing.... There’s nothing special about labour, save for the fact that without it we would die.

Work, on the other hand, gives collective meaning to what we do. When we work to produce something we both put something into and leave something lasting in the world: a table, a house, a book, a car, a rug, a high precision piece of engineering with which we can order the days into time, or keep a body breathing. Which of the following statements can be BEST concluded from the passage?

- A Labour enables us to survive while work makes survival meaningful
- B Doing what is asked of a role is labour, while going beyond the role is work
- C Unacknowledged work is labour, while acknowledgement makes it work
- D To be healthy needs labour, while making others healthy is work
- E Terrace gardening is labour, while producing a vaccine is work

Decision Making

Instructions [27 - 29]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Comprehension:

Raghubir, a reputed doctor, practices medicine in a tier-three city. He owns an imported SUV which he bought 10 years ago, using his hard-earned savings of nearly 5 years. Initially, he used to take it for long rides, but for the last 6-7 years, he only commutes to his clinic, a 10-minute drive from his home.

The SUV has been his proud possession but it demands high maintenance. Also, the diesel-guzzling SUV does not comply with the new emission norms being introduced in the tier-one and tier-two cities. Of late, a few newspapers reported that the new emission norms may be introduced in tier-three cities as well. This news has worried Raghubir.

27. Raghubir is afraid that once the new emission norms are rolled out, he might not be able to use his SUV anymore. Which of the following options will BEST put Raghubir at ease with using his SUV for some more time?

- A His mechanic assures him that the new norms will not be introduced anytime soon
- B His lawyer friends in his city recently bought non-compliant SUVs from tier-two cities
- C His city has many other SUVs which are as old as his
- D As a sought-after doctor, all the law enforcement officials are his patients
- E Non-compliant SUVs are still plying in tier-two cities

28. Anya, Raghubir's daughter, works in a metro city. She is concerned about private transport emissions and is unhappy with her father's diesel-guzzling SUV. Though she wants her father to be more environmentally responsible, she is aware that any drastic suggestion might attract strong resistance. Hence, she wants a solution, acceptable to Raghubir, that gently dissuades him from using his SUV on a daily basis.

Which of the following actions by Anya will BEST dissuade Raghubir from using his SUV on a daily basis?

- A Request Raghubir to use public transport for his daily commute, and use the SUV sparingly
- B Ask his mechanic to explore if the SUV can be retrofitted with a CNG kit
- C Take away Raghubir's SUV to the metro city and gift him a new SUV
- D Gift Raghubir a small petrol car and convince him to sell his SUV
- E Ask Raghubir's secretary to ferry him to the clinic daily in her car, except for the weekends

29. The new emission norms are about to get implemented in tier-three cities, and Raghubir's city will follow suit shortly. Hence, Raghubir starts exploring options of buying an electric vehicle (EV). He lists the following factors that will guide him on buying an electric car:

- P. EVs within Raghubir's budget can cover his daily commute, but not the long rides.
- Q. A new electric SUV in the market, within his budget, nearly has the same look and feel of his present SUV.
- R. EVs cannot be driven beyond a speed of 70 kmph.
- S. New charging stations on the main highway, connecting his city to the closest metro city, may come up in another year.
- T. The only shop, selling EVs in his city, is ready to trade in Raghubir's SUV at a reasonable price.

The above listed factors have been arranged in a DECREASING order of importance in the options given below. Which of the following options will BEST help Raghubir buy an electric vehicle immediately?

- A TQRPS
- B QRTPS
- C QTPSR D TQRSP
- E SPTQR

Instructions [30 - 32]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Comprehension:

Future Leaders is one of the most prestigious private schools in a small town, next to an industrial hub. Most of its students come from affluent families, but there are some who belong to middle-income and lower-middle income families as well. The school charges an annual fee of ₹2 lakhs, inclusive of all charges, payable at the beginning of the academic year. Roughly 20% of the fees collected goes into paying the salaries of the teachers, another 30% for the upkeep of the school, and roughly 20% for miscellaneous expenses in running day-to-day businesses like supply, cleaning etc. The remaining goes into an exigency corpus.

This year, like the rest of the country, the town has been hit by the coronavirus pandemic. The classes have been shifted online. The local authorities have mandated that all schools have to reduce their fees by 20%. Further, parents should be given extended time to pay the fees if they are in financial distress. Six months into the academic year, only 40% of the parents have paid even the reduced annual fees.

30. Ajay Biswas, the rector of the school, is alarmed by the shortfall in fee payments and wants to find the best solution to manage the situation. He does not want to trouble parents who might be genuinely in financial distress, but feels that there may be a possibility that many parents are taking advantage of the situation. Which of the following actions by the school will BEST make financially capable parents pay the fees?

- A Call parents every three days, requesting them to pay the fees and help their school out
 - B Share through local newspapers that the school is facing financial crunch and may have to close down if parents don't pay fees
 - C Offer 10% and 5% discounts to parents paying fees within the next one week and two weeks respectively
 - D Give a 10% bonus marks to all those students who have paid the fees
 - E Ask parents to submit a proof of financial distress within two weeks, failing which can bar their wards from attending classes
- The board of trustees of the school is concerned about the current financial situation and has called Biswas for a meeting. The trustees have thought of the following actions, as listed below, to improve the school finances immediately:

- P. Appeal to the local industrialists to donate to the school
- Q. Withhold 20% of teachers' salary till the situation improves
- R. Ask parents to pay up within a week or show a proof of financial distress
- S. Stop online classes for a week to signal the desperate financial crunch

T. Start an extra section in every class and offer admission to whoever is willing to pay fees. Biswas is tasked to find the most feasible way of alleviating the financial crunch immediately.

Which of the following combinations of the above-listed actions, in a DECREASING order of preference, will BEST help Biswas in achieving his goal?

- B PRSQT
- C TSRPQ C QRSPT
- D PSTRQ
- E RSQTP

31. Teachers of Future Leaders contribute to its stellar reputation. Moreover, they assist the school in arriving at several critical decisions. Biswas resents their involvement in school matters as he has to listen to their collective voice rather than the other way around.

Biswas feels that the current situation offers him an opportunity to get back at the teachers. He wants to discuss the possibility of reducing teachers' salaries by 20% with the board of trustees.

Which of the following, if true, will BEST enable Biswas to present his case for reducing teachers' salaries?

A Two other well-known private schools in the city, struggling to survive, have resorted to a pay cut

B Future Leaders pays higher salaries to its teachers in comparison to the other schools in the city.

Most of the teachers are alumni of the school, and hence, should be asked to give back to the school

C through a pay cut

D 30% of the most experienced teachers may resign if there is a pay cut

E Teachers' salaries are a significant part of the school's operating cost

Instructions [33 - 35]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Comprehension:

Fundamental Research in Science for Corporate Applications (FuRSCA) is an R&D unit of a Public Sector Undertaking (PSU). FuRSCA's employees are research scientists who assist the Public Sector Undertaking through their R&D. Given the far-reaching implications of its research, FuRSCA was established as a separate entity near the factory of the PSU. FuRSCA has three levels of hierarchy viz.: junior, senior and chief scientists and all of them reside on the campus. Hence, every scientist, regardless of hierarchy, resides in a house that is similar in all aspects. Though the scientists are entitled to a house rent allowance (HRA), given the distance of FuRSCA from the city, housing them on the campus makes sense.

The new recruits are provided a transit accommodation in the institute's studio apartments, until vacant houses are available. For these recruits, a queue has been created on the basis of their date of joining and not on hierarchy, with the most recent recruit going to the last in the queue. Execution of this policy is the responsibility of the FuRSCA

Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), who reports to the Director of FuRSCA.

33. Harsh Kohli resides in house no. 324. Since long, Harsh wants to move from a 3 series house to a 2 series house because his mother-in-law, a chief scientist, lives alone in house no. 225. A few years back, Harsh formally requested the CAO to allow him to move to a 2 series house whenever available. Recently, when house no. 224 becomes vacant, Harsh appeals to the CAO for that house, citing his earlier request. Currently, there are five scientists waiting in the queue and Sauf Tangud is on the top of the queue.

From the following options, choose the BEST action to be taken by the CAO without violating the existing housing policy.

A Allot house no. 224 to Sauf, asking Harsh to negotiate a possible swap with Sauf

B Ask Harsh to join the queue because scientists in the queue should be given priority

- C Ignore Harsh's request since it violates the housing policy
- D Ask Harsh to move to the house no. 224 immediately, and allocate Harsh's house to Sauf
- E Create a separate queue for extant residents and give them the first right to refuse

34. Rawng Regrud joins FuRSCA recently and is placed third in the housing queue. He has been temporarily housed in a studio apartment. Given that the studio apartment is too small, he requests his sister to take care of their ailing parents while he awaits a regular house allotment. As months pass, his sister finds it difficult to accommodate her parents along with her in-laws. She requests Rawng to accommodate them with his family. Since he is third in the queue, he may not get a house allotted in the near future. He approaches the CAO with a request to be moved up the queue on humanitarian grounds.

Which of the following responses by the CAO shall be perceived as the MOST appropriate by all the stakeholders?

- A Ask Rawng to meet with the director of FuRSCA and present his case to get an exception
 - Ask Rawng to negotiate and arrive at a consensus with the two scientists ahead in the queue which the CAO shall implement
- B CAO shall implement
- C Inform Rawng that nothing can be done since violation of rules will set a wrong precedence
- D Facilitate Rawng in getting a house in the city, along with a free commutation for the first three months
 - Move Rawng to the top of the queue, and make a rule that scientists with ailing parents shall be given preference
- E preference

35. Of late, the CAO has received several requests from the residents of 3 series houses to move to other series houses. The CAO is aware that this is largely because of their own noisy factory nearby. Due to limited housing available on the campus, he must do something before the problem worsens. He wants to find a solution that makes the lives of 3 series residents more comfortable.

Which of the following actions can BEST help the CAO in achieving his goal?

- A Provide 3 series residents with a hardship allowance of 15% of basic salary
- B Offer a higher HRA to 3 series residents, nudging them to move to the city
- C Introduce a policy of accelerated promotion for junior scientists living in 3 series quarters
- D Appeal to the top management to make the factory work for only five days a week
- E Install expensive sound proof windows in the 3 series quarters

Instructions [36 - 38]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Comprehension:

Korkai is a serene village, nestled in a small island, separated from the mainland by a strait—the world forgot to name. Its inhabitants are mostly shermen; a few are cattle-grazers too. A boat ride across the strait is the only mode of transport to the mainland. Budugu, the boatman, ferries people, cattle, and bicycles across the strait in his boat for a living. The remoteness and the lack of connection to the mainland has served him well. He has a family of five. His two daughters are away studying in a city college and dream of corporate jobs in the cities. His ailing mother and wife complete his family. Budugu sent his daughters to study in the city as there is only one school in Korkai, run by an NGO. The NGO prepares the village kids for higher studies. For those who cannot go to cities, the NGO teaches them about the virtues of the local way of life. Budugu is a member of the village Panchayat that runs the village administration. At Korkai, hardly anyone

remembers the local MLA or MP. Interestingly, the local MLA visited last week, and informed the islanders of major changes planned for the region: urgent construction of a bridge connecting the island to the mainland, and real estate development. She announced that the island will become a well-known eco-tourism destination in the state. She stressed that the local livelihood, dependent on fortunes at the sea, might enjoy the certainty in minimum wages, meted out by the eco-resort owners. Nevertheless, some villagers fear that the bridge will irreversibly change their lives and livelihoods.

- 36.** Budugu fears that the proposed bridge will leave him jobless, and is determined to do something about it. He wants to gather effective support in order to get the construction of the proposed bridge delayed. Which of the following will be the MOST feasible option for Budugu to gather effective support?
- A** Form a boat rowers' association and sit on a hunger strike to protest the proposed bridge
 - B** Inform the environmental experts in the nearby cities that the strait is home to rare sh, frogs and turtles
 - C** Suspend his boat services till the villagers start supporting his cause
 - D** Partner with the local NGO and campaign that the developments will ruin the local way of life
 - E** Get a resolution passed by the Panchayat that the bridge will ruin the local way of life
- 37.** The local MLA is worried about the resistance to the project. This project, like her other successful projects in nearby villages, was supposed to garner a significant amount of funding. Moreover, it would make her the face of development in the state; perhaps, even would land her a ministerial berth. However, Budugu's activism has cast the project in a bad light among the popular minds. The MLA wants to protect her prodevelopment image. Which of the following is the BEST course of action for the MLA?
- A** Create a fishermen and boat rowers' cooperative in the island and donate generously to it
 - B** Invite the village Panchayat for a discussion on a possible compromise solution
 - C** Appoint a task force to find alternative land nearby for the project
 - D** Discredit Budugu in a public meeting by announcing that he is putting his interests over and above the village development
 - E** Publicise widely that the project will improve the socio-economic condition of the island
- 38.** As the project gets delayed, Budugu becomes a well-known social activist with a lot of followers. When Pragati, his elder daughter, wishes her education and starts looking for employment, a few known corporates refuse her a job because of her father's "anti-development" stand. Which of the following options BEST communicates to the corporates that Pragati has an identity of her own?
- A** Start a blog and update it regularly with views on current affairs
 - B** Discuss in a social media post why she supports the proposed development in her island village
 - C** Showcase on social media the accolades and awards she received in her college
 - D** Stop using her last name in her job applications
 - E** Go all out on social media to explain how her father's activism is misconstrued by certain corporates

Instructions [39 - 41]

Read the following scenario and answer the THREE questions that follow.

Comprehension:

Dileep Dosan sells dosas in front of an upscale hospital at a city in Punjab. He only sells two varieties of dosas: plain for ₹25 and masala for ₹40.

His dosa stall is popular amongst the hospital staff members, who mostly hail from South India and form his core clientele. They frequently visit his stall during office hours as they find his dosas to be reasonably priced. Though the hospital staff members can visit the upscale food court on the top floor of the hospital, they prefer his stall for breakfast and lunch, and even for occasional evening snacks. His daily sale volume varies between 300 and 400 dosas, in which the demand for masala dosas is around 50-60%.

39. One day, Dileep, while walking through the hospital food court, sees a vacant spot. He wonders if he can shift his stall to that spot.

Which of the following information will dissuade him the MOST from shifting his stall to the food court?

- A** The food court closes by 10:30 pm, though his current stall is open till midnight.
- B** The food court has no other stall selling dosas.
- C** The food court sees a daily foot fall of about 5000 people.
- D** All the restaurants in the food court, except the fast-food stalls, sell North Indian meal during lunch time.
- E** On enquiry, he learnt that the cheapest dish in the food court is priced at ₹200.

40. Dileep shifts his stall to the hospital food court. He prices his plain dosa at ₹40 and masala dosa at ₹60. However, two months on, he is serving only about 150 dosas per day. The clientele is mostly the same hospital staff members, who had been his customers before he moved to the food court. Which of the following actions will BEST help Dileep in increasing his sales?

- A** Reduce price by 20% for hospital staff, and increase the price by 50% for others
 - Introduce a South Indian meal, exclusively for the hospital staff members at a discounted rate of ₹40 per plate
- B** Introduce a South Indian meal, exclusively for the hospital staff members at a discounted rate of ₹40 per plate
- C** Increase prices of all the food items by 50% and introduce a new Shezwan dosa at ₹200 a plate
- D** Add more varieties of dosas at higher price points, and reduce plain and masala dosa prices to ₹25 and ₹40 respectively
- E** Introduce a North Indian meal, and give a discount of 20% to the hospital staff members

41. On the first anniversary of his stall at the food court, Dileep reviews his customer base. Almost all of his customers are the hospital staff members. Though he wishes to serve the general visitors at the hospital, they avoid his stall. On enquiring, he discovers that visitors generally avoid his stall because it is majorly frequented by the hospital staff members, giving it a feel of a staff canteen.

Dileep realizes his best efforts have not given him any extra sales and the visitors can potentially increase his revenue by a considerable amount.

Which of the following options can BEST help Dileep in discouraging hospital staff members from visiting his stall while increasing his overall revenue?

- A** Charge the hospital staff members a premium to offset the losses due to their presence
- B** Request the hospital management to prohibit hospital staff from entering the food court
- C** Introduce a massive discount on price for the next two months to increase the footfall
 - Appeal to the hospital management to give a space in the staff room where an exclusive dosa counter
- D** Introduce a massive discount on price for the next two months to increase the footfall