

English Language

50 MOST IMPORTANT QUESTIONS FOR IBPS PO 2018

Directions (1 to 5): In each of the following questions given below there are two blanks, each blank indicates that something has been omitted. Choose the set of words for each blank which best fits to the meaning of the sentence as a whole.

1. There has been a divergence _____ the bank's disclosed non-performing assets (NPAs) for fiscal year 2015-16 and the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) assessment, _____ to under-provisioning.

- (A) Over, optimum
- (B) During, unremarkable
- (C) Among, unrivaled
- (D) Between, leading
- (E) Of, incomparable

2. As a _____ regulator, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has taken strong corrective steps and what we have are well-regulated, completely dematerialized and smooth functioning capital markets, which _____ confidence.

- (A) Fanatical, dissuade
- (B) Passive, impel
- (C) Proactive, inspire
- (D) Vigorous, instigate
- (E) Effective, enervate

3. As any business strategy professor will tell you, when customers _____ the products to be similar, price (in this case discounts) _____ the key differentiator.

- (A) Descry, sets
- (B) Acknowledge, receives
- (C) Appreciate gives
- (D) Perceive, becomes
- (E) Understand, remains

4. The official said daily price change will _____ the big leaps in rates that need to be effected at the end of the fortnight, making the consumer more _____ to market dynamics.

- (A) Remove, aligned
- (B) Blemish, supportive
- (C) Transfer, coarse
- (D) Fasten, organized
- (E) Withdraw, askew

5. The apex court has created room for a national debate on personal law cutting across religions focusing on the _____ gender bias they propagate, sending a clear message for politicians to rise above their _____ positions.

- (A) Expected, objective
- (B) Fortuitous, adherent
- (C) Certain, neutral

- (D) Necessary, adversary
(E) Inevitable, partisan

Directions (6 to 10): In the following passage, some of the words have been left out, each of which is indicated by a number. Find the suitable word from the options given against each number and fill up the blanks with appropriate words to make the paragraph meaningfully complete.

The number of influenza A (H1N1) virus cases and deaths (6) _____ from across India this year has already crossed 19,000 and 900, respectively. These are lower than the 2015 toll of 32,000 cases and 2,000 deaths, but the revived spread is __ (7) _____. In the last month or so there has been a (8) _____ increase in the number of cases and deaths — over 6,000 and 300. Gujarat is the worst (9) _____, with about 250 deaths recorded so far: Rajasthan, Punjab and Maharashtra and Delhi too have been badly hit. The number of H1N1 cases in the southern States is also high (10) _____ to last year, with Tamil Nadu reporting nearly 3,000 cases about a month ago.

6.
(A) Circulated (B) Reported
(C) Registered (D) Regarded
(E) Considered
7.
(A) Depressing (B) Shocking
(C) Striking (D) Alarming
(E) Oppressing
8.
(A) Explicit (B) Sharp
(C) Strict (D) Narrow
(E) Specific

9.
(A) Reflected (B) Immunized
(C) Sensitized (D) Implicated
(E) Affected

10.
(A) Resembled (B) Compared
(C) Matched (D) Approached
(E) Specified

Directions (11 to 15): In the following question four sentences are given. Identify the sentence that is incorrect in terms of grammar. If all the sentences are correct then choose option (E) as your answer.

11.
(A) I am looking forward to making my findings useful to the community in the field of medicine.
(B) But what if computing power rose on a mind-boggling scale in a short period of time?
(C) The zeal with which researchers are developing quantum computers could change cryptography as we know it.
(D) I had only looked upon Deeksha, the grand-daughter of Kailas, as somewhat worthless commodity in the marriage market.
(E) All are correct
12.
(A) The two poles of the sphere represent the states one and zero.
(B) His face beamed over with pride as he related all manner of praises which he had been good enough to utter.
(C) To better understand this, consider the case of a coin flipped in the air.
(D) The website or entity, with which you want to transact, generates a public key, which is an extremely large number.

(E) All are correct

13.

(A) He saw them as vehicles to transport and truly immerse people into a story.

(B) Focus on building new, different content that sets you apart from the rest.

(C) YouTube does provide an option to control ads based on sensitive categories.

(D) Now, I earn enough to buy myself a Tata Nano every month.

(E) All are correct

14.

(A) But I realised that I needed to get serious about video and audio quality for the kind of audience I was trying to attract.

(B) YouTube monetisation isn't a very complicated process.

(C) It is believed that an average Indian earns much to maintain an honourable life.

(D) It took two unsuccessful years for me to reach this third successful year.

(E) All are correct

15.

(A) Monetising gives financial stability and added investment in future content, which in turn improves the quality of the channel as a whole?

(B) Google does not ask you to produce any specific kind of videos.

(C) It's not as easy as everyone thinks, but if you enjoy what you are doing you don't feel its work.

(D) The rival countries fretted and fumed before the war finally broke out.

(E) All are correct

Directions (16 to 20): Rearrange the following FIVE sentences in the proper sequence to form a meaningful paragraph; then answer the following questions

A. The Centre has been supportive of higher returns through the Minimum Support Price mechanism and additional bonuses have been announced by States such as Madhya Pradesh for procurement, but these have helped mainly rice and wheat.

B. The forecast of a normal monsoon has brought relief all around.

C. From a water management perspective, though, this trend has led to a skew towards these crops, which are heavily dependent on groundwater.

D. For farmers, the India Meteorological Department's estimate that rainfall during the summer, between June and September, will be 97% of the 50-year average of 89 cm, is bound to raise fresh expectations.

E. This is the third year in a row that they can look forward to a high output for a variety of crops, although fiscal realities have come in the way of realising higher farm incomes.

16. Which of the following is the **LAST** sentence after rearrangement?

(A) A (B) B (C) C (D) E (E) F

17. Which of the following is the **SECOND** sentence after rearrangement?

(A) B (B) A (C) D (D) G (E) F

18. Which of the following is the **FIRST** sentence after rearrangement?

(A) A (B) B (C) C (D) D (E) E

19. Which of the following is the **FOURTH** sentence after rearrangement?

(A) A (B) B (C) C (D) D (E) F

20. Which of the following is the **THIRD** sentence after rearrangement?

(A) A (B) B (C) C (D) D (E) E

Directions (21 to 25): In the Questions given below, there are two statements; each statement consists of a blank. You have to choose the option which provides the correct set of words that fits in the blanks in both the statements appropriately making them meaningful and grammatically correct.

21.

I. It is an/a _____ venture to serve one's country in the armed forces.

II. His literary and scientific reputation speedily brought him _____ recognition.

- (A) Honourable (B) Persistence
(C) Boring (D) Jocular
(E) None of these

22.

I. A _____ of his stature should not shy away from social criticism.

II. He is one of the greatest _____ India has ever produced.

- (A) Vacuum (B) Novelist
(C) Processing (D) Keys
(E) None of these

23.

I. The first time someone _____ candy for me was when I was six years old.

II. I _____ a new mobile phone.

- (A) Bring (B) Forth
(C) Suffer (D) Bought
(E) None of these

24.

I. I do not come from a _____ family.

II. We are greatly _____ that we have the Union minister among us today.

- (A) Generic (B) Books
(C) Possibility (D) Privileged
(E) None of these

25.

I. I _____ my seer into an eternity called oblivion.

II. The men ran in but the leopard _____ them into the house.

- (A) Followed (B) Pretension
(C) Magnanimous (D) Sought
(E) None of these

Directions (26 to 27): In each of the questions given below a sentence is given in which some parts are given in bold which are grammatically correct. The other three parts of the sentence may or may not be grammatically correct. The sentence is then followed by three alternatives for the parts of the sentence which is not given in bold which may replace the incorrect portion. Choose the alternative(s) which will replace the incorrect part in the sentence to make it grammatically and contextually correct.

26. India's supreme court has banned the sale of fireworks (a) / in Delhi during the upcoming Diwali festival (b) / in hopes to prevent the spike in toxic air pollution levels (c) / **that left the city sheeted in toxic smog** (d) / forcing the closure of schools, power stations and construction sites last year. (e) (I) In Delhi within the upcoming Diwali festival

(II) In hopes of prevent the spike in toxic air pollution levels

(III) Forcing the closure with schools, power stations and construction sites last year

- (A) Only (I) (B) Only (II)
(C) Both (I)&(II) (D) Only (III)
(E) All of the above

27. The Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy has asked the Catalan government to clarify (a) / whether it had declared independence (b) / **as he considers the unprecedented step** (c) / of suspending the

region's autonomy (d) / **and imposing direct rule from Madrid.** (e)

(I) The Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy had asked the Catalan government to clarify

(II) Whether it has declared independence

(III) With suspending the region's autonomy

(A) Only (I) (B) Only (II)

(C) Both (I) & (II) (D) Only (III)

(E) All of the above

Directions (28 to 30): In each of the following questions a short passage is given with one of the lines in the passage missing and represented by a blank. Select the best out of the five answer choices given, to make the passage complete and coherent (coherent means logically complete and sound).

28. Comparisons are, of course, silly and dicey, but one can hazard that Arrow's achievements were in some ways arguably greater than Samuelson's. Samuelson's many contributions helped us think through the first principles of many issues in economics — public goods, taxation, savings, trade, consumer preference, pensions, and finance. Arrow's two stunning contributions (both theoretical) in some ways both built and undermined all of politics and all of (market) economics. Samuelson made mega-contributions, Arrow made meta-contributions.

_____.

(A) The Arrow-Samuelson comparison is interesting for another reason: Family connections.

(B) The work of Arrow and many others showed how such self-interested individual behaviour could produce outcomes that had broadly desirable social virtues.

(C) If you start with individual preferences, it is very difficult (or impossible) to come up with a rule (say majority voting) that

aggregates these preferences and produces a societal preference that can satisfy some basic conditions.

(D) But this work showed how demanding were the conditions for the market system.

(E) Samuelson's related to one discipline, Arrow's transcended two.

29. Monetary policy makers concentrate on core inflation because it is a good yardstick for measuring "sustainable inflation": Which means that core inflation has to be correctly measured? Unfortunately, core inflation is mis-measured in India because the CPI for Fuel and Light includes kerosene and electricity, but excludes petrol. True core would exclude food, fuel and petrol. The reason monetary policy should be concerned with true core is because the excluded items are broadly outside the influence of monetary policy.

_____.

(A) A true core price index can easily be constructed by excluding the effects of petrol consumption from the transport and communication (TC) basket (TC has a weight of 8.59 per cent in the CPI and petrol consumption weight is 2.4 per cent), and adding it to the basket of Fuel.

(B) The correct and incorrect core inflation series, along with petrol price inflation, are reported in the chart.

(C) These facts counter the post-truth core inflation scenario painted by the RBI. (D) For example, it is a bit difficult to argue that the RBI's repo rate policy can affect OPEC's pricing policy for oil!

(E) The RBI is well aware of the problem of wrongly measured core inflation in India.

30. The analogy of theatre commands of the US/China is misleading as it would only address the "under command" syndrome of the ground-based forces in India. The

truism that “air power is indivisible” and works best under an airman should not be violated. Since India has a status quoist stance on boundary matters, the blocking of air assets by splitting them under theatre commanders would be sub-optimal. _____. Both would be unwieldy considering the diverse requirements of equipment and training for troops (desert, plains and hills) — so more (smaller) commands would be required, bifurcating air assets further, reducing their potency.

(A) Joint procurement, commanding future commands like cyber, space and special forces and a role in budgeting could be the starting point.

(B) If one were to follow the US/China model, then there would be just two “theatres” — the Northern and Western.

(C) At the operational level, war is directed by regional command headquarters which, in the case of the army and navy, are terrestrial/surface combatants.

(D) A Su-30 from Pune can address maritime threats down south as well as those across the Thar desert.

(E) Decisive political decision-making is the need of the hour if we want to move forward.

Directions (31 to 40): Read the passage carefully and answer the questions

Skill development has emerged as a key strategy to realize the potential of a young workforce with an average age of 29, by enhancing their employability. The National Skill Development Mission launched by the Union government envisions skilling at scale with speed and standards, with a focus on strengthening institutional training, infrastructure, convergence, training of trainers, overseas employment, sustainable

livelihoods and leveraging public infrastructure. The national policy for skill development and entrepreneurship 2015 provides an enabling framework to realize this vision. The policy framework outlines the paradigms and enablers to realize the potential of India’s demographic advantage by addressing challenges such as aspirations and mobilization of youth, quality and relevance of training; access to training, inclusivity and leveraging available technology. Yet, several challenges remain for skill development in India. First, the huge proportion of informally trained workers who form a part of the informal sector, where skill training is generally carried out through individual learning, observation, or a transfer of skills from a master craftsman to an apprentice. The proportion of the formally trained in India is low at 4.69% of the total workforce compared to countries like Germany (75%) and South Korea (96%). Recognition of prior learning (RPL) has been introduced in India to facilitate an assessment and certification of the skills acquired by the individual through experience, observation and self-learning in order to give him/her an edge in career advancement. The mismatch between skill, academic training and employment has widened, leading to a situation where, on one hand, employers are unable to find appropriately trained people, and on the other, the youth are unable to find employment that they aspire for. The significant variation in demographic profile necessitates local interventions. Southern states like Goa, Tamil Nadu, and Kerala have a higher median age, between the range of 29-31 years, due to early fertility transitions, and will soon be ageing. Hinterland states such as Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and Rajasthan have a low median age between 20 and 22 years. Thus, this

northern belt will have a rising working age population. This requires addressing skill challenges of access, equity, relevance and financing differently. Given that developing skills requires huge investments, availability of real-time data on challenges faced by a region/area/district/state, identification of sectors requiring skilled manpower, and demand-supply match, it is important to assess the outcomes of various interventions undertaken thus far so that the future course of policy action can be planned or modified. Internationally, the first such efforts to develop indicators for skill development were made by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) that established the world indicators of skills for employment (WISE). The WISE framework includes a focus on contextual factors in a country, such as the gross domestic product (GDP), population, employment in informal sector; factors affecting skill acquisition, such as educational attainment, literacy rate, enrolment ratios, vocational programme, participation in training/apprenticeship, factors affecting skill requirement, such as employment share by level of education, occupation, incidence of self-employment, skill use and outcomes in terms of growth in GDP, labour productivity, employment rate, earnings, etc. Adapting from this framework, indicators must be developed to address challenges such matching skills across sectors/regions to realize the potential of our youth and the working population. SDIs would improve the effectiveness of various platforms set-up by the ministry of skill development and entrepreneurship. They would also enable the states to evaluate and compete with their own past performance and facilitate sharing of best practices across different sectors and

states/union territories. They would help assess the match between employers' needs and future labour market opportunities and based on the assessment of existing policy initiatives and their outcomes, the future course of policy action could be planned or modified. The indicators' parameter of access would measure the capacity and outreach of the programmes. Relevance would measure the ease of entry to the labour market with an enhanced employability. Equity will measure the equal accessibility of the opportunity to all and quality will evaluate whether the training imparted meets the required standard of employability. And finally, the parameter of finance would measure the cost-effectiveness of the funding provided. The dearth of reliable data is a pressing challenge in developing these indicators. There is a need to generate data leading up to the labour market. This can be done by systematically including key questions on skills in employment-unemployment surveys. Once the indicators are finalized, an index can be built, ranking the states based on their performance outcomes. The creation of indicators itself is expected to catalyse the availability of reliable data on a periodic basis.

31. How the government has contributed to increase the employability in the nation?

- (A) by giving appropriate support for the creation of jobs.
- (B) by strengthening institutional training, infrastructure and sustainable livelihoods.
- (C) by addressing challenges such as aspirations and mobilization of youth, quality and relevance of training.
- (D) both (B) and (C)
- (E) All are correct

32. Why India is lagging in skill development as compared to other countries?

(I) Lack of quality education in educational centres.

(II) Unavailability of qualified trainers required for providing skills to youth.

(III) Trained population are not getting the employment as per their aspiration.

(IV) Large proportion of informally trained workers.

(A) Only (I)

(B) Only (II), (III) and (IV)

(C) Only (I), (II) and (III)

(D) Only (III) and (IV)

(E) All

33. What was the need to develop skill development indicators (SDI), developed by OECD for the first time?

(A) to realize the potential of the youth and working population

(B) to address the challenge of demographic variation.

(C) to develop the skills required according to the different challenges faced by different regions.

(D) Both (A) and (C)

(E) All are correct

34. Which of the following sentences can be concluded from the fifth paragraph regarding parameters of indicators?

(A) The indicators influence the gross product of a nation.

(B) The indicators can be classified under broad parameters of access, equity, quality, relevance and finance.

(C) The skill development indicator is established by Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) to develop the skill according to the challenges facing by different regions.

(D) The skill development indicator is dependent on potential of the youth of the nation.

(E) All of the above

35. The appropriate title of the passage is

(A) Challenges in skill development

(B) Towards economic development of the nation

(C) Recognizing the potential of youth

(D) Skill development indicators are a necessity

(E) Building skill development

36. Which of the following sentences does not hold true in context to the passage?

(A) Formally Trained workers in Germany is 75%.

(B) Northern states due to low median age will have a rising working age population.

(C) WISE is established by OECD to focus on factors affecting skill acquisition.

(D) For developing the indicators like skill developing indicators, the lack of availability of real-time data is a challenge.

(E) All are correct

37. Choose the word which is most same in meaning of the word printed in bold in context of the passage.

Envision

(A) hype

(B) stride

(C) hegemonic

(D) visualize

(E) rile

38. Choose the word which is most same in meaning of the word printed in bold in context of the passage.

Paradigms

(A) tumble

(B) punitive

(C) taper

(D) urge

(E) ideal

39. Choose the word which is most opposite in meaning of the word printed in bold in context of the passage.

Outreach

- (A) despicable (B) contiguous
(C) flawed (D) refusing
(E) akin

40. Choose the word which is most opposite in meaning of the word printed in bold in context of the passage.

Dearth

- (A) abundance (B) abject
(C) advocate (D) flounder
(E) contrite

Directions (41 to 45): Which of the phrases (A), (B), (C) and (D) given below each sentence should replace the phrase printed in BOLD letters to make the sentence grammatically correct? If the sentence is correct as it is, mark (E) i.e., "No correction required" as the answer.

41. Government will favour legal workarounds and if required will introduce newer laws to remove road blocks. **Whilst worser**, such steps are almost always long drawn.

- (A) While better
(B) Whether bad
(C) While worse
(D) Wherever better
(E) No correction required

42. From the U.S. perspective, any deterioration in Sino-Indian relations might create instability in the region and **perhaps force it to choose side**.

- (A) Perhaps force it to choose sides
(B) Perhaps force it to choose the side
(C) Perhaps force it to choose its side
(D) Perhaps force it to choose the sides
(E) No correction required

43. RBI will give banks specific time-frame within which they have to either decide the borrower is bankrupt or restructure the debt **while taking** a haircut.

- (A) While taking an
(B) Whenever taking the
(C) Whilst take
(D) If take an
(E) No correction required

44. Education, if looked beyond its conventional boundaries, **formed the very essence** of all our actions.

- (A) Forming the very essence
(B) Forms the very essence
(C) Form the very essence
(D) Formed of the very essence
(E) No correction required

45. Automation, chat bots and big data analytics programmes might take **a toll in** a sector in the next decade or so.

- (A) The toll in the
(B) A toll on the
(C) The toll on a
(D) A toll in the
(E) No correction required

Directions (46 to 50): In each of the questions below, a sentence is given with a part missing. From the given options, choose the combination of idioms/ phrases that fit in the sentence grammatically and contextually

46. As a young man, Frederick the Great was not _____ with his father, Fredrick William.

- (a) on good terms
(b) in accordance with
(c) in tune
(A) Only b

- (B) Only a and b
- (C) Only a and c
- (D) Only b and c
- (E) All a, b and c

47. The second cause for this turmoil is over the past five or six years, Saleh has been _____ his son to become the next president of Yemen.

- (a) seeking to relocate
- (b) trying to position
- (c) keen on
- (A) Only A
- (B) Only C
- (C) Only B
- (D) Only A and C
- (E) None of the above

48. Instead of _____, we should confront him about his poor performance and inquire about the reasons.

- (a) beating around the bush
- (b) giving him the run- around
- (c) being on the run
- (A) Only c
- (B) Only a and b
- (c) Only a and c
- (D) Only b and c
- (E) All a, b and c

49. Ever since his father lost his job at the factory, they have had to _____ in order to pay for the child's education.

- (a) stretch a dollar
- (b) cut corners
- (c) tighten their belts
- (A) Only b
- (B) Only a and b
- (C) Only a and c
- (D) Only b and c
- (E) All a, b and c

50. He _____ into building a company that would provide access to education to rural people.

- (a) poured his heart
- (b) put on a brave face
- (c) put his soul
- (A) Only c
- (B) a and b
- (C) b and c
- (D) a and c
- (E) All the three